



October Newsletter



MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

It is really lovely to return to school after what has been such a long time for many of our pupils and also to welcome those who are new to Critchill. The young people should be exceptionally proud of themselves as they have quickly adapted to the new routines of school life.

Whilst there are some inevitable changes due to Covid19, we are firmly focused on ensuring that each individual pupil makes the very best progress against their Personal Learning Intentions (PLIs) this year. As well as the PLIM meeting phone calls that have taken place this week, please remember that you can view the progress that your child makes against their PLIs on Evidence for Learning. If you do not yet have a login or need a reminder then please ask your child's teacher.

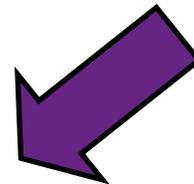
Our new playground has been a real success with children and young people of all ages throughout the school. Indeed many of our visiting therapists have commented on the increased interaction and communication between our students, whilst they are sharing the equipment. We are disappointed that current guidance will not allow us to hold an opening event for the 'Park' (as named by the pupils) so we hope to put a short film together over the coming weeks which we will upload to our website.

In the meantime, some photos:



Sophie Addison
Headteacher

- 13th October 2020 - SRE and Safeguarding
- 21st October 2020 - School Photographs & End of Term 1
- 2nd November 2020 - Start of Term 2
- 13th November 2020 - Children in Need
- 11th December 2020 - Christmas Jumper Day
- 16th December 2020 - Christmas Lunch (TBC)
- 18th December 2020 - End of Term 2
- 4th January 2021 - Inset Day
- 5th January 2021 - Inset Day
- 6th January 2021 - Start of Term 3
- 30th January 2021 - PLIM Evening
- 9th February 2021 - SRE and Safeguarding
- 12th February 2021 - End of Term 3
- 22nd February 2021 - Start of Term 4
- 4th March 2021 - World Book Day
- 1st April 2021 - End of Term 4
- 19th April 2021 - Start of Term 5
- 25th April 2021 - SRE and Safeguarding
- 14th May 2021 - PLIM Evening
- 28th May 2021 - End of Term 5
- 7th June 2021 - Start of Term 6
- 22nd July 2021 - End of Term 6
- 23rd July 2021 - Inset Day



INSET Days 2020-2021

- 4th January 2021
- 5th January 2021
- 23rd July 2021

Friends of Critchill

We would be very grateful if you could spare just an hour of your time to show your support to this very worthy cause.

POOR WEATHER PROCEDURES

The weather is now starting to get colder, so here is a reminder of the bad weather protocol for pupils. There are several ways of finding out whether the school will be closed, you can tune into the following radio stations :-

BBC Somerset - 95.5FM

Heart FM - 102.6FM

Breeze FM - 107.2FM

A message will also be sent to parents via email.



DONATIONS AND FUNDRAISING

We like to say a big thank you to everyone who kindly donated to our playground and minibus 'Go Fund Me' page.

We have been successful in applying to the Hinkley Connection Project Education Fund programme for a grant of £1,250.00 which will go towards 'Learning ACTIV—Electronic Play Sytem' as part of our playground re-development.

We would like to say a big 'thank you' to The Hill Brush Company Ltd have kindly donated £802.85 towards our playground re-development.

Staff News...

Welcome to.....

Elanor Richardson - Class Teacher in Owls

Sophie Wakeley - Class Teacher in Finches

Claudine Rose - Cover Teacher

Bethany Cantello - Apprentice Teaching Assistant in Kestrels Class

Samantha Duerden- Teaching Assistant in Wrens Class

Sian Manvill- Teaching Assistant in Finches Class

Yasmin Witcombe - Teaching Assistant in Starlings Class

Izzie Rees - Apprentice Teaching Assistant in Wrens Class

Eleanor Chapman - Teaching Assistant (Supply Cover)

Di Rutt - Teaching Assistant (Supply Cover)

Welcome back to Emma West who will be returning from maternity leave after half term

Congratulations to Claire Armiger who had a baby girl on 10/09/2020

We said goodbye to

Isla Shrapnell - Teaching Assistant in Wrens Class. We wish her well for the future.

School News..

WORKING FUTURES

COVID 19 has had a major impact on our careers programme as you can imagine and will continue to do so for some time yet. We will continue to deliver our careers programme in school. We continue to work with our local employers and we are hopeful that we will be able to offer work placements to our Post 16 students in the coming months. Over the summer we have been working with external agencies to develop ways in which we can still provide employer encounters, these will need to be delivered virtually but again we are hopeful that we will be able to offer employer encounters across the school.

Our Post 16 students have been working with one of our partner employers at The Walled Garden in Mells. During lockdown we were pleased to receive news that one of our students had been nominated as a finalist for '**Best Work Placement**' in the Somerset Education Business Partnership Awards. The awards ceremony was unfortunately postponed but we have now had confirmation that there will be a virtual awards ceremony in November. We all wish Haiden good luck at the awards ceremony in November.

Although these are currently challenging times we are hoping that as the academic year progresses we will be able to return to offering more employer engagement opportunities. We are always looking for suitable placements as well as individuals or businesses prepared to visit and talk to our students about their job roles and the various routes involved. If you feel that you could help then please contact Sally Smiles.



School News..

P16

Thank you to Andy Jones, a local resident and new school governor along with Frome Town Rangers for helping our Post 16 students in planting daffodil bulbs outside of school. We look forward to seeing the results in the spring.



Nut Hatches

During this term we have been looking at shape and we became 'shape detectives' for the day, we walked to the park to search for 2D shapes using our magnifying glasses.



School News..

EYFS Update

We are an Early Adopter of the new Early Years Foundation Stage Reforms. The framework is for schools participating in the EYFS reforms early adopter year from September 2020 to August 2021.

The non statutory curriculum guidance supports the delivery of the revised early years foundation stage statutory framework. It offers a top-level view of how children develop and learn, and guides, but does not replace, professional judgement.

For further information please speak to Hayley Cobb or Emma West

Car Park

Thank for your continued support with our new parking arrangements. Please remember that the car park is only accessible for parents/young people who are Blue badge holders.

It has been really pleasing to see so many of our pupils walking and in line with government guidance we would encourage as many families to 'park and stride' to school as possible.

The parking bays in front of the school are strictly for Local Authority transport only. Please do not park in them at any time.

Parents are reminded that double parking is not prohibited at any time in the car park.

A reminder about our staggered start and finish times:

For Local Authority Transport and Blue Badge Holders accessing the car park it is 9am & 3.30pm and for all other pupils it is 9.10am & 3.40pm

Please can we ask parents & families to arrive as close to their allocated times as possible. If you do arrive early then please wait offsite to ensure that we do not have large groups congregating outside of school. This is particularly important at the end of the day, when many classes are still learning.

Coats

As the weather is starting to change can you please send your child in with a warm winter coat.

Parent Pay - Reminders

School meals need to be ordered by 10am on Thursday mornings for the following week. If you do not have access to Parent Pay please contact the school office.

Medication in School

Prescribed medication can only be administered in school upon completion of a completed 'Parental Consent to Administer Medication Form'.

Non-prescription medicines should not normally be administered in school. Parents /Carers are welcome to come into school to administer this if they wish.

Safeguarding

For information our Safeguarding procedure in school is to provide our Visitors and Volunteers with a comprehensive information leaflet when coming into the school. Our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy is available in reception and via the link to the Midsomer Norton School Partnership policies on the school website.

If you have any concerns please contact either Sophie Addison or Jane Haines our Designated Safeguarding Leads.

Free School Meals (FSM) Are you eligible?

Did you know that for every child registered for free school meals the school receives additional funding? This is called the Pupil Premium Grant. The funding is used by the school to provide additional support for children from lower income families to help them with their learning and achieve their very best. A report on how the school uses this funding is available on our website.

If you are in receipt of any of the following benefits you are entitled to claim for FSM:

- Income Support
- Universal Credit
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance
- Child Tax Credit - only if not entitled to Working Tax Credit and annual income (an assessed by the inland revenue) does not exceed £16,190
- Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit

Thank you for your support.



Recipe Booklet

Do you have a favourite recipe you would like to share?

We would like to produce and sell a recipe booklet to raise funds. We already have some tasty recipes which our P16 students make for our Catering Van, our delicious soups and cheese scones go down well at the Frome Market and staff love them too. We would love input from parents, carers, students, staff and governors so if you have any favourite recipes you would like us to include please let us have them.