

WEEK COMMENCING
Monday 6th January 2020
BLUE DINNER MENU

WEEKLY NEWS



THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2019

Terms Topic



MONDAY – First Day of Spring Term

Brumble Bees
Private music lessons, am
Tiny Tots Stay & Play from 2pm
ASC: - Stay & Play with Miss Short

TUESDAY

Brumble Bees
Private music lessons, pm
ASC: - Music with Mrs Brayley

WEDNESDAY

Brumble Bees
Infants to Rock & Rapid, pm
Forest School – Juniors, Group 1
ASC: - Yoga with Miss Cornish

THURSDAY

Brumble Bees
ASC: - Baking with Mrs Scott

FRIDAY

Brumble Bees
Drumming Lessons, pm
Juniors to Rock & Rapid, pm
Forest School – Infants, Group 1
ASC: - Circuit Training with Mrs Langdon

Umberleigh Academy
Achieves More

Dear Parents

Wow what a performance! I really enjoyed watching the children perform their Christmas play, 'The Magical Christmas Jigsaw' last Thursday. I was very impressed and proud at how confidently they all delivered their lines, sang solos and sang together so beautifully; they had worked extremely hard. Thank you to everyone who came along to support the children. It was a lovely way to celebrate the Christmas season. Well done everyone.



Autumn Term 2019 has been a busy and productive one with the children enjoying their learning and working really hard. They have embraced every learning opportunity given to them; made consistent efforts in the classroom and are a pleasure to teach.



It is not just the children who have been busy this term and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff members for their hard

work and commitment to the children of Umberleigh Academy. A big thank you to Mrs Stuckey and Mrs Facey and their band of helpers for providing a delicious Christmas meal for the whole school community to enjoy yesterday.

We are very lucky to have a dedicated group of people who are part of the FUS who are willing to give their time and energy to support the school. I would like to thank all the members for their efforts in fundraising this term, which means we can offer the children extra resources and some special treats. The Christmas hampers raffled at the Christmas play raised a whopping £320.00. A BIG thank you to Mrs Scott who very cleverly handmade the beautiful gingerbread house which was raffled off and raised £60.00 for the FUS. Thank you again to Mrs Scott and congratulations to Karl McKnight who luckily won!



During the **Spring term our topic will be 'From Farm to Fork'**. The children will learn about where our food comes from and how it is produced. We would very much like the children to visit some local farms to deepen their understanding of the topic. If there is anyone who would be willing to have groups of children from Brayford, High Bickington, Pilton Bluecoat and Umberleigh Academies visit their farm please can you get in touch. Thank you.

All that is left to say is, I hope you all have a very Happy Christmas and we look forward to seeing you again, for the new term, on **Monday 6th January 2020**.

Best wishes

Miss Corrinne Smith

Christmas Fayre

The children raised £200.00 at their Christmas Fayre this week which will be split between the School Council and the NSPCC. Thank you to all those who came along.

Winners of tables as below:-


Pin the red nose on Rudolph – Holly

Guess the number of buttons in a jar – Emilia

Marbles in the flower pot – Max E

Name the unicorn - Rosie





Thursday 19th December 2019

Dear Parents/carers.

It's hard to believe that Christmas is already upon us; a third of the academic year seems to have just disappeared!

As the year ends, we remember all that 2019 has brought. Among the many highlights are two highly successful SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) inspections at Witheridge and Pilton Bluecoat. Many congratulations to all concerned on such wonderful reports! Overall, raised academic outcomes throughout the MAT have also been something to celebrate. There are, of course, many reasons to revel in successes beyond the academic: the way our children develop as resilient, well rounded individuals; the way in which they engage with local and global issues and the way in which they are able to relate to one another through shared experiences such as residentials and joint visits, are just some of the things of which I am particularly proud.

The year 2020 brings new beginnings for many of us. We say goodbye to Chris Holding, Head of School at Witheridge Academy. Chris has taken up a position at Woodbury C of E Primary School, Exeter - a school very close to his home. I would like to take the opportunity to thank him very much for all that he has done for Witheridge and for his contribution to TEAM as a whole. We will all miss him and I'm sure you will join me in wishing him and his family all the very best for the future. Lucy Ratcliffe will be taking over the reins at Witheridge, so we can rest assured that the school is in very safe hands.

Over the last couple of weeks, I have had the privilege of seeing the Christmas productions at Pilton Bluecoat, Brayford, Umberleigh, High Bickington and Witheridge, together with the pre-school nativity at Witheridge. It never fails to amaze me how the children are so confident and so 'together' on stage! They had so many words to learn – the songs alone had a huge amount of lyrics. In each case, the story was based around the traditional meaning of Christmas and the message of love and hope shone through. Putting on a production takes a lot of time and effort so I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff and of course, the children for making my last Christmas at school so special.

At the end of the academic year, in July, I am retiring from my role as CEO of TEAM Multi Academy Trust; Trustees are now beginning the process of finding a successor. I have thoroughly enjoyed my work and have relished the opportunity to work with so many wonderful people – both children and adults. The TEAM Trustees and my colleagues throughout the trust are dedicated, hard - working individuals and I feel very proud to be part of such a special team.

Wishing you and your families all the very best for a happy, peaceful and healthy Christmas and New Year.

Rhian Nicholas

Rhian Nicholas

Climbing

Next term as part of our PE programme the whole school will be doing a 6 week course at Rock and Rapids in South Molton to experience rock climbing and bouldering. The infant children will go on Wednesday afternoons and the juniors on Friday afternoons. The first session will be on Wednesday 8th January for the infants. They will travel to Rock and Rapids in the school minibus driven by Mrs Dennis and be back in time for the end of the school day. The children will need to wear their PE kit including trainers and we advise them to wear tracksuit bottoms or gym leggings instead of shorts. Please ensure they have a drink to take with them.



Seasonal Netiquette:-

5 New Parenting Rules for Screen Time & Tech When Families Gather

We want to encourage all parents to take a look at this:
https://parentinfo.org/article/seasonal-netiquette-5-new-parenting-rules?utm_source=Thinkuknow&utm_campaign=85b71ed798-TUK_GLOBAL_DECEMBER_2019&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_0b54505554-85b71ed798-55081093



NEW AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS FOR SPRING 2020

Clubs will commence on Monday 6th January

Monday – Stay & Play with Miss Short

Tuesday – Music with Mrs Brayley

Wednesday – Yoga with Miss Cornish

Thursday – Baking with Mrs Scott, maximum of 6 children from Years 2-6 only! £18 for 6 sessions. Children on a first come, first served basis with payment.

Friday – Circuit Training with Mrs Langdon

Please complete attached permission slip for your child/ren to attend clubs and return to the school office by Mon 6th Jan.



New Spring Term Lunch Menu

Please find attached to newsletter, if you would like a paper copy please pop into the school office

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs daily from 8am with Mrs Scott and is available to brumble bee children as well as school children at the cost of £3.00 per child. Please pre-book sessions through the school office.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

January

Monday 6th – BACK TO SCHOOL FOR SPRING TERM
Wednesday 8th – Rock & Rapid Infants, pm
Friday 10th – Rock & Rapid Juniors, pm
Tuesday 14th – SMCC Athletics for Years 5&6 at NDLC
Wednesday 15th - Rock & Rapid Infants, pm
Thursday 16th – Miss Sheppard visiting London residential children and parents after school.
Friday 17th – Rock & Rapid Juniors, pm
Wednesday 22nd - Rock & Rapid Infants, pm
Wednesday 22nd – FUS Meeting, 2.30pm staff room
Thursday 23rd – SMLC High Five Netball tournament for Years 5&6
Friday 24th – Rock & Rapid Juniors, pm
Wednesday 29th - Rock & Rapid Infants, pm
Friday 31st – Rock & Rapid Juniors, pm

February

Wednesday 5th - Rock & Rapid Infants, pm
Thursday 6th – SMLC Orienteering & Team Building for Years 3&4
Friday 7th - Rock & Rapid Juniors, pm
Monday 10th – Height & Weight checks for Reception & Year 6, pm
Wednesday 12th - Rock & Rapid Infants, pm
Friday 14th – Rock & Rapid Juniors, pm
Monday 17th – Friday 21st – HALF TERM

March

Thursday 5th – World Book Day
Friday 27th – LAST DAY OF SPRING TERM
Monday 30th March – Tuesday 14th April – EASTER HOLIDAYS

April

Wednesday 15th – BACK TO SCHOOL FOR SUMMER TERM

May

Friday 8th – NO SCHOOL, BANK HOLIDAY
Monday 25th – Friday 29th – HALF TERM

July

Wednesday 22nd – LAST DAY OF SUMMER TERM

The Nativity 24th December 3pm at St Mary's Church, Atherington

This year the Christmas Eve service will be a Nativity play acted out by local children. We are looking for main characters who will have speaking parts and extra shepherds, angels and animals. If your child/children would like to be part of this please contact Rev Tracey on 01769 560593 or 07582024503 or revtracey@btinternet.com



Sing Carols

at Umberleigh Village Hall
on Christmas Eve at 6.30pm
Come along and bring any house guests too! Mulled wine & mince pies refreshments!
Donations for the Devon Air Ambulance

Carols by Candlelight on Friday 20th December at 7pm

Crib Service on Christmas Eve at 5pm

At Chittlehampton Parish Church
Everyone Welcome!



Have you thought about becoming a registered Childminder?

Come along to one of our free information sessions to find out more:

Wed 15 January 2020 – Amory Centre, South Molton (10.30am – 11.30am)

Wed 15 January 2020 – Ilfracombe Children's Centre (1.30pm – 2.30pm)

To express your interest in attending, please contact the Early Years Team:
eycs@devon.gov.uk

You've decided childminding is for you, what next?

Preparing to be a childminder course:

This 2-day course covers all the training requirements to prepare you for Ofsted registration. The course costs £50.

Course dates:

- 5th & 12th February 2020 (9.30am – 4.30pm) – Barnstaple

To book a place please contact the Early Years Team: eycs@devon.gov.uk. We will then be able to create a training account for you and will let you know how you can book and pay for a place on the course.

We also run this training as eLearning (£50)

*You must also attend a Paediatric First Aid course (£65) and a Safeguarding Awareness course (fully funded). Dates are available from the DEL training website. If you already hold a current Paediatric First Aid and Safeguarding Awareness certificate you do not need to undertake this training again.



Together Each Achieves More

