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## Newsletter #21: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2017

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Dear Parents,

It has been lovely to walk through school this morning and see the children looking so grown up and settled in their new classes! Our new Wrens have joined us in school today for their 'Stay and Play' sessions and our Year fours are spending the day at Cranborne Middle School as Year fives. We look forward to hearing about their experiences when they return this afternoon!

Just another ten school days left of this term and one more newsletter to go before school's out for summer! Please read on for informative (and hopefully interesting!) school news;

### Sporting News

Many thanks to all of the parents, grandparents and friends who turned out to enthusiastically support our Sports Day last week. We were blessed with perfect weather, neither too hot nor too wet, and everyone really enjoyed the morning. All of the children were excellent sports and a great encouragement to each other. They particularly enjoyed the fun races and we are grateful to everyone who helped make them such a success. A special thank you must go to our Year 4 Sports Leaders who awarded stickers and set up races with great skill and maturity. One Sports Leader commented afterwards that being able to put out all of the equipment in front of a large audience gave him "a real sense of accomplishment." Our very best wishes go with them as they move on to be future Sports Leaders at Cranborne Middle School.

On Wednesday our Year 4 children had a fantastic time playing several rounders matches with the children from Sixpenny Handley First School. The teams were mixed to enable the children to begin to forge new friendships ahead of Transfer Day. The morning was bright and sunny, without being too warm, and the children played brilliantly, scoring lots of rounders and fielding with skill and accuracy. Once again, many thanks to our loyal supporters who turned out to cheer them on.

*Mrs Baines. Sports Leader*



### PFA Summer Fair

The Summer Fair is fast approaching! We are currently collecting filled jam jars for the popular jam jar stall. From Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July a bottle of anything for the Bottle Tombola would be gratefully received and from Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July a treat for our cake stall, either homemade or shop bought, would be very appreciated. As always, thank you for your support.

*Gail Gittins, PFA*

### Boveridge House College

A new specialist college for young people with a range of conditions including ASD, MH and anxiety related conditions is opening in September in what was the old Boveridge House School in Cranborne. The Aurora Group are currently recruiting Youth Support Workers. You can find out more and apply online at [www.the-aurora-group.com](http://www.the-aurora-group.com) if this is of interest.

## Year 4 Violin Recital

Well done to our talented group of Year 4s who entertained our school (and their families) with a violin recital last Friday. Mrs Middleton, our violin teacher, has been so impressed with the children's positive attitude and perseverance during the six months she has been teaching them. Well done children!

Mrs Middleton also shared information of a Beginner Friendly Group (BFG) at The Blandford School on Saturday mornings during term time. These one hour sessions organised by the Dorset Music Service cost £5 and consist of a group warm up, rhythmic games and musical challenges and of course playing great music together. For more information, and to book your child's place please visit [www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/beginner-friendly-groups](http://www.dorsetforyou.gov.uk/beginner-friendly-groups), call 01305 225770 or email [dorsetmusic@dorsetcc.gov.uk](mailto:dorsetmusic@dorsetcc.gov.uk). There are information leaflets displayed in the school office.

## 'The Weather Wheel'

On Wednesday this week, Crane Class and Woodpecker Class were invited to a Drama production of 'The Weather Wheel' at our local Cecil Memorial Hall, Directed by Tori Deffee and supported by Christopher Spraggs, Jane Thorne and Gil Scott Taylor.

The children were very interested to watch the immersive and innovative performance, which took the audience on a journey from 'The News at Ten', and the story of a missing reporter, to a fair-ground and spiralling weather wheel. The costumes were stunning in a rainbow of colours, from radiant sunshine to sleet, rain and ice. Parts of the set were painted and created by the Performing Arts Club themselves. What a brilliant performance! The actors, all adults with additional needs, performed their lines with gusto and aplomb, made the audience laugh and thoroughly enjoyed their moment in the limelight.

Watching the production really made me think about how theatre unifies and brings people together. Having the opportunity to take part in a drama production can build confidence, creativity and communication skills. It also builds teamwork as well as stamina and focus, whatever your age. Thank you very much for extending the invitation Tori!

If your child would like to get more involved in Drama next year, 'Join The Company' Performing Arts Academy also run 'Bananas Drama' in our school hall after school for Reception to Year 3, and 'Juniors' for Year 4 and above. Contact Tori Deffee for more details. *Mrs Lawford*



## Summer Reading Challenge 2017

Thank you to James Prince from Verwood Library who visited us this week to introduce this year's Summer Reading Challenge 'Animal Agents'. We hope all our children will get involved and enjoy getting stuck into a good book this summer! Well, at least six books in fact in order to collect the full set of Animal Agent stickers! We look forward to presenting lots of certificates and medals to the children in Celebration assembly in September. Happy Reading everyone!



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## Annual Reports

We are just putting the finishing touches to your child's Annual Report which will be sent home on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July. These reports are very much a Record of Achievement which will celebrate your child's year in school. The reports include information relating to their progress towards end of year expectations, results of any national testing, for example, achievement at the end of EYFS, results of the Year one phonics screening checks and end of Key Stage one assessment results. Most importantly we hope they will reflect the unique talents, skills and personality of every child who contribute to the wonderful community in which we belong.

This year we have developed the use of our school assessment system SPTO (School Pupil Tracker Online) to create a bespoke report format that we hope will give you a complete and comprehensive view of your child as a learner. Please do let us know your thoughts on the organisation and content of this new format. I hope the time and care class teachers have committed to these reports will be reflected as you read and celebrate your child's achievements this year and consider ways that you can continue to support your child's learning at home.

If when you receive your child's report you wish to discuss any detail of it class teachers are happy to meet with you and have set aside time after school on **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July** on a first come, first served basis. Appointment lists are in the school office. Thank you.

### *A Thank You message from Mrs Stevenson*

Can it really be the second half of the summer term already? It does not seem possible that it is almost a year since I left, but I trust you know that I think of you all often and miss you very much, especially the children.

I wanted to thank you again for your generous retirement gifts to me, especially now I have been on my River Cottage cookery course. It was truly wonderful! I learnt to fillet and cook fish, make bread and a variety of meals and dishes over the two days. It was just like being Mary Berry on the television (though obviously not to the same standard) as ready weighed and prepared ingredients appeared beside me and I did not have to wash up at all! My family would also like to thank you for the improvement in the quality and variety of meals at home since.

I hope the remainder of term goes well with all the associated events like Sports Day and Transfer Day, and then that you all have a happy, healthy and restful summer holiday. Warmest best wishes to you all.

Thank you for all the responses we have received so far to our Parent Questionnaire. A few minutes to answer these 21 questions would be greatly appreciated! Please return any outstanding forms to school by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July. Thank you. And there ends another busy week in school for children and staff. I hope you enjoy a relaxing weekend with your families, before we do it all again next week!

With my best wishes,  
*Mrs Faithfull*

**Cranborne CE VA First School**  
**Dates and Events for the 2016 – 2017 Academic Year**

Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> July	4-5:30pm	Allotment Club Pizza Party
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> July		French Café Year 3 & 4 (after morning registration)
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July		Activity Day (children wear PE kit to school)
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July		Annual Reports sent home today
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July		Last day to return Parent Questionnaires
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	3-5pm	PFA Summer Fair
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> July		Teachers available after school to discuss reports with parents (appointments made through the school office please)
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	6-7:30pm	Year 4 Leavers' Party in school (2 adults per Year 4 child only, no siblings please)
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	9:15am	Year 4 Leavers' Service in Cranborne Church Last day of term. Finish at usual time 3pm.
<b>Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September</b>		<b>Summer Holiday</b>
<b>Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September</b>		<b>Staff Training Days</b>