Acorn Newsletter : March 23

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Designated Safeguarding Lead & Headteacher – Zoey Shelley

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Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, and all child protection concerns need to be acted on immediately. If you have any safeguarding concerns please contact Zoey Shelley, Jim Manning or Sarah Long within school or alternatively if not in school hours please contact MASH (Devon County Council multi agency safeguarding hub) who are available to discuss your concerns and advise 0345 155 1071

Easter

3rd -18th April

Return to school 19th April

Spring Term 1 has been jam packed with lots of offsite activities, our pupils have been developing their skills in construction skills, climbing, swimming, DIY'ing, gardening, cooking, publishing music, playing music, arts and crafts, learning how to tie knots, learning about global warming, taking part in LGBTQ+ month alongside their academic focus.

We have also developed our Reading Café, with our pupils being able to read to an adult each day in, alongside a snack. Our 'Little Oaks' is in full development – Little Oaks focuses learning on a pupils key interest in order to provide stretch and challenge within their area of expertise. Whereas our 'Green Shoots' identifies gaps in pupil understanding and addresses these through 121 teaching.

Our first ever exam season went exceptionally well with our upper school pupils sitting their first ever exams, the results of which they should be EXCEPTIONALLY proud of (we are!), some of our pupils are now able to move onto GCSE study which is an incredible achievement.

We have continued our focus around kindness towards others, and have developed our pupil mentors, who will support friendships in the playground and kindness towards others, they will be identifiable during breaktimes with specially made T-shirts, our first group of mentors have been chosen as they continue to show excellent levels of kindness towards others.

Details will shortly be sent to you about the Devon Easter Programme for HAF . It is now live on the website below. The offer for Easter Holidays is 4 days. We are waiting for some codes to be sent through that can be used to book places. There are some really great activities available including sports, arts and crafts, cooking, soft play, swimming and even snowboarding. Have a look at the link below for further details. All areas in Devon are covered by this scheme. There are more places available this year and secondary pupils can also take a friend with them.

HAF Programme

Criteria for Free School Meal holiday vouchers has also been extended. If you think you may qualify the link is at the bottom of this newsletter.

Our pupils have once again been creating some amazing work.
Blue Class (also known as Mizzle) have enjoyed weekly trips to a café to help with learning life skills
Pupil's have started enjoying the outdoors as the weather begins to warm. We enjoyed celebrating World Book Day

Links to websites

https://www.devon.gov.uk/cost-of-living/

Free school meal holiday vouchers

UK Safer Internet Centre

Parent Support Hub

What is the Autism Alert Card?

The card is for autistic people to show others if they are upset or likely to become upset. The person shown the card should then change the way they talk to the autistic individual.

The aim of showing the card is to defuse the potentially difficult situation and allow the autistic individual to feel safe and secure so they may become less agitated and anxious and the situation dealt with in the best way for all involved.

Who is eligible to receive an Autism Alert Card?

The Autism Alert Card can be issued to individuals aged 10 or over who live anywhere in Devon, although similar schemes are in place in other areas of the country and so the card and awareness about the disability may be recognised elsewhere.

https://www.devonlink-up.org/autism-alert-card/