



## Shebbear Community School Newsletter

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you all enjoyed the long bank holiday weekend. It certainly helped this week fly by quickly! As each week passes, we seem to be inching closer to normality. After more than a year, we were finally able to enjoy some inter-school sport matches this week – see below for the report.

### Learning Awards this week:

Teddy Class – Tommy and Willow  
Panda Class – Oakley R and Oakley H  
Koala Class – Zak and Cody  
Astor were the winning house

At the end of assembly on Wednesday, I shared a quote I came across the other day. It's from John Wesley (of Methodism fame) and really sums up what we all aim to encourage the children to do and to be whether at home or at school. It certainly matches one of our 'Every lesson, every day' principles – always be kind and thoughtful towards others.



Have a lovely weekend.

Nick Alford  
Headteacher

**Cricket:** As noted above, we have been unable to take part in any sports fixtures for over a year due to the pandemic. After this lengthy wait, we have been able to play two matches in a week. Both were against our friends at Shebbear College. On Tuesday our Year 3 pupils played against their lower juniors while on Thursday, a mix of years 4, 5 and 6 played against their upper juniors. Both games were closely contested with some great skills on display. We were blessed on both days with some nice weather and fun was had by all those involved. Thanks to the College for inviting us to play.

Don't forget that Hatherleigh Cricket Club run a number of sessions for young cricketers all headed up by Mrs Presswell (who many of you will remember). The best way to contact them is via their Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/HatherleighCC/>

**The Big Ask:** The new Children's Commissioner has produced a survey which she would like as many children as possible to complete. From the results, she is hoping to shape the best possible future for children across the country. The link to take part in the survey is here:  
<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigask/>

**Sun Cream:** We are at that point in the year where I mention the use of sun cream in school and this is followed by days of heavy rain! When it is going to be a sunny day, I cannot urge you enough to ensure that you apply sun cream to the children before they come into school (particularly on Fridays when they have PE). We prefer the children not to bring sun cream into school. We are not able to apply sun cream at school and, generally speaking, children find applying it themselves a challenge. If it is applied in the morning, it should see them through the day. You may find this NHS link useful:  
<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/sunscreen-and-sun-safety/>

**Reading at home:** Thanks to everyone who finds the time to hear the children reading at home regularly. It makes a huge difference to the progress the children make. There is a clear link to progress in school and regular reading at home. Sometimes, the reading at home drops off as the children get older but I would suggest that it continues throughout their primary education. The stronger a reader they are, the better they will do at secondary school too. Please see below a couple of links which may help and always feel free to speak to your child's class teacher to see if there is anything we can do to help.  
<http://www.shebbear-pri.devon.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/Teaching-Reading-at-Shebbear-Community-School-1.pdf>  
<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/tips-and-advice/reading-tips/>

