



AWLISCOMBE PRIMARY NEWS

Newsletter

16/07/2021

01404 42031 Website: www.fort.devon.sch.uk

The next few days

Monday 19 th July	-
Tuesday 20 th July	-
Wednesday 21 st July	- End of Year Celebration Assembly
Thursday 22 nd July	- Leavers Assembly
Friday 23 rd July	- Last day of term

Message from the Executive Headteacher

Dear Parents,

My newsletter this week will probably be my last this academic year and what a year we have had. No one could have predicted the journey we have been on over the last 15 months. I remember sitting in a hotel in Cornwall at a Diocesan Leadership Conference when they announced all the schools closing in Ireland due to something called COVID 19. We were all laughing and say we should be so lucky!! A few short weeks later we went into the first lockdown. Who could have imagined what we have all had to deal with? While not being dramatic it has been life changing for many families and things won't be the same again.

Having said that I am so excited about September already. I am eager for the holidays, but I am spending all my time thinking about what we are going to be able to do and how we can get back to what makes our school really special and building back to full strength.

Initially we will be working to bring our classrooms, children and curriculum back together. We need to learn how to share space again, introduce ourselves to new children, re-establish relationships, remember our excellent learning behaviours which have had to be adapted so much during the last 15 months.

We are eager to bring parents physically back into our school community, our Harvest Festival will hopefully be our first celebration service.

I wanted to say thank you for your positive support we have received. My staff have been incredible. Their commitment and dedication to the children and school has been unwavering often when they have been trying to manage COVID within their own lives.

I am so proud of my job; I am blessed to be at the FORT Federation, but it is largely down to the children and my staff. They have shown great fortitude and every time lockdown ends it's like a breath of fresh air to have the children back. Schools don't work without them!

I appreciate we aren't out of the woods yet and next week will be really tricky especially as the positive cases in schools and surrounding areas increase. We fortunately haven't had to close any bubbles but nearly all the local schools have seen positive cases.

Even though the restrictions lift on Monday, the requirement for children under 18 to isolate does not change until 16th August. Therefore, please limit your social contacts till the end of term. If

track and trace identify anyone under 18 in close contact with a positive case, then they will insist on a 10-day isolation period, and this would definitely affect your holiday plans.

We will therefore not be changing any safety procedures for next week. Bubbles will remain, as will our staggered starts and finishes and please continue to wear facemasks on the playground. I don't want to have to send any more children home. If you are anxious about next week, please give me a call. The removal of the restrictions may make some people feel very uncomfortable, again please let me know if this is an issue for you. I completely understand your concerns and I hope I might be able to offer some support. Please don't gather and chat together at the gate.

In September (as long as nothing changes over the summer holidays) we hope to start mixing from the beginning of term and we will have a clear plan to bring the children together. In regard to the drop off and pick up I am really not looking forward to watching everyone come and go at the same time, so we are going to continue the staggered starts and finishes, as it currently is, **Kingfishers and siblings at 8.45am Woodpeckers and younger siblings at 8.50am and remaining Robins and Swans at 8.55am**. Please can I encourage you to drop off and go, then we can have more space available. Pick up will be the same format, **A-L at 3.20pm and M-Z at 3.30pm**.

Have a good weekend,
Mrs Hammett
Penny

Star of the Week - Well Done To....

<u>Cygnets</u>	Oscar	
<u>Swans</u>	Layla	
<u>Robins</u>	Laila	Adam
<u>Woodpeckers</u>	Daisy-Mae	Katana
<u>Kingfishers</u>	Tilly	Grace

Notices to Parents

30 hours free childcare autumn term application deadline - 31 August 2021

The next application deadline for 30 hours free childcare is on Tuesday 31st August.

Traffic lights

From Wednesday, 30th June there will be traffic lights outside of school for approx. 4 weeks. Please make sure you allow enough time for this. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

Grapes

Please can we remind everyone to cut grapes in half for the children's lunchboxes.

Peanut Free School

We would like to inform you that we are now a peanut-free school. This is to help ensure the safety of children with specific allergies.

Please could we ask that you help support us by ensuring there are no peanuts brought into the school site or on school trips. Allergy information on shop bought products will clearly specify whether it contains peanuts.

Courses from Learn Devon

Hi,

Our new autumn programme is now live with over 200 free courses for adults in Devon. In this programme we return to some limited face to face learning whilst continuing with a large selection of online courses.

Whether you are looking to pick up a new hobby, increase your wellbeing and combat social isolation, or trying to improve your English, maths or job prospects, we have got you covered. Be quick though, as courses are filling up fast!

OUR AUTUMN PROGRAMME IS NOW LIVE!

CHOOSE FROM 100S OF COURSES FOR ADULTS!

BROWSE COURSES AND ENROL ON [LEARNDEVON.CO.UK](https://www.learndevon.co.uk)



Awliscombe & Weston Fete 2021

Awliscombe & Weston Fete 2021 will be held at the Otter Inn on **Saturday 4th September** from 1.00 pm.

We plan to have as many of the familiar stalls and games as possible, depending on the prevailing Covid guidelines. The Duck Race will take place whatever happens -- either live or virtually, duck tickets will be available in advance on-line or in person.

Thank you

Michelle

(On behalf of the Fete Planning Committee)

PE

MY PERSONAL BEST - helps me to be the best I can be. Taking part in PE helps me to do MY PERSONAL BEST

Recognition goes to the following children for displaying these characteristics in PE this week:

	SOCIAL ME	THINKING ME	HEALTHY ME	PHYSICAL ME
ROBINS		Avalon	Finlay	Noah
WOODPECKERS	Keir	Alex	Morgan	Mabel
KINGFISHERS	Martha	Beth		Barney

Messages sent - via Schoolping

20/2021 Academic Year

21st July - End of Year Celebration Assembly

22nd July - Year 6 Leavers Assembly

23rd July - Last day of term

6th September - Non pupil day

7th September - First day of term for pupils

8th October - Non pupil day

25th - 29th October - Half term

17th December - Last day of term for pupils