

Broadhempston Primary School

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NEWSLETTER Thursday 23rd May 2024

Dear Parents,
I can hardly believe that it's almost half term! Please read on to see what we have been up to...

BROADHEMPSTON LEARNERS BIRCH CLASS

Reception have been busy in maths, learning about sharing and grouping. Everyone has enjoyed using different resources in the outdoor area to share equally between each other. We then looked at how many different ways we could share 12 counters whilst enjoying the sunshine!

KS1 have been learning about the Jewish celebration of Hannukah. In class we made dreidels and decorated menorah candlesticks.



SYCAMORE CLASS

Fun and games were had by all in science as we experimented with shadows in our Light unit. We went outside and observed and recorded shadows and then created puppets to experiment with shadows indoors. We have seen some 'ginormous' dinosaurs thanks to our knowledge of shadows!

Sycamore class also had a very successful day of handball, ultimate frisbee and a netball style game in a friendly tournament against the other local Link schools. The sportsmanship shown by Sycamore was outstanding, and they enjoyed a winning streak as a result of teamwork and superb defending and attacking skills. Well done!



OAK CLASS

After the SATS week Oak Class spent the day in the sun at Forest School building dens, going on a bird hunt extravaganza, whittling, playing games, toasting marshmallows and deep frying apple and banana beech leaf sandwiches. Luckily, the adults were on hand with water pistols to keep them nice and cool!!!



Oak class have also been enjoying their art lessons. It has been a pleasure to see these masks transform and in true Oak style, we splashed on the colour today and really amped up the theatre. These are acrylic paints, which create a vibrant seamless coverage over the dried Modroc (bandage plaster style clay). Can you guess whether these masks would fit a true Ancient Greek comedy or tragedy play?



REMINDER

Don't forget that summer is here, and we need to think about making sure that the children have appropriate protection, especially during the lunch break and PE lessons. Next half term please make sure your child has a hat and some sun cream that can be applied if required. Please also ensure both items are clearly named. If they aren't then I can guarantee that, sooner or later, they will be lost!

SCHOOL LIFE GROUP

Calling all parents! We have vacancies on our SLG and would really love to get this off the ground again. We have changed the timings to see if this attracts more volunteers. If you think you might be interested or have any questions, please come and chat to us.

The purpose of the 'School Life Group' is as follows:

- To support the Academy Head to help achieve the School's Vision and Values and British values (Appendix 1)
- To provide a forum for sharing and discussion on matters relevant to the school offer and experience for the children.
- Through minutes & via Governor Rep, communicate with the Totnes LAC, PTFA, parents and the local community.
- To strengthen and develop engagement with the community and parents.

Role	Person	Appointment and term
Academy Head	Karen Barlow	For duration of post
Representative Governor from Totnes Local Board	Nanya Coles	For duration of post
Staff representative	Therese Carwithen	For duration of post

PTFA representative		For duration of post
BIRCH CLASS REPRESENTATIVE		Elected by parents of the class for a period of 1 year
SYCAMORE CLASS REPRESENTATIVE		Elected by parents of the class for a period of 1 year
OAK CLASS REPRESENTATIVE		Elected by parents of the class for a period of 1 year
Community representative	TBC	Appointed by Academy Head for duration of 1 year

Meetings for 2024 /25

- Initial meeting / re launch: Monday 8th July 2:30-3:30 pm
- Monday 23rd September 2:30-3:30 pm
- Monday 2nd December 2:30-3:30 pm
- Monday 17th March 2:30-3:30 pm
- Monday 7th July 2:30-3:30 pm

SAFEGUARDING & ATTENDANCE

Attendance: (Our school target is 97%)	
Whole school	96.5%
Birch Class	96.6%
Sycamore Class	96.8%
Oak Class	96.1%

A study from the British Psychological Society found that the majority of children (71%) had at least one close friend as early as five years old. These connections can form rather quickly and develop with equal speed. At such a young age, it can be remarkable how suddenly two children can hit it off with one another. However, it is deeply important that children can recognise both the features of a healthy relationship, as well as the potential signs of a less healthy dynamic. This guide offers some top tips on reinforcing the formation of healthy friendships among children and young people.

[10 Top Tips for Parents: Encouraging Healthy Friendships \(nationalcollege.com\)](https://www.nationalcollege.com)

If you are concerned about a child's wellbeing, please contact the school or in non-school hours contact MASH on 0345 155 1071. Our designated safeguarding officer is Mrs. Ryder and the deputy safeguarding officers are Miss Barlow & Mrs Carwithen.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING HEALTHY FRIENDSHIPS

Navigating the complexities of childhood and adolescent friendships can be challenging – but with the right guidance, children and young people can cultivate meaningful, supportive relationships, some of which may last for many years. These top tips provide a comprehensive approach to fostering healthy friendships among children and young people. It's important to remember, however, that each child is different, and will require an individual approach to relationship support.

- 1 GRANT FRIENDSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**
Encouraging children and young people to join extracurricular activities can foster healthy friendships by providing shared interests and common ground. Engaging in these pastimes offers a platform for interaction, sometimes alleviating the social pressure of knowing what to say, and helps children develop meaningful connections.
- 2 LEAD BY EXAMPLE**
The children and young people in our lives see how we behave, the connections that we've made and the interactions between us and others. When we model healthy friendships, we set an example and help youngsters to understand what healthy friendships look like and how to navigate them.
- 3 HELP THEM LOVE THEMSELVES**
Healthy friendships aren't just about dynamics with other people. They're about our relationship with ourselves. For overall wellbeing, it's important for a child to have the space to build their self-esteem and a positive self-image, as these factors can have a notable influence on the friendships they form throughout life.
- 4 MONITOR SCREEN TIME**
Too much screen time can affect some children's wellbeing. In general, as it can specifically impact friendships. It results in fewer positive social interactions. In some cases, reducing screen time and encouraging children and young people to find ways to interact face-to-face can have positive results. It's also important to remember that young people can make positive friendships online, but they will require support to do this safely.
- 5 TEACH PROBLEM-SOLVING**
Healthy friendships can run into problems. However, this is also an opportunity to support children and young people to work through any difficulties that may arise. It can be tempting to intervene and try to fix these issues for those involved, but helping them consider ways of resolving conflict or managing difficult situations for themselves can help them create stronger friendships.
- 6 EMPOWER THE CHILD**
When we give children and young people the confidence to choose their friends, navigate interpersonal boundaries and consider how they want to interact with the different people around them, we empower them to take control of the friendships they have. When young people feel in control of these things, they're more likely to make positive choices and remain aware of the signs of a negative relationship.
- 7 TEACH EMPATHY**
Healthy friendships don't always mean 'perfect'. Sometimes, disagreements can happen. When we teach children and young people to have empathy, we help them to see both sides of an issue. When they're faced with the challenges a friend might be facing or whatever else might be going on, this can help children and young people to build stronger friendships.
- 8 BE OPEN TO QUESTIONS**
Talking to young people about their friendships, who they spend time with and when they interact with can open the door to questions. If they have concerns, initially, these queries may be straightforward, but if we are receptive to discussion from the outset, young people are more likely to come to us for help when they are older or wiser.
- 9 UNDERSTAND BOUNDARIES**
Having boundaries in a healthy friendship is anything from respecting personal space and belongings to accepting someone's 'no' and behaviour. Understanding the importance of setting these limits and upholding those set by others can help children stay safe. If young people figure out their boundaries and feel comfortable enforcing them, they're more likely to call someone out if they go too far.
- 10 SPOT THE SIGNS**
We can't always supervise young people, sometimes, we need to step back and give them some space. However, it's important to consider any indicators that they may be struggling in their friendships. Are they becoming increasingly introverted? Does their behaviour alter when they've been with their friends? Are they becoming withdrawn or reluctant to take part in certain activities? These could all be signs that they're finding things difficult, and we should remain alert to such changes.

Meet Our Expert
Becky Dawson is an experienced educator who has worked in primary and secondary schools for 20 years. She is a facilitator, consultant and coach working with young people and the adults who work with them, with a focus on developing understanding and skills around mental health, wellbeing and safeguarding.

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The National College

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CLASSES NEXT YEAR

As you all know Miss Barlow will be taking up the reins as Academy head, so I thought it might be a good idea to talk about the structure for next year.

- **BIRCH CLASS** – Reception, Year 1 & Year 2: Will be taught by Miss Clements along with Miss Tarsky (HLTA) & Mrs Jeffrey (TA). All staff in Birch rotate across the week and all play a teaching role with Miss Clements holding overall responsibility.

- **SYCAMORE CLASS** – Year 3 & Year4 will be taught by Mrs Cleverley 0.6 and she will be joined by Mrs Talbot 0.4, after October half term. Miss Mason will be the TA for this class.
- **OAK CLASS** – Miss Heike will be teaching full time in this class. Miss Steer will be the TA for this class.

Miss Barlow will be taking PPA across the school to keep her hand in! If you have any questions about the coming year, please ask.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

24.5.24	BREAK UP FOR HALF TERM 3:30pm
4.6.24	Reception children to Stover for pond dipping
5-7.6.24	Oak Class residential at Pixies Holt
17.6.24	Y2, Y5 & Y6 NSPCC Speak out and Stay safe workshops.
18.6.24	Sports day with Mr Tanner at Headlands – timing TBC
22.6.24	Village Summer Fete
25.6.24	Sycamore Class Decoy adventure day
27.6.24	Oak class adventure day – slide, ride and drop!
1-2.7.24	Y3/4 Forest & Beach camping trip
8.7.24	Birch class Wembury beach trip
17.7.24	KS2 End of term production 2pm, Village Hall
23.7.24	Leavers service @ St. Peter And St. Paul's 2.30pm

That's all the news for now. Have a lovely half term.

Jill Ryder.