



Ottery Primary School Newsletter



12th March 2018

Welcome to the working week...

I'd like to take a few moments to talk about volunteering in school.

First and foremost, I'd like to thank all of you who give so much of your time to the school through the PTA and through volunteering in class. I recently sent home application forms for volunteering in school in order to ensure we are complying with the **latest regulations and best practice training requirements** in relation to safeguarding. We have had some of these forms back already and would really welcome as many as possible as soon as possible so that we can ensure all of our records are up to date. As this is a change in our previous arrangements we will be operating a grace period for the remainder of this term for those of you who have been volunteering with us already and who have DBS checks in place. The following arrangements will apply:

Existing volunteers: We will need to have your completed forms and references in place by the beginning of the summer term (Monday 16th April). After this date we will unfortunately be unable to use your volunteering services until the necessary paperwork is in place.

New volunteers: If you are a new volunteer to the school, the DBS checks need to be completed and all the necessary paperwork (application form and references) in place before you can begin volunteering with us.

All volunteers: All volunteers are now required to complete Level 2 Safeguarding Training and Prevent Awareness Training. Both of these training packages are available as free online modules that can be completed at your convenience. Please either print out or email a copy of your certificate and hand it in to the office. If anyone has any difficulties in accessing the online training, please do get in touch and we will endeavour to facilitate this in school for you. As a rough guide, each module will take around 45 minutes to complete.

The links can be found below and we will also put them on the new Safeguarding tab on the school website.

Level 2 training: <https://devon.safeguarding.network/elearning/>

Prevent Awareness Training: <https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/>

I hope you will all understand our position here as we truly do value your generosity in giving up your time to support the school and the children.

Mark Gilronan

Communications:

Unfortunately we have had some significant issues with our parent communications system over the last week. This was the result of a power cut during the snow days which knocked out the system. We have been working hard to rectify the problem as quickly as we can as this will also affect online payments. Please check the website and Twitter for updates in addition to waiting for email alerts. We will notify you all once we're fully back up and running. Thank you for your patience in the meantime.

Year 1 vacancy:

I'd like to welcome Helen Penney to the staff at Ottery Primary School. Helen will be teaching in Year 1 after the Easter holiday in place of Angela Hodson. Helen is currently working at West Hill Primary School and will be teaching from Monday to Wednesday when she joins us.

We are holding interviews for the Year 3 post this week and I will hopefully be in a position to update you in the next newsletter.

Some upcoming diary dates:

Y3 Trip to Kents Cavern	Tuesday 13 th March
Crealy ranger to visit EYFS	Tuesday 13 th March
PTA Film Night	Friday 23 rd March
Sport Relief Week	w/c 19 th March
Parent Consultations	w/c 26 th March
Last day of autumn term	Thursday 29 th March
First day of summer term	Monday 16 th April
Festival of Music	Thursday 26 th April
Y5 Warren Barn Residential	w/c 30 th April
Early May Bank Holiday	Monday 7 th May
KS2 SATs	w/c 14 th May
Celebration of Dance	Friday 18 th May (reserve day 25 th May)
Wellbeing Week	w/c 21 st May
Half-term	w/c 28 th May
Y6 PGL Residential	22 nd -25 th June
KS1 Sports Day	Tuesday 3 rd July (am)
KS2 Sports Day	Wednesday 4 th July
Y6 Project Week at Kings	w/c 9 th July
Last day of term	Friday 20 th July