



West Yarner - Seale Hayne

Newsletter

December 2022

Headteacher's update

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Many thanks for all your support this term where we have had lots of changes within the school. We have had new staff and students start this term as well as moving to the new building in Seale Hayne (East Wing.) The students have settled into their new classrooms and the school has changed from just a building into somewhere the students feel comfortable and part of. West Yarner has also seen some changes with new students arriving and extra space being available, although we have more new students arriving, hopefully in the new year.

A massive thank you to everyone in the school (staff, students and parents who completed the questionnaire) for making Ofsted feel so welcome on their visit in the second week of term. Even though we were only less than two weeks in the Seale Hayne building, Ofsted could see what we are trying to achieve and how the ethos is linked to the already great provision we are providing at West Yarner.

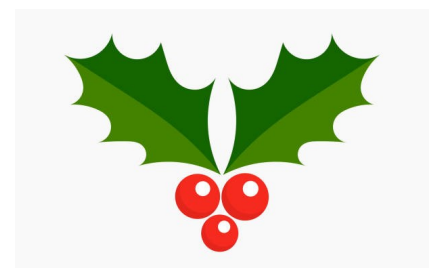
There have been some excellent activities this term with a trip to the pantomime, a class visit to Bygones in Torquay and the Dartmoor Prison Museum. Forest School continues to be a positive experience for some students. Intervention activities have included a lot of swimming, the zoo, art and cooking which links to, not only their EHCP targets but also the wider curriculum.

Lisa Chell (Forest School Leader) is reducing her hours to two days which will mean we have to re-think the Forest School timetable.

Have a lovely time over the Christmas holidays and we will see everyone on the **4th January**.

Simon

Headteacher.





Forest School Development

This term we continued to use our forest school site at Burchetts wood.

During the Forest School sessions the students have been working on different styles of den building. Some of them used ropes and tarpaulins to create ridgeline shelters and hanging tipi style shelters. Others have used things they have found in the woods and we now have an amazing log lean to shelter that has graced our site all term. Also under



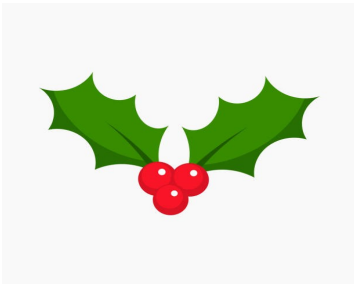
construction is a traditional 'bender' shelter made from harvested hazel poles that are sunk into the ground then bent over to form a domed structure. There is still more to do to this but once the framework is finished we will cover it with tarpaulin and it will hopefully provide a warmish dry space in our woodland camp!

The students have also been revisiting their fire building skills, and a few of them have made their own individual fires and kept them going long enough to cook on. We have cooked amongst other things bread twists, cake and pizza.

As always whittling and woodcraft have been popular and the students have been coming up with some imaginative ideas of things to make. My favourites this term were a racing car and a Harry Potter wand with extra magic through the addition of a phoenix feather!

Lisa Chell





Trips and Visits

Year 7 B trip

In the first part of the term, Year 7 were learning about the Victorian time period.

They linked their in class learning with a trip to Bygones, which is an independent attraction, run by three generations of the Cumming family. It allowed the children to explore sights, sounds and smells of Victorian England with a stroll down an authentic Victorian street, looking at different shops filled with original Victorian merchandise.

After returning to school, the children produced diary entries based on their class trip as well as discussed historical knowledge gained during the trip.

Dear Diary,

Today my class went to a history trip to Bygones in Torquay

I went in the car with Mason and Aaron. They were singing and dancing we drove to Torquay.

We arrived at the museum we saw a sweet shop, Queen Victoria and a penny machine. Lou brought a penny for the class, it was very kind.

After we went to Carey park. We went with the class and had lunch and we went on the swings.

When we finished at the park we went in Aaron's car Mason was dancing on the way back to school.

Dear Diary,

Today my class went to Bygones in Torquay on a history trip. I went in a car with my mate Dan and worker Lou.

I looked around with Dan and Lou, we saw an old prison cell and a lot more.

After that we went to the park and I ate my lunch and played.

On the journey home I went back with Dan and Lou.

BYGONES
It's About Time



Trips and Visits

Halloween - Collecting pumpkins

For Halloween this year, the students took a trip to our local pumpkin farm just off of the A38 - Devon Pumpkin Picking.

Upon arrival in a very muddy field, wellies were donned and brightly coloured wheelbarrows were collected for us to start our hunt for the perfect carvable pumpkin.

With over 16 varieties to choose from, including Polar Bear, Porcelain Doll and Goosebump pumpkins, our trip took around an hour, wandering around the huge field to pick our favourites.

Upon returning to school, the smell of pumpkin flesh filled the rooms and corridors as students began emptying and carving their designs. The students enjoyed cooking and eating pumpkin soup and pumpkin tarts.

They also developed a range of carving and cutting techniques along side developing their social skills.



Out and about

While on interventions this term, some of our students have been learning to cast and fish in both lakes and sea. One of the Year 8 students was lucky enough to catch two large carp on his first ever fishing session. The activity exceeded expectations in every way and he was excited to go again as soon as possible. He tried out sea-fishing the next week, and combined his love of cooking by bringing back to school a gar fish to make tasty goujons! Another child also joined in on the fun and caught three fish on his first attempt!.





Trips and Visits

Year 7 trip to Dartmoor Prison

This year in KS 3 we are going to focus on developing the children's understanding of different jobs in the community and different career pathways the children may follow.

On Thursday Y7 visited the Dartmoor Prison Museum in Princetown linking it to their Crime and Punishment history topic. After an informative and entertaining welcome from the Museum curator, the children enjoyed seeing how the prison has changed since opening as a Prisoner of War facility in 1809. They were particularly interested in the contraband seized over the years and the replica cells - one student was surprised by how comfy the beds were! The children learnt about different jobs within the prison and the importance of prison officers in our society.



Careers—Police officer's visit.

Continuing developing the children's understanding of careers in our society, we invited a Police officer to talk to our children. He talked about his training, shifts patterns responsibilities and different aspects of his job.

Next term, we are expecting a range of professionals to visit Seale Hayne/West Yarner and will talk about their jobs and responsibilities — South West Water service, Air ambulance, RNLI team.

If your child is showing interest in any job or career they want to find out about or they would like to follow, please let us know so we can support your child with focusing on developing the required skills.

We want all pupils in the school to have a wide range of experiences regarding careers and future college courses.

Key Dates for your Fridge



Spring term

- Wednesday 4 January - Friday 10 February 2023
- **Half-term holiday** Monday 13 February - Friday 17 February 2023
- Monday 20 February - Friday 31 March 2023
- **Easter holiday** Monday 3 April – Friday 14 April 2023

Summer term

Monday 17 April – Friday 26 May 2023

Half-term holiday: Monday 29 May – Friday 2 June 2023

Monday 5 June - Friday 21 July 2023 Monday

1 May is a Bank Holiday

8 May is a Bank Holiday (Coronation Day)



Thank you.

We would like to say a big thank you to the family of a student, whose parents donated a range of books to our Seale Hayne site, helping us to expand our new library there. We are always willing to take donations to build up our library. We also are in need of board games, card games which provide hours of fun for our students as well as learning some lessons around playing with other people and being able to lose.

Absences

Dear Parent/ Careers,

If your child is not feeling well or can't attend the school, please could you email us at:

yarneroffice@ontrackededucation.com

This email can be received by several members of staff, who will pass your message to either West Yarner or Seale Hayne sites and will inform the relevant staff.

SAFEGUARDING CONCERNS

Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub Devon:

0345 155 1071 email mashsecure@devon.gov.uk

Torbay Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub:

01803 208100 email mash@torbay.gov.uk

Out of hours please call:

0300 4564 876

Multi Agency Referral Unit Cornwall:

0300 123 1116 email multiagencyreferralunit@cornwall.gov.uk

Simon Wood - 07580412890
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