



Dartmoor
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

Respectful, Resourceful, Resilient

A creative approach to learning where all pupils can succeed

Newsletter **Friday 21st January**

**This week's
attendance
was:
89.10%**

Remember to book your child's school dinners for the coming week!

Dear Parents/Carers

Apologies that you have not seen much of me this week at Boasley Cross. We have had staff shortages at Northlew due to staff having to self-isolate and I have been teaching for most of the week. I have been in contact with the staff of Boasley Cross daily and Mr Williams, our school SENDCO, has been based at the school all week in my absence. I hope that things will return to normal next week and I will be based at Boasley on Tuesdays and Thursdays, as well as Friday afternoons for our celebration assemblies.



This week, Katie Neilson from The Voices Foundation visited both our classes to support teachers with the delivery of our new music curriculum. Katie observed

the teacher's approach to the curriculum and offered some new techniques for the children to explore. The children's engagement and excitement in the sessions was fantastic and Katie is very much

looking forward to joining us again later in the term to engage in the range of music the children will be exploring.

This term our focused school value is '**respectful**'. Within our PSHE lessons the children will be exploring relationships, understanding appropriate behaviours and discussing strategies to support others when situations become difficult. Staff are finding it hard each week to choose one child from each class to receive this

certificate, as the polite, courteous nature of our children daily is something that continues to shine brightly throughout the school.

Just to remind parents that the school opens at 8:35am and children have learning tasks, small intervention group activities and 'keep up' sessions planned to support their learning. Please ensure that your child arrives on time so they don't miss out on these crucial 'smart starts' to the school day.

Can we ask that children bring in a full PE kit to participate in their weekly PE sessions (white t-shirt, shorts or tracksuit bottoms/leggings and trainers). Children will also need to have appropriate clothing for after school activities. It is also important that children are having regular drinks throughout the day to keep hydrated, please can we ask that all children bring a drinks bottle to school every day.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend,

Mrs Cook



Next week in our PSHE sessions, the children will be exploring 'It's Not OK' campaign which encourages everyone to speak out to say **no** to all forms of sexual violence and sexual harassment. The children will be talking about different ways they are kept safe in school, as well as the characteristics of positive relationships. We will be revisiting the NSPCC Pants Rule and we are confident from our pupil voice that the children feel safe to speak to staff

if they are worried or concerned about other's behaviour. For further information about how you can keep your child safe, please visit:

[Talk PANTS & Join Pantosaurus - The Underwear Rule | NSPCC](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/parents/)



We were very lucky to be visited by Joe Rice, First Aid Trainer, this week. Joe trained the children to be "Mini Medics" and they learnt what to do in an emergency and how to respond. They covered a range of first aid procedures from bandaging skills to CPR. As always, Joe delivered the training in a fun and enthusiastic manner which the children really enjoyed. Thank you, Joe and a huge thank you to FOBCS who organised these sessions for the children.



The Kodály music workshops are a way to improve your child's development on all levels. Studies indicate that childhood singing, playing and general music education enhances literacy, improves social and emotional skills, increases memory retention and can even improve SAT scores. Kodály technique

differs from traditional (British) musical teaching tradition in offering core skills of musicality that are usually not prioritised, but which can have enormous benefits. Having this level of musical training available to all the kids is a real privilege. It's not just another after-school club, it's an unmissable opportunity! **Please email admin by Tuesday 25th January to express interest in the workshops which we would look to run on Wednesday's 3-4pm. These can only take place if there are sufficient children able to support the cost per session, which would be around £3.45 based on 12 children. So please encourage your child to take advantage of this amazing facility.**

Outdoor Learning – Littlemoor Class

Every Tuesday afternoon starting next week Littlemoor will be having outdoor learning sessions. These will link to areas of the curriculum that we are currently covering. Children will have opportunities to spend time outside the classroom environment building on their cooperative skills, careful questioning, following instructions and leading. We believe this is a valuable experience to children which will enhance their learning when they are back in to the classroom. If the children could please make sure that they have wellies and a warm coat in school for these sessions that would be much appreciated.

*Many thanks,
Miss Hyde and Mrs Turner*

Outdoor Learning at Boasley

Over the last two weeks in outdoor learning, we have been able to retell traditional tales. The children enjoyed being able to recreate Goldilocks and the Three Bears in a story line and then test out Goldilocks porridge theory. Also this group has played "What's the time Mr Wolf?" "Penguins on an Iceberg" and other outdoor games that encourage collaborative working. The Outdoor Learning group have been very busy moving the 'Scotty Box' composting bin and starting to paint ladybird pebbles for the Sensory Garden. Both groups have also had opportunities for free play. Play is defined as 'behaviour' which is freely chosen, personally directed and intrinsically motivated." Mrs Simmons



Information for Parents/Carers re: Attendance

We have recently updated our attendance procedures across Dartmoor Multi-Academy Trust. The link between a child's attendance at school and improved outcomes and life chances is well documented. We want to help all children and young people to fulfil their potential and get the most out of their education.

In line with our policy and government expectations all schools have the following procedures:

- If a child's attendance starts to drop the school will speak to the child/parent and discuss the reason for absence and any support needed.
- After 10 sessions of absence, you will receive a first attendance letter (there are 2 sessions in the school day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon).
- After 15 sessions of absence, you will receive a second attendance letter and you will be invited to have a meeting to discuss how we can best support your child to attend school more often. You will also be offered an Early Help meeting.
- If your child's attendance does not improve you will receive a third attendance letter and the Education Welfare Officer (EWO) will be informed.



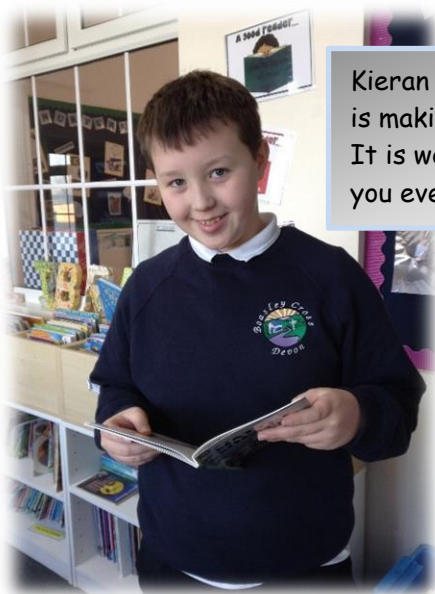
Of course, there will be unavoidable absences for illness or medical appointments, but we want to minimise these where possible. Pupils and families will not be penalised for legitimate non-attendance due to Covid 19. No term time holidays will be authorised unless there are exceptional circumstances. Every day in school counts, even a small drop in attendance can lead to a child missing a significant part of their education.

School Diary

January 2021

Monday 24th	Nurture group (selected children) Outdoor Learning session – waterproofs and wellies required OCRA after school Dance club KS1/KS2
Tuesday 25th	Littlemoor Outdoor Learning session - waterproofs and wellies required Netball after school club Y2/KS2
Wednesday 26th	OCRA Martial Arts after school club KS2
Thursday 27th	Whole School PE sessions with Mr Pugh – full PE kits required Outdoor Learning after school club KS2 - waterproofs and wellies required OCRA Multi Skills after school club KS1
Friday 28th	Celebration Assembly – pupils only

Our Star Learners this week



Kieran for the amazing progress he is making in reading comprehension. It is wonderful to share books with you every day!



Mason for super enthusiasm in science lessons, learning all about 'sound'. For being really focused and putting his hand up more in class. Well done Mason!

Our School Value Certificates this week 'Respectfulness'



Henrietta for always being respectful towards her peers and holding the door open for adults and children - always appreciated!



Tilly always shows respectful behaviour by checking on her peers when they are upset. Tilly, you are a true asset to Boasley Cross school!



Train to Teach with the Dartmoor Teacher Training Partnership

Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust is pleased to lead the Dartmoor Teacher Training Partnership. Working in collaboration with both the University of Exeter and Plymouth Marjon University, we have many years of experience of offering high-quality primary and secondary education training routes. With our routes you can train while you teach to earn your PGCE and Qualified Teacher Status (QTS). Our programmes are aimed at nurturing the teachers of tomorrow and the leaders of the future. Whether you are a new graduate or you are considering a career change, our teacher training will equip you with the skills, knowledge, and knowhow to be an excellent teacher.

Primary

Our primary routes into teaching are led by Okehampton Primary School. In addition to the 13 other primary schools within our Trust, we work in partnership with a range of other primary schools within Devon and the wider area.

For 2022-23 we will be offering two school direct routes into teaching. Our 5-11 primary specialism route covers all primary phases whilst the 3-7 primary route allows trainees to gain experience in early years and KS1 teaching. Both routes are delivered in partnership with the University of Exeter as part of the PGCE distance learning programme.

We are opening our school doors to those interested in training to teach. Our school experience sessions include a tour of school, visits to lessons, opportunity to discuss our training programme with current trainees and Q and A session with programme leaders. Please email Sally Huxen, SHuxen@dmatschools.org.uk if you are interested in attending a school experience session.

Secondary

Our secondary routes into teaching are led by Tavistock College. In addition to the 2 other secondary schools within our Trust, we work in partnership with a range of other schools within Devon and the wider area.

For 2022-23 we will be offering school direct routes into teaching in the following subjects: Maths, English, Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Geography, Computing, Art & design, PE, and Modern Foreign Languages.

We are opening our school doors to those interested in training to teach. Our school experience sessions include a tour of school, visits to lessons, opportunity to discuss our training programme with current trainees and Q and A session with programme leaders. Please email Phil Ruse, PRuse@dmatschools.org.uk if you are interested in attending a school experience session.

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Myth Busting about Teacher Training

Q Can you train as a teacher with any degree?

A Yes! Teaching is a graduate profession. However, any degree at 2: ii or higher is a potential gateway into teaching. At secondary stage a degree in the subject specialism is always desirable but not compulsory. We look at A Level grades people have and there are subject knowledge enhancement (SKE) courses available which can be freely accessed before the training year begins.

Q Is there a 'best route' into teaching?

A No. The main post-graduate routes are to take a traditional university based PGCE or complete a school direct route through a university linked provider or a SCITT. School direct routes tend to include greater time on placement in school. However which route is best depends on you, your experiences and development needs.

Q Does it matter how old you are or how long since you completed your degree?

A No. The teaching profession is full of both new graduates and career changers. Different experiences and life stories can massively enhance the relationships you build in the classroom.

Q Do I need to have had recent school experience to apply for teacher training?

A No. However, it is recommended because it gives you a recent experience into the workings of a primary or secondary classroom. We can help arrange such experience days for you within the Dartmoor MAT. Please contact Sally or Phil via the contact details on the previous page.

Q Am I expected to be a finished teacher at the end of my training year?

A No. Your PGCE year is the beginning of your journey as a teacher. This year feeds into the Early Career Framework (ECF) which provides structured development opportunities in your first 2 years of teaching.

Q What sort of opportunities lie within teaching once you qualify?

A One of the great aspects of teaching is the different opportunities that can arise during your career. You may have a strong interest in the pastoral side of things so that roles such as Head of Year or Head of Key Stage appeal. You could become a Head of Department and specialise in specific subjects. Opportunities to focus on supporting students with Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) or from Disadvantaged backgrounds often appeal to teachers too.

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CEO & TRUST LEADER | Dan Morrow
CHIEF FINANCE & OPERATIONS OFFICER | Susanne Kiff



"To provide the highest possible quality of education for all local children, in order to ensure pupils from all backgrounds are able to succeed."

Please visit webpage link: [About Us - Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust \(dartmoormat.org.uk\)](http://About Us - Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust (dartmoormat.org.uk))