

## Dates for your diary

**25th-29th May**  
**Half Term Holiday**

**2nd June**  
**KS2 Sports Day**

**3rd June**  
**Devon Tag Rugby**  
**Finals**

**8th-12th June**  
**Year 5 at Escot**

**12th June**  
**Y3 Class Assembly**

**18th June**  
**Year 6 Cake Sale**

**22nd June**  
**Filled Jam Jar**  
**Collection**

**24th June**  
**KS1 Mini-Olympics**

**26th June**  
**Y5 Class Assembly**

**26th June**  
**School Fete 6pm**

**6-7th July**  
**Year 6 Induction at**  
**Sidmouth College**

**13-17th July**  
**Year 6 Induction**  
**week at King's**  
**School, Ottery**

**22nd July**  
**Leavers' Assembly**  
**& Last day of**  
**Summer Term**

# POPPLSFORD POST

**2015/04**

**MAY HALF TERM 2015**

## STUDENTS EXCEL IN TRICKY CONDITIONS

The Exmoor Challenge took place on Saturday 2nd May and, after months of practice walks in largely dry and sunny conditions, it was something of a shock for the teams to be greeted at Dulverton by low cloud, wind and driving rain! Still, the event is called a 'challenge' for a reason and, to their credit, both teams stepped up to the mark, gritted their teeth and just got on with it.

This is our 6<sup>th</sup> year of doing the event and this year we had two teams taking part in the Challenge trying to cover the 16 mile course in 5½ hours, no mean feat, as the youngest competitors in the event, which isn't a race, but a challenge to arrive at each checkpoint at the correct time.

*After seeing the teams set off from Dulverton Middle School, I went, with parents, to the bridge in Dulverton to watch them start climbing the first hill of the route. As usual, the students knew that penalty points would be given for arriving either too early or too late at the check points and that they would be required to answer questions about map readings and local knowledge. At the third checkpoint, all of the teams arrived through the mist and rain, very wet but still with smiles on their faces. At this point they had been walking for 1½ hours. We then drove to the sixth checkpoint where they were once again spotted through the mist and rain, still smiling but looking a bit wearier. Ahead of them was the final 5 miles to the finish line, which is where we then headed to wait for them. After a nervous wait I'm pleased to say that all of the teams made it, some of them running through the finishing line, and it was a proud moment to see them all awarded their medals.*

*This year's event, once again, proved to be enjoyable, hard work and challenging for all those who took part. Along the way, the teams have learned to support one another, developed their leadership skills and discovered that walking can be enjoyable!*

*I would like to say how proud I am of all of the students; they have trained hard, including an extra walk during the Easter holidays, and managed to walk over 100 miles in 7 weekends. Both teams – Ryan K, Christian, Benedict, Annie, Isabel, Dan C, Dan B, Kieran, Frankie and Ruby M – performed amazingly with the team of Ryan, Christian, Benedict, Annie and Isabel coming 7<sup>th</sup>, an amazing achievement out of 150 teams most of which were year 7, 8 or 9 pupils. A special mention must go to Harvey who also completed all the practice walks.*

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June at 9.45am** This is the re-arranged date for the KS1 Mini-Olympics.

## GENTLE REMINDER

May we ask that any person bringing dogs to school please tie them up away from the main school gate for the safety of children and to reduce congestion. They can be tied up in the area by the gate near the bike shed.

## TWICKENHAM BOUND

Class CW have been taking part in the Aviva Premiership Rugby Tackling Numbers programme over the course of this half term. Andrew Dudley, a member of the Exeter Chiefs Community Team, has been delivering the sessions.

We have been chosen to represent the Exeter Chiefs Community Team in the Aviva Tackling Numbers Premiership Final event on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> May at Twickenham.

The children will be taking part in two activities during the day as well as getting the chance to watch the Rugby Premiership Final. The children will be taking part in a Guinness World Record attempt prior to the match and then gracing the Twickenham pitch in front of a 80,000 capacity crowd to show off their tag rugby skills ( supervised by Rugby Community team) during the half time interval.

This is a fantastic opportunity for the children to represent Newton Poppleford school at such a prestigious event as well as getting the chance to watch what will be a superb game of Premiership rugby.

## RECENT MOMENTS IN KEY STAGE 1



Year 1 Hunting for Treasure— and finding it!



Part of Year 2's display of the Great Fire of London

Year 1 Shape Painting







Year 3 enjoying the fossils and theatre at Lyme Regis before learning the rhythms of the Samba



## The Exmoor Challenge



Before



During



After



## RECENT MOMENTS IN KEY STAGE 2