



Newsletter



Some final thoughts...

About 38 years ago I was facing a dilemma. I was in the middle of my A levels and I didn't know what to do next. Some of my friends had joined the Navy the year before and others were hoping to join with A levels. Growing up in Gosport, many of my friends' parents were in the Navy and there was an expectation that many of us would join up too. This was not for me and I managed to put off joining the working world by being accepted on a four year teaching degree course.

Much of my holidays during this period were spent engaged in a wide range of temporary jobs including building site labouring, van driving, block paving and testing the sea worthiness of lifeboats in Portsmouth Harbour.

A few job offers had me doubting my new found calling to teach but I saw it through and began my first teaching post at Four Marks Primary in 1990. My first class was a mixed Year 4 & 5 group of 36 children in a wooden temporary classroom which had long since passed its best before date. The roof leaked, there were holes in the floorboards and I had to quickly learn how to relight the oil fired heater in the corner of the room but I have very happy memories of this period. The children in this first class will now be in their early 40s and I wonder if any of them remember the appalling smell when a fox died under the hut or when the tank full of tadpoles froze solid one night.

After teaching in Hedge End for a few years I returned to Four Marks as the Deputy Head until I moved into the Headteacher's seat at Cheriton in 2015. Now in my ninth year here, I can honestly say it has been the most demanding and rewarding job I have ever done.

Small schools are special places and Cheriton is made particularly fabulous by the staff team who work so very hard to provide the learning opportunities that our school offers.

Behind the scenes, a fantastic group of school governors voluntarily give large amounts of their time and energy into making it possible for the school to operate smoothly and strive for the best possible education for the children.

The parents who send their children to our school understand the value of a good education and are incredibly supportive through encouraging and enabling of homework completion and taking an interest in what the children are doing in school each day.

The undoubted strength of the school is the children. I love showing visitors around the school, spending time in classrooms or on the playground; anything that allows me to spend time with our kind, polite, courageous, compassionate, creative, talented, resilient, determined (I could go on...) children. They are an amazing group of people and I shall miss spending time with them.

Forest School provides an environment for the children to develop and grow in ways which cannot always be measured by a test. For some children it is where they are making their happiest school memories, where they experience success and challenge, developing skills such as resilience and perseverance which they are then able to transfer back into the classroom, but it takes real effort from the staff to make it happen. It is a large commitment of time when it can be a challenge to deliver the whole national curriculum, staff have to be prepared to go out in all weathers to support and encourage the children whilst keeping them safe. It's not easy but it's worth it. When the children leave at the end of the day after a session in the woods, they are often tired and muddy but as parents we know that this is a sign of time well-spent. I owe a huge thank you to Nicola Cecil who has kindly allowed us to use her woodland since the first Forest School sessions with Bee.

There have been many examples in literature to help me to find the words to explain how I feel about leaving Cheriton. Shakespeare put it well with the very appropriate, "Parting is such sweet sorrow", Douglas Adams (Hitch hiker's Guide) wrote, "So long and thanks for all the fish." But I think I will end with the words of A.A. Milne's Winnie the Pooh who said,

"How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard."

Thank you for your support and everything you do that make Cheriton Primary School so special.

Best wishes, *Andrew.*



DIARY DATES

27th March	Farewell Picnic and Tea Party
28th March	BREAK UP FOR EASTER—2 weeks
26th April	Film Night—Denis the Menace, 5 to 7pm
6th May	Cheriton Fete—1.30 to 4pm
6th to 9th May	Plant donation station
9th May	Area Sports
10th May	Spring Plant Sale (and refreshments)
13th to 16th May	SATS—KS2
24th May	Sports Day with "Friends" Refreshment Tent
27th May	MAY HALF-TERM—1 week
4th June	Class 4—Eco Conference
5th June	Class 2—Milestones visit.
7th June	Reserve Sports Day.
14th June	Father Day Surprise
20th June	Perins Open Days—9 to 11am/5 to 7pm
21st June	Class Photos
1st—3rd July	Class 4 Residential—Marchants Hill.
1st to 6th July	Online second hand uniform sale
12th July	Film Night TBC
23rd July	Break up for Summer

Term Dates: Sept 2023- July 2024

Spring Term 2024 starts on Tuesday 2 January 2024 and ends on Thursday 28 March 2024
(Half term from Monday 12 February to Friday 16 February 2024)

Summer Term 2024 starts on Monday 15 April 2024 and ends on Tuesday 23 July 2024 (Half

CLUBS

SINGING CLUB	Monday —(8.30am)- Hall, KS2 No Charge
DRAMA BEASTS	Monday—(12.30 to 1.00pm) - Library KS1 & KS2
FOOTBALL	Friday—(3.30 to 4.30pm) - KS1 & KS2 - Back playground
NETBALL	Tuesday (3.30 to 4.30pm) - KS2 - Back playground
SCHOOL BAND	Wednesday (8.30 to 9.00) - Hall, KS2 No Charge
COOKERY	Wednesday (3.30 to 4.30pm) - KS1 & 2 - Hall
GARDENING	Thursday—(Lunchtime) - KS1 & KS2 No Charge
FRENCH	Friday - (Lunchtime) - KS1 & KS2 - Front playground

MUSIC LESSONS—Woodwind/Piano/Violin (Private lessons in school time.)

We have spaces in Clarinet and Saxophone lessons for Yrs 4,5 & 6. Contact Melissa Debont melissadebont@yahoo.com for more details.



RED NOSE DAY -We raised £92.20! Thank you all for your kind donations and THANK YOU to "Friends" for supplying the wonderful prizes.



RED NOSE DESIGN AND NAME WINNERS.....

Yr R- SER by Lydie

Yr 1- ELA by Emma

Yr 2- STALEE by Rosie

Yr 2- RED by Alfie

Yr 3- MR MOOEY by Heather

Yr 4- FLUFFY by Caleb

Yr 5- EH! By Daisy

Yr 6- THE BEAR WEIRD-THING by Tilly

YOUR SCHOOL PICNIC MENU



A balanced selection of carbohydrates, protein, fresh fruits and vegetables.

MONDAY

Tuna Mayonnaise roll
Carrot and cucumber sticks
Fruit wedges
Shortbread biscuit

TUESDAY

Cold Tomato Pasta Salad
Carrot and cucumber sticks
Fruit wedges
Shortbread biscuit

WEDNESDAY

Ham roll
Carrot and cucumber sticks
Fruit wedges
Shortbread biscuit

THURSDAY

Cold Tomato Pasta Salad
Carrot and cucumber sticks
Fruit wedges
Shortbread biscuit

FRIDAY

Cheese roll
Carrot and cucumber sticks
Fruit wedges
Shortbread biscuit



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Hampshire
County Council

www.hants.gov.uk



Spring Plant Sale

Friday 10th May

From 3.15pm in the playground
or hall and bring cash

Please donate any seedlings,
shrubs, packets of seeds and
plants from 6th - 9th May



Meet "Tiny P" - our new member
of the Paddington Team.

Very much loved already!!

Thank you Mrs Robinson,
beautiful work!



FILM Night

Friday 26th April 2024

Dennis the MENACE



5.00pm - 7.00pm

In the School Hall

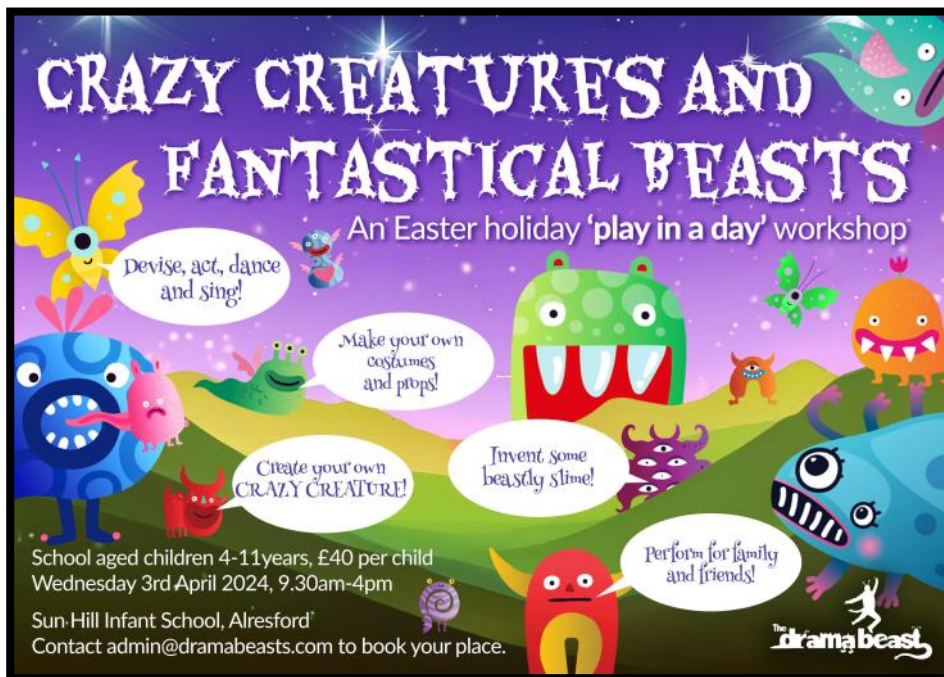
Bring your own cushion

Popcorn & Drink included

£3 per child, 2 for £5, 3 for £8



To book your place please email robynkerrie@yahoo.co.uk
Or complete the booking form at the office.



PERINS SCHOOL OPEN EVENTS
[PERINS.NET/OPEN-DAYS](https://perins.net/open-days)

20TH JUNE 2024

BOOK NOW

JOIN US: For two unique open event experiences, meet our Students, Teachers and explore our learning environment

Open Morning: 9-11am
 Open Evening: 5-7pm

Dear Parents and Carers,

WHAT A SHOW!

The Drama Beast is so proud of all our 'Cheriton Primary Beasties' who gave performances of a lifetime in last Friday's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* showcase. We have adored watching their confidence and creativity grow this term and we loved seeing the smiles on their faces and the hilarious characters as they performed. The whole school had the opportunity to watch their Drama Beast friends in action and they were such a supportive audience, with lots of cheering and applause. The Drama Beast has many exciting, dramatic activities planned for drama club next term and we have a few spaces remaining, so do get in touch if you'd like to enrol your child. We always welcome new Drama Beasts!



Drama Club Details

Cheriton Primary drama club runs for 30 minutes each Monday lunchtime by our experienced Drama Coach, Georgia Bulley. The sessions are **during school hours** and the cost of each drama session is £7 per child. Sign-up is per term, but you can join at any point throughout the term (assuming there are spaces) and fees will be altered accordingly. Fees are payable in advance direct to *The Drama Beast*. We greatly understand the importance of playtime for the children, and we'd like to reassure you that the children still have plenty of time to have lunch and run around in the playground before or after drama. We also keep our drama sessions physical and fun so that the Drama Beasts have a chance to let go of some of their energy and be creative.



The Drama Beast / 4 Windermere Gardens, Alresford, SO24 9NL
admin@dramabeasts.com / 07787 537083

What we do in Cheriton Primary Drama Club

The weekly drama sessions are part of school's Enrichment Programme, giving the children an opportunity to **be creative, improvise and rehearse together**, perform short plays, **build confidence** and develop their **communication and other life skills** through drama activities and games. Drama Beast clubs are not just for 'drama queens and kings', but also for those children who require support coming out of their shell. Some of our most experienced Drama Beasts started with us extremely shy and anxious, but with support in a nurturing, inspiring, creative environment, they have turned into the most confident and motivated individuals.



Additional benefits your children might experience by participating in our drama classes:

- Improved social skills, concentration and coordination
- Ability to work as a team, as well as perform individually
- Improved self-esteem and reduction in shyness
- Opportunity to let imagination run free



Should you have any queries or wish to register your interest and enrol your child, please contact us on admin@dramabeasts.com quoting your child's name, age and school.

Many thanks,

Nicky

Nicky Gower
The Drama Beast Principal

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CLUB BOOKING FORM

Child's Name(s): _____ Class: _____

Week Beginning 15 th April 2024									
Monday	*	Tuesday	*	Wednesday	*	Thursday	*	Friday	*
Morning		Morning		Morning		Morning		Morning	
After School		After School		After School		After School			

Week Beginning 22 nd April 2024									
Monday	*	Tuesday	*	Wednesday	*	Thursday	*	Friday	*
Morning		Morning		Morning		Morning		Morning	
After School		After School		After School		After School			

Week Beginning 29 th April 2024									
Monday	*	Tuesday	*	Wednesday	*	Thursday	*	Friday	*
Morning		Morning		Morning		Morning		Morning	
After School		After School		After School		After School			

Week Beginning: 6 th May 2024									
Monday	*	Tuesday	*	Wednesday	*	Thursday	*	Friday	*
Bank Holiday		Morning		Morning		Morning		Morning	
Bank Holiday		After School		After School		After School			

Week Beginning: 13 th May 2024									
Monday	*	Tuesday	*	Wednesday	*	Thursday	*	Friday	*
Morning		Morning		Morning		Morning		Morning	
After School		After School		After School		After School			

Week Beginning: 20 th May 2024									
Monday	*	Tuesday	*	Wednesday	*	Thursday	*	Friday	*
Morning		Morning		Morning		Morning		Morning	
After School		After School		After School		After School			

No of AM sessions	Cost	Total
	£5.00	£
No of PM sessions	Cost	Total
	£7.50	£
Cash/Chq/Internet	TOTAL	£