



# Education News June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to our Education newsletter, our intention is that we will send a newsletter each half term to update you with news and information from the Education department.

Firstly, we would like to welcome Nikki Hole, our new teacher. She is currently working with Ali in Invincible class. Nikki brings a wealth of experience and Special Needs knowledge and we are delighted to have her in our team. In addition, we have recently recruited Suku to the Education team. Suku previously worked on our Nights team and has brought experience and enthusiasm to her new role as a TA.



We are currently working on updating our website, please take a look at our good news page for articles on our recent work. <https://www.cambiangroup.com/specialist-education/our-schools/autism-schools/purbeck-view-school/news/> There is some excellent work here. Our theme days have proven to be a huge success, the work students did on World Shakespeare day was amazing and enthused staff and students alike. We have also enjoyed a number of projects including World Earth day, where students made items from recycled materials, planted flowers and fruit and created a natural mandala.

Our teachers have been incredibly creative with their lessons this term especially as restrictions still limit some of our activities. Willow class have welcomed a cat, dog, guinea pigs and a Chinese water dragon into their classroom as they studied a module on caring for animals. Invincible also have been studying animals through simple life cycles, they have a fish tank in class and the students have been carefully observing tadpoles. Discovery's writing has blossomed from a simple idea into a delightful project,

you never know which celebrity will be writing a letter to the class next! Whilst foreign travel may be restricted, Endeavour Bespoke collected their passports and explored Australia through a multi-sensory experience visiting Uluru, Sydney Harbour Bridge and finishing off at Bondi beach. We have also got two exciting gardening projects developing. Endeavour class are working with one of our former teachers, Andy, at local church gardens. Andy was a much-loved teacher who retired a few years ago and its lovely to see him back working with our students. Finally, our Peake House students have been working hard on developing an allotment in their gardens.

As we emerge from the pandemic, we have been focusing on the wellbeing of our students and staff. We are promoting nature and nurture this term and our students are doing a variety of activities, including gardening, forest bathing, walks along the beach, mindfulness, yoga etc. To mark the easing of restrictions on May 17<sup>th</sup>, we were delighted to surprise the staff and students with an ice cream van in the lower playground and an opportunity for the first time since the pandemic, for all the school to be together (albeit in bubbles and socially distanced) We can't wait to be back together as a school in September. We had hoped to be able to invite parents in for our annual Sports day on July 2<sup>nd</sup>, however as we write this, there is uncertainty about the full opening on June 21<sup>st</sup> and we are having to pause on this plan. Please be assured that we are planning on an event to welcome you all onsite we are sure that you would appreciate the opportunity to meet each other. We recognise what a difficult time this has been for you all as parents, we recently came across this podcast from the SENDCAST, [The SENDcast: Self Preservation as a parent of a child with SEND with Alison Knowles on Apple Podcasts](#) which is well worth a listen.

We will shortly be sending out a link to a questionnaire for you as parents and carers. We want to work in full partnership with you and would be grateful to have your input so we can improve our practice and work with you all. We are always here to talk through any comments or concerns that you may have about education, be it class, amending EHCPs, transitions etc. Our contact details are below.

Finally, July 4<sup>th</sup> is a national day to say thank you to those whom have helped us through the pandemic. We would like to recognise the outstanding role of our education team in the past year. Their commitment, care and kindness to your children has been exemplary and we are so proud and grateful to them all.

Best wishes

Suzie and Nicola

Joint Heads of Education

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