

CONIFERS PRIMARY SCHOOL

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HEADTEACHER
Mr A Johnson

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Dear Parent/Carers,

Well, we appear to have made it, give or take a few last days of chaos!

It's been a busy few weeks leading up to the end of term, crammed with Year 5 playing with international musicians – yes - you read that correctly, international musicians, which culminated in an orchestra of drums that very nearly ripped the roof of the Tithe Barn in Abbotsbury. We've also had visits to the Portland National Sailing Academy, and the OTC (Official Test Centre for Water-sports, Year 6 Transition Days, allowing the children to get a 'taste' for their various Secondary Schools, and of course, Primary College, offering a glimpse into possible, future careers, that they may wish to pursue.

I obviously have to say something about the Year 6 show – 'Bugsy Malone' – as it was, quite simply, fantastic! I had the opportunity of watching it twice, along with many parents (you know who you are) and in my opinion, it just got better each time. The sheer enthusiasm of all the children is such a joy to watch and you couldn't help yourself but sing along and smile throughout the entire performance. I raise my hat to them all – it was a tremendous spectacle and they were truly amazing. What a wonderful way, to round up all their years at Conifers Primary – it's been an honour to be a part of their journey, and the school and I wish them nothing but the very best of luck, in wherever their futures take them! I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the Year 6 staff team, who also put in some serious hours to ensure the production was as successful as it was.

Staying with staffing – we have some changes coming down the line.

We say farewell to Miss Dobbs, who has been teaching our Year 4 class (Pine) and now leaves us to continue her career in a school just down the coast from us. Miss Dobbs hasn't been part of the Conifers family for long – but she's made a real difference to the children she has taught, and we wish her well in her new teaching role.



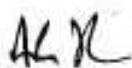
We also say farewell to Miss Forbes, who is currently teaching our Year 3 class (Willow) and now leaves us to pursue an entirely different lifestyle out in the Devon countryside (sounds good to me!) She has been a part of the Conifers family for quite a while and reminds me of the Pied Piper, in respect of wherever she is, there's an entourage of children following her and a cacophony of noise. We will definitely miss her and her energy, but it will be much quieter for the rest of us - she leaves with our best wishes for whatever the future holds.

Finally, we say farewell to Mrs Taylor – who will be putting down her pencil and taking up retirement instead. Now this particular member of staff is most certainly part of the family. Her first involvement with the school dates back to 1998 – that's 28 years in old money – and has been supporting children with tailored writing and reading interventions ever since. She has also been our spearhead for Occupational Therapy assessments, supporting children with our Lunch Club provision and ensuring Lost Property either finds its way back, to its original owner, or finds a new home rather than being thrown away. To be honest, we could have employed Mrs Taylor for this role alone! We wish her our very best for a fulfilling retirement.

We don't say farewell – but instead 'Good luck', to Mrs Tozer as she steps away to start her Maternity Leave. As this is her second time around, she is acutely aware of the joy and wonder that will shortly come her way, and as it's a boy, apparently, everything will be much easier – who knew?!?

I'd like to end by thanking all of you who have been able to give up your time to assist the school and accompany staff and children on the numerous trips, walks to the swimming pool and of course our Careers Day. As always, I thank you all for your continued support for the school and I hope you all have a wonderful summer – it's been a pleasure!

Kind regards



Mr A Johnson
Headteacher



Year 6 Water Sports Activity Day



The photos speak for themselves! Year 6 have had a fantastic morning at Portland Sailing Academy. Although the strong winds meant a slight change to our original plans, the children embraced every challenge with enthusiasm and their competitive spirit shone through as they tackled a range of stand-up paddleboarding (SUP) activities.

In the afternoon, they took to the water for windsurfing, building on the skills they first developed during their Year 5 lessons. It has been a wonderful start to their final week at Conifers, with the children demonstrating resilience, teamwork and determination throughout the day.

