

CONIFERS PRIMARY SCHOOL

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HEADTEACHER
Mr A Johnson

May 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

With the promise of our days growing warmer, (we wait with bated breath) we look forward to a busy, final half term, in which the focus will steadfastly remain of learning, both inside and outside the classroom, but ensuring a liberal helping of enjoyment is also on offer. However, before we wish our time away, some news from the last month or so.

We should probably start with SAT's. I recognise that we all have our own personal thoughts and opinions on the 'benefit' of testing and submitting children to such levels of pressure, at such a young age. However, as long as the Government decree they are compulsory, every school and Year 6 child in the country faced that necessary evil. That said, I have to say that our Year 6 cohort did themselves proud. They all studied so hard, remained focussed throughout the week and even managed the odd smile along the way! I genuinely applaud them all, and irrespective of individual results, I know that none of them could have worked any harder! My thanks to the Year 6 staff and many others, for starting the day early in order to provide breakfast each morning and supporting the children throughout the test week.

Our Parent Evenings, were once again a mix of face-to-face and online appointments. We seem to have settled, in respect of parental preference, as many of you clearly prefer one format or the other. Hopefully, by continuing to provide a mix of the two, we will manage to satisfy as many of you as possible, whilst allowing you as great a degree of flexibility as we can.

As always, and since my last Newsletter, the children of Conifers Primary have had the chance to experience a variety of opportunities away from their immediate classrooms, which include, Guest Veterans meeting with our Year 6, trips to the Tutankhamun Museum, the R.N.L.I. addressing the whole school, baby chicks hatching and being looked after by our Year 1 children, a whole heap of sporting events and of course a fair amount of splashing at Weymouth Swimming Pool. To top it off, we ended this half term with our School Disco last night, my very last one as a Headteacher and I'd like to thank the Friends of Conifers for organising these few hours of musical mayhem – I mean fun!



I'm sure you don't need reminding, but I will take this opportunity to give you advance warning of our Year 6 Residential Trip to the River Dart in September. This is an incredible week of outdoor adventure activities, set in a beautiful part of the country and offering the children the opportunity to challenge themselves, work together and forge positive relationships with the staff who will be supporting them throughout the academic year. If you have not yet had the opportunity to express an interest in this trip, places are still available and can be secured by calling the school office. We also offer payment plans which can help spread the cost and hopefully ease any financial burden.

As always - thank you all for your continued support and I hope you enjoy the Spring Bank Holiday.

Kind regards



Mr A R Johnson
Headteacher



Parking

A massive THANK YOU to all those parents who respect the Yellow Marking at the front and the back of our school, park accordingly and therefore ensure the safety of all our children.

We hope you have a lovely break, school finishes at normal time today and we look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 1st June 2026.

Wacky Wheels Wednesday!

Thank you so much for making Wednesday wacky! It was brilliant to see so many children taking part, with so many incredible creations. We were lucky enough to be visited by several youth council members, the current Lady Mayor and the newly installed Mayor, Councillor David Harris. They were all blown away by the fantastic creations and just how many children had taken part. Our new Mayor is especially interested in sustainable travel so he left inspired by our School pupils. Well done to our winners, Noah who came 3rd, Nancy who came 2nd and Jonny our winner, who all won an Amazon voucher for their creations.

Mrs Maggs



SPORTS NEWS

Glow In The Dark Handball



On Thursday 16th April, following the success of last year's year 3/4 festival, this event doubled in size to also include an afternoon where year 5/6 would get to participate as well. In handball, three steps are allowed to be taken before you pass to a member of your team or try to throw the ball in the goal. Just like football, the goals are guarded by a keeper, but in handball, all shots must be thrown from outside the D around the goal. As you can see from the photos, a lot of amazing fun was had by all the

children lucky enough to go while the glow in the dark element really added an extra layer of enjoyment to the proceedings. We are very pleased to report that our year 3/4 team (pictured) won 5 out of 7 of their matches and our year 5/6 team (pictured) also won 5 out of 7 of theirs. Congratulations on an excellent all round team performance!



DODGEBALL COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS AT LEAF STUDIO BOURNEMOUTH

On Wednesday 22nd April, our incredibly nimble and athletic team of dodgeballers headed off to the county championships. As a school who truly loves their dodgeball, this most definitely felt like the biggest day in our sporting calendar for all concerned (including the coach). Would we manage to make it to the Final of the county finals for the first time or would it be yet another case of so near and yet so far? As usual, each match consisted of 6 three minute ends and two points would be awarded to the winners of each end completed. Conifers started strongly by walloping Wyke Regis 11 - 1 and then proceeded to win their next game against one of the high flying Bournemouth schools 8 - 4. Could it be? Could we possibly be about to announce our first county championship success? With a five game group stage things were looking very positive. Our next game was drawn 6-6 against Corpus Christi A team (were they actually their A team?) In the next game we suffered a narrow 7-5 loss to the Corpus Christi B team (a contentious scoreline to say the least, but we won't go into that here...). With many matches finishing as draws, our two wins and a draw so far meant that going into the final match a win would secure a place in the County Finals. Hopes were high - would the dodgeballing gods shine down upon us or would our hopes be once again dashed at the final hurdle? You've guessed it - we were slightly outperformed by an awesome team from St James' and were unable to procure a victory. Nevertheless,

everyone performed brilliantly. Joint 3rd place in the Dorset Dodgeball championships still has a nice ring to it. A massive congratulations to all involved - pictured below. You did yourselves and Conifers Proud!



St George's Girls Football Tournament



On a beautifully sunny yet bluster day (Thursday 30th April), 8 relative footballing novices with a few more experienced exceptions, headed off to St George's for their annual tournament. In the group stages, our newly formed team came away with 1 win and three narrow losses which saw us seeded into the shield finals group. From that moment on, the girls really found their feet winning their quarter final game and semi final game with consummate ease. Southill would be their opponents in the final and despite going 2-1 down our girls fought back valiantly and ended up winning the game dominantly 4-2 to bring home a lovely shield for the trophy cabinet. Awesome job everybody (pictured) - your footballing future looks bright. With some more training under our belts, who knows where we will finish at any future tournaments!

RADIPOLE PARK MULTI SKILLS FESTIVAL

On Friday 1st May, year 4 headed off to Radipole park for the annual multi skills festival. This year, the sports of petanque, pickle ball and cricket awaited them. After a long walking bus to the festival, a quick hydration stop and we were ready for action. An hour of pickle ball fun started the day off where rallies galore were completed and broad smiles appeared for all to see (probably the favourite activity of the day) before heading off to cricket for some intense batting and bowling training where stumps flew and 4s and 6s aplenty were hit. After a stop for lunch and a short play at the park playground, it was time for the calmer pursuit of petanque.



Conifers accuracy in this game was almost elite level, so much so the petanque coaches were desperately trying to recruit our players to join their about to be formed youth petanque club. Despite the arduous walk back to school at the end of the event, a great day of fun was had by all and everyone (pictured) was a real credit to Conifers and themselves - awesome job everybody!

ST GEORGE'S BOYS FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT



On Thursday 7th May it was the turn of the boys to head over to St George's. Would they be able to return to school with some silverware as the girls team had done the week before? Let's find out! Things started brilliantly with a majestic 3-1 win over Atlantic. Two hard fought draws against Radipole and Wyke Regis followed leaving us in a strong position thus far in the group stages. Next up were the mighty St George's who proved too strong in a 2-0 loss. Our last game against Holy Trinity was crucial... Win and we would be through to the cup quarter finals, draw or lose and a place in the shield semi-finals would be our destiny. Unfortunately our shooting boots deserted us and we found ourselves in a 0-0 draw. Never before has the group stages of St George's tournament been so closely fought. In the Semi-Finals, the St George's B team awaited. We

rediscovered our shooting boots and won 3-1 in a very dominant display. In our Shield Final, Atlantic awaited (the team we had beaten 3-1 earlier in the campaign. Surely, we were going to repeat the success of the earlier match... Unfortunately despite our best efforts, creating many excellent scoring opportunities the final ended 2-1 to Atlantic. Congratulations to Atlantic, but more importantly a massive congratulations to the whole team (pictured) for a group of players who have never played as a team before you did exceptionally well against teams who have had many weeks together training and gelling as a team

Still to come this academic year...

Our sports days in the first week back after half term, a district dodgeball tournament, two cricket competitions, a beach sports extravaganza, a rounders competition and a district athletics competition to name but a few...