

From: Ian Norton BEng(Hons), BPhil, QTVI

Head of Education

Registered Offices for the Devon & Exeter Spastics Society:



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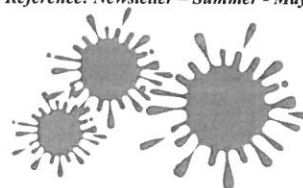
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Registered under the Charities Act 1960, registered number 1002700
An Independent School approved under the Education Act 1981
A Company Limited by Guarantee - Registered Number 2599511

15 May 2018

Our Reference: Newsletter – Summer - May 2018

Parents and Carers of pupils at Vranch House



Dear Parents and Carers,

The first signs of Spring have arrived at last! I hope that the recent improvements in the overall weather patterns will become a lovely warm summer term and, with this hope in mind, I have a couple of reminders and some dates for your diaries.

Sun cream and hats – as the weather improves and we see more of the sun, please put sun cream and a hat on your child before they come to school. If you would like staff to re-apply sun cream during the day, or after Hydrotherapy, please send in the cream you would like to be used. Can I request that all tubes of cream and hats have your child's name on them so we can send them back to the right home at the end of each day, thank you!

Water and fluid intake - we always try to ensure that all our pupils stay well hydrated and are offered plenty to drink throughout each day. If your child requires thickening granules to be added to drinks, please assist us by ensuring you have sent-in enough thickener for a likely increase in fluid intake over the summer term.

Dates for your diaries...

Wednesday 20th June 2018, Whole school trip – the teachers and I have thought long and hard about what kind of a trip we could arrange to tie-in with our theme for this term: 'Water'. After much debate, we have decided to organise a day of activities by the canal in Exeter with a mixture of walking, picnicking and games involving water in a park along the way. We are in the process of route planning and double-checking all the safety elements, so I will provide more details nearer the time. We can however confirm the date for this whole school trip will be **Wednesday 20th June 2018** and siblings would be welcome to attend what should be a great day out.

Monday 2nd to Friday 6th July, Open Week – As per previous terms, teachers will be opening their classrooms to parents and carers to 'come and see' what their child is doing. Teachers will also make themselves available during this week to discuss with parents and carers their child's overall progress.

Wednesday 4th July, Sports Day – at the midweek point of Open Week we will be holding our annual Sports Day and this year it will be in-keeping with our topic theme of 'Water'. Can all parents and carers please make sure your child comes to school with a spare change of clothes or waterproof clothing on this day; we have lots of fun activities planned, but it is highly likely many of us will get soaked!

As you know, Nurse Ruth left Vbranch House after many years of dedicated service and many of you joined us in coming together to give her our thanks at the end of last term. Ruth has written a note to say thank you to you all for your kind words and gifts, so please find this attached. To maintain the excellent level of nursing care we provide for our pupils, Lucy Leyman has now joined Nurse Marie as part of the Vbranch House School Nurse team. Lucy has many years of experience nursing within the NHS and is a parent of a former pupil, so is very familiar with Vbranch House and already knows many of our pupils. Lucy has truly thrown herself into the role and we hope you, as parents and carers, will join us in welcoming her to Vbranch House.

I sincerely hope to see you all at some point this term and if you would like to discuss any of the above then my door, as always, is open to you all.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ian Norton', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ian Norton
Head of Education

May 8th

Dearest friends (colleagues, families
& children)

This 'thank you' is way over
due & i apologise for that.

Thank you for the fabulous
send off you gave me in my last
week at Branch.

Thank you heartily seems to be
enough, when my heart wants to
say so much more... but, i
cannot find the words.

All of you my friends, colleagues
parents & gorgeous children have
been such an enormous part of
'who i am'. I miss you guys
such a lot.

As you probably know, life
has thrown me a curved ball &

all my time has been taken up
caring for my mum (she has
terrible timing i have to say!)

An extra special thank you
goes out to all those behind
the scenes people (you know
who you are) who secretly
convened to bring everybody together.

For your kind words, cake, flowers,
plants, chocolate, champagne,
gift vouchers, 'this is your life back'
vase, glass, necklace & much
much more - - - - - thank you

all my love

Nurse Ruth

