



Thorverton C of E Primary School

Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 860374

19th October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

From Mr Jolliffe

As we come to the end of the first half term, it is a good time to reflect on all the things that have happened so far during this school year. I have been really impressed with the way that everyone has settled into their new classes and the positive and focused feel that is evident around all the schools. The new Foundation Stage Units at Newton and Brampford Speke have also settled down well and are thriving, thanks to the hard work and dedication of their staff teams. Annual activities like the Lords Meadow sports mornings have been going very well, with a high level of work being achieved by children in gymnastics. There have also been some great examples of children thinking about helping members of their communities at this time of year, through harvest gift boxes and raising money for local foodbanks. All these are very positive and a real credit to the children in the federation schools, their families and the staff.

I hope you can enjoy half term week and spend some time together, recharging your batteries ready for the next half term and the run up to Christmas. I look forward to seeing everyone back on Tuesday 30th October.

From Mrs Parkes

Wow! It is the last week of the first half term of the year already! It has flown by. The children have all settled so well and really enjoyed their topics this half term. There has been some really great learning which I am sure your child has shared with you during parents evening and the open afternoons. Next half term's topics will be 'Off With her Head!' (the Tudors) in Class 3, Potions in Class 2 and Celebrations in Class 1. So there is some more exciting learning to come!

Class 2 Open Afternoon

Class 2 had a visit from Shelterbox today as the final part of their topic on Tremors. Volunteers from Shelterbox explained their role in helping victims of natural disasters around the world. Class 2 then held a cake sale and raffle to raise money for the charity. During their open afternoon they also cooked and served some wonderful Indonesian food for their parents.



Class 2 Trip to Farmwise Devon

Class 2 had a wonderful day at Farmwise Devon on Tuesday. There was so much to see and experience in the day and the children learnt a great deal about farming and the countryside in Devon.

e-mail: thorvertonadmin@exevalleyfederation.org.uk

website: www.thorverton-ce-primary.devon.sch.uk

LEA: Devon County Council, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QG



The children watched sheep being sheared and then saw how the raw wool was spun into wool that can be turned into a jumper; they learnt about trees and bugs and beetles and held a giant snail in their hands; they watched bees working in an open hive and found out about how they make honey; they pressed apples in two different sorts of press and tasted freshly pressed apple juice; they were shown how a combine harvester works and how the wheat is ground to make flour and then they had a go at making bread from the flour.



After-school Clubs After Half Term

There will be the usual letter going home tonight telling you about the after-school clubs on offer to the children after the half-term break, starting the first week back.

Federation Value – Trust



Our core value for next term is 'trust'. In our Collective Worship we will be thinking about what it means to be trustworthy, starting with the way that God can be trusted. We will be listening to stories from the bible and from contemporary life about the importance of being people that can be trusted to say and do the right thing. We will be continuing this theme as we move into Advent and Christmas, focusing on the plan that God had for Mary and Joseph and the way that we too can trust that God has a plan for our lives.

Top Table

Mr Biggins enjoyed his lunch at Top Table on Monday in the company of Eliza G, Florence, George M, Sid, Jak and Ollie H.



Peanut Allergy



We have a child in school with a peanut allergy, so we would ask you please not to provide your children with any snacks or packed lunch items containing nuts of any sort. Thank you for your understanding.

*e-mail: thorvertonadmin@exevalleyfederation.org.uk
website: www.thorverton-ce-primary.devon.sch.uk*

LEA: Devon County Council, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QG

New Menu

After half term there will be a new lunch menu. The children will be bringing these home today, one per family.

Staff Development Day, Monday, 29th October 2018

The Staff Development Day on Monday, 29th October will take place at Newton St Cyres. Staff will be working with Team Teach on strategies for supporting children with a variety of emotional, behavioural and social learning needs. Please note that children are due to return to school after half term on Tuesday, 30th October. The next Staff Development Day is Friday 30th November 2018.

Governor News

Governor Meeting

The EVF full governing body met at Newton St Cyres on Tuesday, 16th October. First on the agenda was our school focus groups, where we looked at each school's priorities, strengths and areas of focus for the upcoming year. Hopefully you have all received the information showing which governors are linked to each school this year. We have also recently updated our pen portraits which will tell you a little more about the governors: this information can be found on our website <http://www.exevalleyfederation.co.uk/governors.ashx>. Over the next half term governors will be spending time in schools, with a focus on greater depth in maths. This is always an excellent opportunity to see the excellent teaching and learning that goes on in our schools.

Governor Wanted!

Do you have business experience? Are you looking to broaden your work skills and career? Have you always wanted to give back to the community? Now you can by becoming a governor with the Exe Valley Federation. The Governing Body works together as a team to set the direction of the Federation, to ensure value for money and to hold senior leadership to account. It's a great way to develop strategic thinking whilst being supported by teamwork, mentoring and training. If you or someone you know has business experience and would like to find out more about joining the EVF as a governor, please contact the Chair of Governors Jackie Enright at jenright@exevalleyfederation.org or by phone on 01392 851852.

As Governors we aim to make a difference to every child.

Deadline for Applications For Secondary School 31st October 2018

DCC would like to remind all families with children in Year 6 that the deadline for applying for a place at secondary school is 31st October 2018. The easiest way to apply is by going online and visiting www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline. If you don't wish to or can't apply online, you can contact the customer service centre on 0345 155 1019 to request a hard copy of the form.

BIS-net Services for Families

This is a charity offering a behaviour intervention support network, including several therapeutic interventions for families and individuals with behaviour support needs. We have attached three sheets with more information about this charity to the newsletter.

Crediton Schools Transition Choir

A new choir is starting after half term, open to children in Years 5 to 8. The aim is to support transition and offer the opportunity for our young people to sing together at QE Barnfield site. The choir will be led by Emily Morgan after school on Mondays. As Years 7 and 8 are already on site, the session will start at 3.30pm and



*e-mail: thorvertonadmin@exevalleyfederation.org.uk
website: www.thorverton-ce-primary.devon.sch.uk*

LEA: Devon County Council, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QG

to allow time for primary students to arrive, Years 5 and 6 can arrive at 4pm. Parents and students can find updates via social media: 'Crediton Transition Choir' on Facebook and Twitter @ChoirCrediton.

PTFA Christmas Fair, Thursday, 6th December 2018, 3.30 to 5pm

This year the PTFA will once again be holding a Christmas Fair in the school hall. There will be all the usual stalls, Christmas tea and mince pies and a raffle. Put the date in your diaries!

Family Hallowe'en Party at the Memorial Hall, Friday, 2nd November 2018

Families are invited to the Memorial Hall's Hallowe'en Party. There will be fun and games from 6pm for the children including a disco. Fancy dress is optional – there will be prizes! The cost of £3 for adults and £2 for children includes Frankenstein Dogs and Fried Fingers (hot dogs and fries). The main bar and a children's bar will be open.

Collective Worship Dates

Thursday, 6th December, 9.30am Christingle service in church, parents and carers welcome
Thursday, 13th December, 2pm Nativity in church, all welcome

Diary Dates

Monday, 22nd – Monday, 29th October Half-term holiday (Monday, 29th October is a non-pupil teacher-training day)
Friday, 30th November Non-pupil teacher training day
Thursday, 6th December, 3.30 – 5pm PTFA Christmas fair

Term Dates

Autumn term 2018

Monday 3rd September to Friday 19th October (Staff Development Day 3rd September)
Monday 29th October to Wednesday 19th December (**Staff Development Days 29th October and 30th November**)

Spring term 2019

Monday 7th January to Friday 15th February (Staff Development Day 7th January)
Monday 25th February to Friday 5th April (Staff Development Day 25th February)

Summer term 2019

Tuesday 23rd April to Friday 24th May (SATS 13th to 16th May)
Monday 3rd June to Thursday 25th July

Autumn term 2019

Tuesday 3rd September to Friday 18th October (Staff Development Days 3rd and 4th September)

*e-mail: thorvertonadmin@exevalleyfederation.org.uk
website: www.thorverton-ce-primary.devon.sch.uk*

LEA: Devon County Council, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QG

Monday 28th October to Thursday 19th December (Staff Development Day 29th November)

Spring term 2020

Monday 6th January to Friday 14th February (Staff Development Day 6th January)

Monday 24th February to Friday 27th March

Summer term 2020

Tuesday 14th April to Friday 22nd May (Staff Development Day 14th April)

Monday 1st June to Thursday 23rd July

With best wishes,

Sarah Parkes

Head of School

*e-mail: thorvertonadmin@exevalleyfederation.org.uk
website: www.thorverton-ce-primary.devon.sch.uk*

LEA: Devon County Council, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QG