



# Thorverton C of E Primary School

## Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 860374

17<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Dear Parents,

### From Mr Jolliffe

Parents of children at Queen Elizabeth's in Crediton will be aware that the school has started the process of joining the Dartmoor Multi-Academy Trust, which includes secondary and primary schools around Okehampton. We have looked at lots of different models of school management for the future but have concluded at the moment that it is better to make the right decision rather than rushing into anything, especially as the educational landscape is changing so rapidly. However, we are very committed to continuing to work with local primary schools and with QE to ensure that there is really good transition arrangements in place for our Year 6 children, the majority of whom go on to QE in Year 7. Our recent review showed how effectively we are working together in the Federation and this will be our focus for the next few years.



### From Mrs Parkes

#### Exmoor Challenge Practice Walk

A group of children and adults from across the Federation had a lovely walk around Thorverton on Saturday. The children sped off as if it was a sprint! Many of us couldn't keep up. They made it round the seven-mile route, wading through mud and water at times. We even saw the Mid Devon Hunt out. A special mention goes to William Davie who navigated us the whole way round. The children did a super job and I have no doubt that they will make a very strong

team on either of the challenges. Well done all of you. It was also great to see so many parents accompanying them. Thank you for your support.

### Forest School Afternoon

Class 2 had their forest school session this week. We made a mud pie menu which was exceptionally messy but great fun. The children's creativity and imagination really shone through in the amazing and so varied menus. A favourite of mine was moss cakes topped with buttercup. There were so many to choose from and some did almost look edible! We finished the session off with real chocolate biscuits and smorges.



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### **Play Equipment**

The new play equipment is now in use after the gardening club finished distributing the wood shavings and laid the turf. Many thanks to Connie Fice who donated the money for the turf and Alex who bought and laid the turf. Thank you to the gardening club for the hard work involved spreading the wood chippings.

### **Exmoor Zoo Visit Class 3**

Last Monday the children in Class 3 had a special visit from a zoologist from Exmoor Zoo. He brought meerkats with him, amongst many other animals as well as a snake. The children really enjoyed the visit which set them off on their new Beast Creator topic.

If you haven't already done so, we would be grateful if you would send in the £4.50 towards the cost of the visit as soon as possible.

### **Veda's Goodbye Assembly, Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> March 2017, 2.45pm**

We would like to invite current parents to a special assembly on Wednesday afternoon, 29<sup>th</sup> March at 2.45pm to wish Veda a happy retirement. Each class will celebrate Veda's time in school in their own special way. Afterwards, we will be serving tea for the parents and the children will go back to class. You will be able to pick them up as usual at 3.30pm.

After school, from 4pm to 6pm we will be having a tea party for present and past colleagues and past pupils. On Friday, 31<sup>st</sup> March, Mr Jolliffe will lead a Federation assembly at Thorverton, in which he will also wish Veda a happy retirement.

### **Class 3 at the Great Hall, Exeter University, Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2017**

Class 3's songs and dance routines from Mama Mia are looking and sounding wonderful! The performance next Thursday at the Great Hall looks to be a great evening. Get your tickets from Exeter Northcott Theatre box office. Please bring in a T-shirt by Monday so that we can tie dye it ready for Thursday evening.

### **Open Afternoon in Class 2, Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup> March from 3pm**

Parents are welcome to drop in to Class 2 any time between 3pm and 3.30pm on Tuesday to see your children's work. The children are looking forward to showing you the work they have doing this term.

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### **Comic Relief Red Nose Day, Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

We will be selling red noses in aid of Comic Relief from Monday. We have 90 noses to sell at £1 each so there should be plenty to go round – but don't leave it too late! They could be gone in a flash!

Children are encouraged to bring in a donation and to wear red next Friday in support of the charity.

### **Top Table**

On Monday Mrs Parkes enjoyed her lunch at Top Table in the company of Ashton, Neve E, Da-Xia, Milly, Sully and Henry P.

### **Lambing Day at Ratcliffe Farm, Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

Michael and Tina Ayre invite everybody to come and see the new lambs at their farm tomorrow, Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> March, 10am to 6pm. Children must be accompanied by an adult and, sorry, no dogs.

### **Family Service in the Parish Church, Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

Everybody is welcome to come along to the Mothering Sunday family service in Thorverton Parish Church on Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> March. The service starts at 10am and the church will be open from 9.30am.

## *Collective Worship Dates*

Wednesday, 29 <sup>th</sup> March, 2.45pm	Special assembly
Thursday, 30 <sup>th</sup> March, 9.30am	Easter service in church

## *Diary Dates*

Tuesday, 21 <sup>st</sup> March, 3pm	Class 2 open afternoon
Wednesday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Tag rugby tournament at Stoke Canon
Thursday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> March, evening	Class 3's performance at the Great Hall, Exeter University
Friday, 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Comic Relief, wear red
Friday, 31 <sup>st</sup> March	End of spring term
Thurs, 20 <sup>th</sup> & Fri, 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Class 3 Parents' evenings
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 4 residential to Beam House, Torrington
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> – Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Year 3 residential to Camp Wild, Escot
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 5 residential to New Barn, Dorchester
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> – Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 residential to Grenville House, Brixham

With best wishes,

*Sarah Parkes*

Head of Teaching and Learning

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