



Thorverton C of E Primary School

Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 860374

29th April 2016

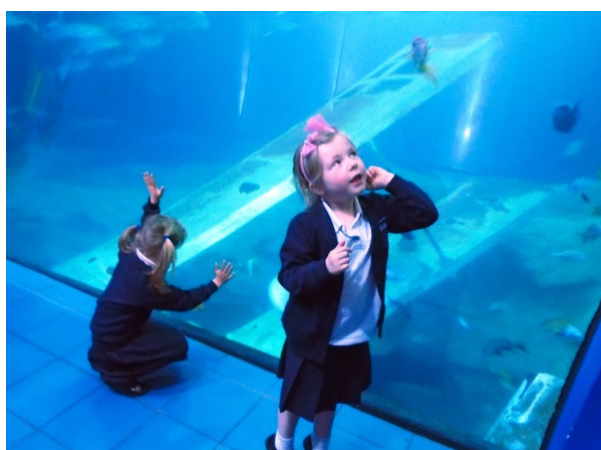
Dear Parents,

From Mr Jolliffe

No doubt you heard on the news last week that the DfE had accidentally published the Key Stage 1 grammar and spelling test on their website and have subsequently withdrawn it. Whilst this is unfortunate, the test was to be used to inform teachers' judgments about children's work and so it formed part, not all, of the assessments. In these challenging and changing times, what matters most is the progress that children are making day by day in class and that is the evidence that we use to inform our judgments about outcomes. In our schools the well-being and emotional security of our children is more important and we are working hard to ensure that those children who are taking SATs next month are well prepared and can do them knowing they have done their best but not to worry about them. If you do feel that your child is getting anxious about the forthcoming tests, please do let class teachers know so we can help.

I am delighted to be able to tell you that Mr James Durward Akhurst has been appointed to the post of Head of School for Newton St Cyres from September. Mrs Glynis Harris will be moving to Cheriton Fitzpaine as Head of School to replace Mrs Carey Thorne. Congratulations to both on their new roles and I look forward to working with them in September as part of the Federation Leadership Team.

Class 1 Federation Trip to Plymouth Aquarium



Last Friday Class 1 enjoyed a great trip to Plymouth Aquarium with the other Key Stage 1 children in the Federation. They were given a tour of the Aquarium by a very knowledgeable guide. The children were very inquisitive and asked some intelligent questions. The guide was impressed by what they already knew. A

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highlight for the children was seeing the sharks and Snorkel, the turtle. The children were all wonderfully behaved and a credit to the school. Thank you to the parents who came and helped on the trip.

Swimming Championships

Well done, Erin, for qualifying for the National Swimming Championships which took place in the Olympic pool at Millfield School on Monday. The Exe Valley Federation was competing in the medium schools category and we took part in the 4x100 freestyle race and the 4x100 mixed medley race in which each child swam a different stroke. There was very tough opposition and we didn't manage to qualify for the National Finals in Sheffield this year. All the children swam fantastically well. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jane Brimacombe for all her help over



the past few months training with the children. I would also like to thank all the parents for their time and effort in getting the children to practices and to the event at Millfield. Finally, I would like to thank Erin Vukusic for heading to Millfield as a reserve swimmer. Despite not having any time in the pool to race, she was a great team member, encouraging the other swimmers and being positive at all times.

Class 1 Sports Mornings at Lords Meadow Leisure Centre

This morning a very excited Class 1 set off for Crediton for their first session of sports at Lords Meadow Leisure Centre. The children from Thorverton will be joined by the youngest children from Newton St Cyres and Cheriton Fitzpaine Schools for a morning of swimming, gymnastics and racket and ball sports. Once again, we are taking advantage of the expertise of a group of Exeter College students to teach and support the children.

Top Table

This week Mr Martin, Jaime, Charlotte, Zach V., Theo, Sam B. and Corey enjoyed Abby's special St George's Day lunch together at Top Table.

Exmoor Challenge

Good luck to our intrepid team of girls, Chloe Fice and Daisy Samuel with Isobel Samuel and Katie Davie joining them, who are taking part in the Exmoor Challenge (a 16-mile walk across the moor) this weekend.

Silver Win an Afternoon of Forest School Activities

As you know, we award house points for good work, behaviour, team spirit and positive attitude in school. For two terms in a row Silver has gained the most points and their reward is to be an afternoon of exciting forest school activities next month.

Reminders

I would just like to remind everyone that the children shouldn't be in school until 8.45am. School starts at 8.50am.

Please would you make sure that PE kits are in school every day.

Please make sure your child hands in their homework on the correct day.

Children with long hair should always have it tied back to prevent the return of head lice.

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Chicken Pox

I would just like to let you know that a child in Pre-school has chicken pox. The illness usually begins with a fever, feeling generally unwell and glassy fluid-filled spots spreading all over the body. Chicken pox is spread by virus shed from the nose or throat as droplets or by direct contact. The fluid inside the spot is infectious. Chicken pox is infectious during its early stages, from one to two days before until five days after spots first appear. The incubation period of chicken pox is between 13 and 17 days after contact with the infected person. If a pregnant woman who thinks she has not had the illness before has contact with a case she should take medical advice as soon as possible. If your child develops chicken pox please keep him or her off school until all the spots have crusted over.

Parking in School Lane

I would like to remind parents not to drive into School Lane to drop children off at school, as this causes congestion which is dangerous to the pupils and blocks access to the neighbouring houses.

Cadbury Fun Run, Saturday, 7th May 2016

The annual Cadbury Fun Run and Walk will take place this year on Saturday, 7th May with registration at Fursdon Coach Hall at 1.30pm and the start at 2.30pm. The entry fee is £5 for adults and £2 for children and proceeds will go to Cadbury Church and Sands.

Thorverton Arts Week, 10th to 14th May 2016

Our annual Arts Festival will take place at Thorverton Church from the **10th to the 14th May**. The exhibition is open from 10.00am until 8.30pm each day except Saturday when we close at 4.30pm. Entry is free. As you probably know, you can enjoy the exhibits of art and craft, stock up on greetings cards, special things for your home, gifts and much more – profits go to the maintenance of Thorverton Church. There's a Lucky Dip for children and delicious home-made meals and snacks are available ALL DAY. Maybe bring the family down for tea/supper one day?

YOUR help would be much valued especially if you feel like making cakes and goodies or other food such as casseroles, pasta bakes, etc. for us to sell. Help out in the kitchen for an hour or two or sell grand draw or cake draw tickets for us? It's great to have members of the whole village community involved helping to make this a successful and enjoyable event.

Offers of help to Tina Ayre 860434 (catering) or the Kershaws (art & craft admin) 860419.

eastdevonarts@aol.com <http://www.netherexe.org/what-s-on/east-devon-arts-festival-thorverton>

Bag 2 School, Wednesday, 25th May

There will be a Bag 2 School collection on the Wednesday before half term. The PTFA will be paid per kilo of second-hand clothing collected. So start having a spring clean and save your good quality items for the collection.

Collective Worship Dates

Wednesday, 18th May, 9.30am

Year 5 residential assembly

Friday, 20th May, 2.30pm

Class 1 open afternoon and assembly

Friday, 27th May, 3pm

Year 6 residential assembly

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Friday, 24th June, 2.30pm

Friday, 15th July, 3pm

Friday, 22nd July, 2pm

Class 2 open afternoon and assembly

Year 3 residential assembly

Leavers' assembly in the Church

Diary Dates

Friday, 6th to Monday, 9th May

Friday, 20th to Monday, 23rd May

Wednesday, 25th May

Monday, 30th May to Monday, 6th June

Friday, 8th July, 2.30pm

Monday, 11th to Tuesday, 12th July

Year 5 Residential to Barton Hall

Year 6 Residential to Grenville House

Bag 2 School collection

Half-term holiday (Monday, 6th June is a non-pupil day)

Class 3 open afternoon

Year 3 Residential to Escot House

With best wishes,

Sarah Parkes

Head of Teaching and Learning

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