



Thorverton C of E Primary School

Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 860374

14th December 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

From Mr Jolliffe

Today we held our second Exe Valley Federation Carol Service at Crediton Parish Church. It was wonderful to see all the children together in one place, sharing carols, Christmas songs and readings. For the last few weeks the federation band have been practising their pieces under the leadership of Alison Golby, and today they performed three pieces to the rest of the schools and parents. Many, many thanks to everyone who has helped the children rehearse and especially to Alison for her enthusiasm and commitment to giving children the opportunity to play together in this way. It was also lovely to welcome Mr Curtis back to play the organ and piano for us; thank you too!

As 2018 draws to an end, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the parents and friends of the schools for everything they have done to support their children's learning and well-being this year and to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

Staff Development Day

The first day of next term, Monday, 7th January, is a Staff Development Day and the staff will be meeting at Brampford Speke School to share the research projects that they have been working on over the last term. Each teacher has engaged in a project to develop or improve an area of teaching and learning and will be sharing their findings with colleagues during the day. Some teachers will also be working with Silverton School during the day on developing Growth Mindset.

Start of Next Term

The first day of the spring term for children is Tuesday, 8th January 2019 and we look forward to seeing everyone back in school then. Half term is Monday, 18th February to Friday, 22nd February 2019.

From Mrs Parkes

Class 1

The Nutcracker

We enjoyed a wonderful performance of the Nutcracker yesterday. Every



*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

child really shone. Their enjoyment and confidence was plain to see and they delivered their lines so clearly. Thank you Class 1 for such a fantastic performance. Thank you also to Mr Biggins and Mrs Williamson who have worked so hard to produce yet another great Christmas play.



PTFA

I would also like to thank the PTFA for all the work they have done this term. The members have organised a number of very successful events and supported the school in many ways. The school wouldn't be the same without the work they do behind the scenes and the money they raise to help the children's learning and enjoyment at school.



Christmas Lunch

We had our Christmas lunch on Wednesday for the first time in the Memorial Hall. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it. This year we invited all the volunteers and music teachers to say thank you for all the work they do for us. The food as always was beautifully prepared by Abby and her team. All the visitors enjoyed chatting to the children at their tables and very much enjoyed everyone's company.

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.

Class 3

This half term Class 3's topic has been 'The Tudors'. The children learnt about the shapes, styles and materials of Tudor houses and then built some amazing Tudor houses themselves. Afterwards, they learnt about the



*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

Great Fire of London and its link to the Black Death before watching their Tudor houses burn.

Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you all for supporting Save the Children today with your Christmas jumpers. We have raised £54 so far.

Federation Value for Spring Term

Our value for the first half of the spring term will be 'Perseverance'. In our collective worship we will be thinking about what perseverance means and linking this to keeping going in a race or a journey. We will also be thinking about Jesus and his family fleeing to Egypt after they left Bethlehem and what it is like for refugees to have to leave their home countries today. We will also be using other bible stories and contemporary stories to extend our thinking. We will conclude this half term's collective worship by thinking about setting our own goals and remembering that people around us have their own challenges and how we can help them meet their goals.

Message from the Chair of Governors, Jackie Enright

On Tuesday, 4th December the Governors met for the last Full Governing Board meeting of 2018 and discussed how far the Federation has come during the past three years. With an Ofsted inspection taking place at Newton before the summer break and Thorverton's Ofsted only a few weeks ago, we were able to celebrate two GOOD judgements. At the meeting we examined Pupil Premium funding and how this is spent across the Federation to make a real difference to the children, and we heard the results of the four safeguarding audits which will feed into our action plan to ensure that everyone is kept safe. The Governor Learning Walks, looking at greater depth in maths, were a great success and will enable the schools to build upon the good teaching and learning that is already taking place – a brief report was sent to parents and carers via each school newsletter. We also discussed how we will monitor the impact of the Federation Development Plan during the course of the year. On 27th November Governors met with Mr Jolliffe and the Heads of School to discuss the outcomes from data analysis in each school. It has been a very busy but rewarding term. Some of us have also been lucky enough to attend Christingles, Christmas lunches and Carol Services with your very special children. On behalf of all the Governors, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

With best wishes,

Jackie Enright, Chair of Governors

BBC Spotlight at the Christmas Light Display, Dinneford Street, this evening

We have been told that BBC Spotlight will be filming the splendid Christmas light display at the house near the sheep dip between 4 and 5pm this evening. The Cleave family, who create this display every year and collect donations for Force, welcome anybody who would like to come along and support them this evening.

Exeter Inn Christmas Draw, Saturday, 22nd December, 7.30pm

Stella and Dickie are organising a Christmas Draw in aid of the South West Neonatal Network. Please call into the Exeter Inn to "buy a square" for 50p. There will be plenty of prizes, some of which will be auctioned after the draw.



Service of Lessons and Carols, Thorverton Parish Church, Sunday, 23rd December, 5.00pm

All ages are very welcome at this popular village gathering and celebration. Please bring your families and friends. The service will include Bible readings, prayers, choral music sung by

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 Thorverton Church Christmas Choir and plenty of carols sung by everyone. Warming refreshments will be served after the service.

The Incredible Years Parenting Course for Mid Devon

The Children's Centre will be delivering The Incredible Years Parenting course in the Mid Devon area in the New Year. Day, time and venue are to be confirmed. If you are a family with children aged between 3 and 8 years and feel you would benefit from this 14-week course then please contact your local centre and register your interest: Tiverton Hub 01884 250449, Culm Valley 01884 35473, or Crediton 01363 777219. We also have some leaflets with more information in the school office.

Diary Dates

Monday, 17 th December	Whole school trip to Phoenix Theatre, Exeter
Tuesday, 18 th December	School Christmas party
Wednesday, 19 th December	Last day of term
Tuesday, 8 th January	First day of term for children (7 th January is a non-pupil day)

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)

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

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

Summer term 2020

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

Monday 1st June to Thursday 23rd July

As this will be our last newsletter before the holidays, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

With best wishes,

Sarah Parkees

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