



Thorverton C of E Primary School

Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 860374

20th May 2016

Dear Parents,

Message from Mr Jolliffe

On Tuesday morning I went to a Headteachers' meeting with Sue Clarke, who is the Head of Education and Learning for Devon. Amongst all the controversies about education that are circulating at the moment, she had a very positive message to share about the quality of education in our county. Last year, for example, Devon children performed above the national average at every key stage and vulnerable children successfully narrowed the gap between their learning and that of their peers. Devon is the second highest performing shire county for the number of schools that are judged by Ofsted to be good or outstanding, which is also very positive news. All these achievements are thanks to the dedication of staff in Devon schools and, of course, the hard work of our children. Alongside our wonderful coastlines, moors and countryside, this news really does prove that Devon is a great place to live, work and bring up children!

Governors' News

Kim Knox's term of office as Parent Governor has now come to an end but we are delighted to announce that Kim has been nominated by Devon County Council to become our Local Authority Governor. Each of our Governors takes on a lead role within the Governing Board and Kim is our Lead Governor for Personnel.

Best wishes, Jackie Enright, Chair of Governors, Exe Valley Federation.



SATs in KS1

Well done to the children in Year 2 for working hard on SATs this week. I hope you all have a well-deserved rest at the weekend!

Year 6 Residential

This morning we waved off the children in Year 6 on their exciting residential to Grenville House in Brixham. I am sure they will all have a wonderful time and they will be back on Monday full of stories. Here is a photo of the children on the way to



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Brixham enjoying a lunch break at Decoy Park.

Year 5 Residential Assembly

We have been given a great report of the Year 5 residential to Barton Hall this afternoon. The children obviously thoroughly enjoyed themselves taking up the challenges of the different activities.

Class 3 Trip to Quicke's Farm, Tuesday, 17th May

Class 3's trip to Quicke's Farm on Tuesday was a great success. Members of the Kingfisher Award Team demonstrated to the children how diverse the topic of "worms, soil and poo" can be. The children learnt about the process of grass digestion by animals such as cows and sheep. They analysed the poo and what creatures they could find living within it. The children learnt about the process of collecting and cutting grass in the summer; they learnt about the collection of maize and the effects that worms and other creatures have on the process of decomposing the flora and producing fertilizer.



Top Table

This week Mrs Parkes joined Eliza, Evie C., Henry S., Ethan, Sam A. and Oliver for lunch at Top Table. Thank you, Abby, for always providing a delicious meal!

Head Lice

We have another small outbreak of head lice and I would like to remind everyone how important it is to **treat the eggs and lice before sending your child back to school**, as well as combing the hair thoroughly.

Signing In and Out During the Day

Please ensure that you sign your child in at the office if you have brought him or her in late. We need to know what time they arrive so, in the case of evacuation of the school, we know which children are in school. I also ask you to sign your child out if you take them out of school before 3.30pm so that we are aware exactly who is on site at any particular time. This procedure is for the safety of all the children on site and I thank you for your cooperation.

Toys in School

We have noticed that children are bringing toys into school on a regular basis. This sometimes causes upset amongst the children and certainly creates extra work for staff. Please would you make sure that toys stay at home unless we specifically say that they can be brought into school. Thank you for helping us with this.

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PTFA News

Bag 2 School, Wednesday, 25th May

Remember the Bag 2 School collection next Wednesday. Please bring in your bags of good quality second-hand clothes, handbags, shoes, hats, belts, ties and soft toys from 8.45am on 25th May. The bags are weighed and the PTFA receives payment by the total weight collected. The children will bring home bags this evening and spares are available from the office.

Class 3 Cake Stall, Thursday, 26th May

Class 3 will be selling buns, fairy cakes and biscuits after school next Thursday. Class 3 parents, please do some baking so that the children can have plenty of buns to sell. Classes 1 and 2 have demonstrated what a great fund raiser these cake stalls are.

Movie Night, Friday, 10th June, 6 to 8pm

The PTFA movie night will be open to all children at school from Reception to Year 6; we will confirm which film will be showing nearer the time. The entrance price is for a hot dog and refreshments. The PTFA would greatly appreciate any offers of help on that evening.

Non-uniform Day, Thursday, 9th June

Wear non-uniform in exchange for sweets, smellies and games for the tombola at the PTFA summer fete.

School Summer Fete, Saturday, 18th June 2016

The PTFA will be holding a summer fete on the school field on Saturday, 18th June from 2 to 5pm. They would like donations of second-hand books and toys for a toy and book stall and cakes for the cake stall. There will also be a craft stall, for which they need any old jam jars, tea lights and ribbon if you have any of these items to donate. They would be very grateful if anyone has any bunting to lend the PTFA for the day.

Please see Julie Davie or Pippa Eyles if you can help at the movie night or the summer fair. Donations can be given to them or left in the school office.

Auction of Promises, Friday, 30th September

Would anyone be able to donate a promise for this PTFA fund-raising event? Or do you know someone who may be able to donate, for example, a night in a holiday cottage, an evening meal in a restaurant, a spa/chiropractor/beauty session, tickets to a sporting or arts event etc? Or would you be able to donate an hour or two of your time, for example digging a garden over, babysitting, cooking a meal, taxi service? The PTFA are looking for promises and ideas, so please see Pippa or Julie if you have something to offer. The more promises they have to auction, the more fun on the evening for everybody and the more money the PTFA can raise for the school.

PTFA Meeting, Monday, 13th June

The next PTFA meeting will be on Monday, 13th June at 8pm at the Exeter Inn. All welcome!

Bikeability Training, Monday, 4th to Friday, 8th July 2016

We are offering this cycle training initially to the children in Year 6. Please return the permission slip to the office as soon as possible. If your child is not interested or did the Bikeability training last year, please let us know so that we can offer the place to a child in Year 5.

Job Vacancy for a Mealtime Assistant

We are looking for a mealtime assistant as soon as possible to join our committed, hardworking team of schools across the Exe Valley Federation, at Thorverton in the first instance. The hours are 11.45am to

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1.15pm Mondays to Fridays at £7.20 per hour, 38 weeks per year. Applications would be welcomed from well-motivated, enthusiastic and cheerful people to work as part of a team helping to supervise, care for and manage the children in the dining hall and playground including supporting them in their play. Previous experience is desirable but not essential. Exe Valley Federation is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children who attend. Therefore, the successful applicants will be required to undertake an enhanced DBS disclosure and appropriate references will be taken up. For further details and an application form, please contact the school office.

Collective Worship Dates

Friday, 27 th May, 3pm	Year 6 residential assembly
Friday, 24 th June, 2.30pm	Class 2 open afternoon and assembly
Friday, 1 st July, 2.30pm	Class 1 open afternoon and assembly
Friday, 15 th July, 3pm	Year 3 residential assembly
Friday, 22 nd July, 2pm	Leavers' assembly in the Church

Diary Dates

Friday, 20 th to Monday, 23 rd May	Year 6 Residential to Grenville House
Wednesday, 25 th May	Bag 2 School collection
Monday, 30 th May to Monday, 6 th June	Half-term holiday (Monday, 6 th June is a non-pupil day)
Friday, 10 th June	Federation celebration of Queen's birthday at Thorverton Memorial Hall
Saturday, 18 th June	PTFA summer fete
Monday, 20 th June	Group and class photographs to be taken
Tuesday, 28 th June	Sports Day
(Wednesday, 29 th June	Reserve Sports Day)
Monday, 4 th to Friday, 8 th July	Bikeability training for Year 6
Wednesday, 6 th July, 3.30pm	Class 3 Kingfisher Award presentation
Friday, 8 th July, 2.30pm	Class 3 open afternoon
Monday, 11 th to Tuesday, 12 th July	Year 3 Residential to Escot House

With best wishes,

Sarah Parkes

Head of Teaching and Learning

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