



# Thorverton C of E Primary School

## Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 860374

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27<sup>th</sup> May 2016

Dear Parents,

### Message from Mr Jolliffe

I thoroughly enjoyed the third residential visit of the year, which took place last weekend with Year 6. Despite the rain on Friday and Saturday, all the children got on with lots of different activities and then enjoyed Brixham in the sunshine when the weather improved! I know that lots of the children were very tired this week and no doubt are now looking forward to a week to catch up.

The first day after half term (Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June) is a non-pupil day and all the staff of the Federation will be meeting together to learn more about attachment theory and practice. This is an emerging research area and focuses on the importance of developing good relationships between parents and very young children; and there is a lot that we can learn about behaviour that is useful for all children.

I hope you and your family are able to enjoy some time together over the bank holiday weekend and look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> June.

### Queen Elizabeth II's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday

On Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June the whole Federation will be coming together at the Memorial Hall in Thorverton to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Many of the children are preparing short pieces to share at the assembly as well as learning more about the remarkable life of Britain's longest serving monarch.

A hot lunch will be available for everyone and it would help if as many children as possible have a school lunch that day. This can be ordered via the slip you received by email earlier in the week and paid for online as usual. There will not be any other cost to parents.

The PTAs of the three schools have very kindly agreed to buy a commemorative coin for each child to take home as a reminder of the day and we are very grateful to everyone who has contributed to this. It should be a special day to remember!

### From Mrs Parkes

As this last week of our very busy half term comes to an end, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your continued help and support for your child and the school. We greatly appreciate everything you do.

We have lots planned for next half term: Year 3 residential, summer fete, trips out and a barbecue, too. Please keep an eye on the dates and articles in the newsletter.

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### Lords Meadow Sports Sessions

Class 1 have thoroughly enjoyed their time at Lords Meadow and have developed in confidence and ability when swimming and practicing their PE skills. I would like to thank Tammi and her Exeter College students who have planned and taught these excellent sessions throughout the year.

### Year 6 Residential

The children in Year 6 from across the Federation had a wonderful residential trip to Grenville House in Brixham. The emphasis was on water sports – unfortunately, there was plenty of water from above on Friday and Saturday, as well as the sea for kayaking, canoeing and raft building. Other activities included high ropes, going for walks, shopping in Brixham and a quiz. In their assembly today they gave us a great report of the trip with plenty of photos. I was very proud of their conduct all weekend – they really were a credit to the school. I would also like to thank the members of staff who gave up part of their weekend to help make the residential such a success.

### Class 3's Topic

This half term the children in Class 3 have been learning about Mexico. They rounded off their work this week with a Mexican party, including making headdresses and their own fajitas and nachos.



### Top Table

This week Miss Holmes had her lunch at Top Table together with Jaime, Olivia, Greg, Harry, Will H. and William D. Well done for your exemplary behaviour during lunch times over the past week.

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### **Sales of Rhubarb**

Our rhubarb plants have been so prolific this year that Rebecca and Lucy thought that it was a good idea to sell some. So last week they started their enterprise and made £8. After half term, when the plants have recovered, they will be selling more. The proceeds go to purchase food for the guinea pigs.

### **After-school Clubs**

Yesterday we sent home a letter and permission slip letting you know about after-school clubs that we will be offering after half term. The clubs will remain the same; we are just adding an archaeology club with our student teacher, Miss Fox.

**Netball Club** needs a few more players to make it possible to enter a competition and play a few friendly matches. All children in Key Stage 2 are welcome to come along and give it a go!

### **Sponsored Swim, Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> June, 5.15 to 6.30pm**

The school council, with the help of Tammi Vukusic, are organising a sponsored swim at Lords Meadow Leisure Centre on Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> June. We will meet at the Leisure Centre from about 5pm, aiming to start swimming at 5.15pm for one hour. The target is to swim the Channel. The Channel is 21 miles wide at the narrowest point, which is equivalent to 1,320 lengths of the pool. Every child can take part, however far they can swim: We will be using the learner pool as well as the main pool so that as many children as possible can take part. The children should set themselves an individual achievable target, for example, one width or 100 lengths. We will add up all the widths and lengths the children swim and try and cover 21 miles. We will be giving the children sponsorship forms today and they can collect sponsor money over the next few weeks. They can be sponsored per width or length that they swim or for the total number of widths/lengths that they have set as a target. The school council will decide what they would like to spend the money on. Tammi will need some help at the poolside on the day, counting lengths etc. Please see her if you can help or if you have any questions.

### **Parents' Skills**

I would like to hear from you if you have a skill or interest that you would like to share with the children at school. I know that some of you mentioned this in the parent questionnaire. Maybe you know someone else in the village who would like to come in and do some work with the children. This could be on a regular basis to listen to children read or just once to share a particular skill or interest. Please come and see me if you would like to help in any way.

### **Car Parking**

I would like to ask you to respect our neighbours in School Lane when dropping off and picking up your children at the beginning and end of the school day. It is best not to drive into School Lane when dropping off the children, because it causes congestion and could be dangerous for people walking along there where there is no pavement. Please park in front of the pub or in the Bury, or, even better, in the car park by the Post Office or in the Memorial Hall car park. The committee of the Memorial Hall kindly let parents use their car park at the beginning and end of the school day.

### **Class 1 and Class 3 Assemblies**

We are swapping these two assembly dates, so Class 1 assembly will now be on Friday, 8<sup>th</sup> July, combined with an open afternoon, and Class 3 assembly will now be on Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> July.

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### Year 3 Residential Payment

I would just like to remind you that payment for the Year 3 residential is due after the half-term break.

### PTFA News

#### Bag 2 School

The PTFA raised £56 with your donations of second-hand clothes for the Bag 2 School collection.

#### Class 3 Cake Stall

Class 3's cake sale was a great success yesterday. As well as cakes baked by their parents, the children had had fun in school baking cakes to sell. The children had invited people from around the village to come into school for a cream tea. Villagers really enjoyed their visit, having tea, meeting some of the children and reminiscing about their days at the school. Well done, Evie, who won the raffle cake for her family. Class 3 raised over £125 for the PTFA.



Collectively, the children have raised £244.95 with the three cake sales this year. Well done! And thank you to everyone who has supported them by buying cakes.

#### Movie Night, Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> 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, 9<sup>th</sup> June

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

#### School Summer Fete, Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> June 2016

The PTFA will be holding a summer fete on the school field on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> June from 11am to 2pm. There will be lots of fun and games including a tombola, bouncy castle, skittles, coconut shy, plant stall, toys, books, barbecue, cream teas and more. If you would like a stall, or know someone who may, please speak to Pippa, Julie or Rachel. Commercial stalls cost £5, all proceeds go to the PTFA. 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 summer fair. Donations for the stalls or raffle can be given to them or left in the school office.

#### Pledge Auction, Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> September at the Exeter Inn

The PTFA is asking all school families, local people and businesses to get behind their autumn fund raiser and make a donation to the pledge auction. Could you bake a cake, offer a couple of hours of gardening, dog walking, babysitting? Do you know a local business well enough to ask if they would be happy to offer something? A boiler service, meal for two, local produce, exercise class, voucher, art class ... the list of ideas is endless! All donations will be gratefully received and auctioned at their event. All proceeds will be divided

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between the school PTFA and the Pre-school. Please email any offers of donations to Rachel Mildon at [rachelandbarry@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:rachelandbarry@hotmail.co.uk) or contact the school office.

### **PTFA Meeting, Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> June**

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

### **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 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, 24 <sup>th</sup> June, 2.30pm	Class 2 open afternoon and assembly
Friday, 8 <sup>th</sup> July, 2.30pm	Class 1 open afternoon and assembly
Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup> July, 3pm	Year 3 residential assembly
Friday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> July, 2pm	Leavers' assembly in the Church

## *Diary Dates*

Monday, 30 <sup>th</sup> May to Monday, 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Half-term holiday (Monday, 6 <sup>th</sup> June is a non-pupil day)
Friday, 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Federation celebration of Queen's birthday at Thorverton Memorial Hall
Saturday, 18 <sup>th</sup> June	PTFA summer fete
Monday, 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Group and class photographs to be taken
Saturday, 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Sponsored swim
Tuesday, 28 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day
Thursday, 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 5/6 Quad Athletics at QE
Friday, 1 <sup>st</sup> July, 2.30pm	Class 3 open afternoon
Monday, 4 <sup>th</sup> to Friday, 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Bikeability training for Year 6
Wednesday, 6 <sup>th</sup> July, 3.30pm	Class 3 Kingfisher Award presentation
Monday, 11 <sup>th</sup> to Tuesday, 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 3 Residential to Escot House
Wednesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 trip to Haven Banks
Thursday, 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Federation assembly at Newton St Cyres School

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Have a great half term break and enjoy whatever you are doing and I look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> June.

With best wishes,

*Sarah Parkes*

Head of Teaching and Learning

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