



Thorverton C of E Primary School

Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 860374

9th September 2016

Dear Parents,

Message from Mr Jolliffe

Welcome back to school! I hope that you and your family have had a lovely holiday and that you were able to enjoy some time together in the sunshine. It has been great to see all the children coming back to school this week and see them settling down so quickly. There has been a really calm and positive start to the year in all three schools so thank you for preparing your children for the start of the school year so well.

On Monday and Tuesday this week the whole Federation staff team met for two Staff Development Days at Cheriton Fitzpaine. We spent some time looking at the Federation's vision and values and thinking about our priorities for the coming year, before launching our new curriculum resource, Cornerstones. We will be telling you more about this in the coming weeks before we start using it after the October half term. On the second day we worked with Jonathan Rees, from Making Teams Work, on growth mindset, learning more about the importance of changing the way we think about learning. This has already had an impact on our teaching and learning this week and there will be much more about this in the coming year. There is a lot to look forward to this year and I look forward to sharing more about our vision and plans as the year unfolds.

Welcome to ...

A warm welcome to Mr Josh Hamidullah, who has joined the teaching staff at Newton, and to Mrs Danielle Perryman, who is working with Class 2 at Thorverton. And, of course, welcome to Mrs Glynis Harris who is now the Head of School at Cheriton Fitzpaine and Mr James Akhurst who is Head of School at Newton St Cyres.

Federation Strategic Planning

Our Strategic Plan for the next five years is now complete and governors will be approving the final version of this important document next week. After this we will be sharing it with parents and explaining more about how this will impact on our work over the coming years.

Alongside this, the Federation Leadership Team has written a Development Plan for 2016/17 which puts more detail into the development of the schools for this year. Once governors have agreed this next week, it will also be available for parents to see what our priorities are going to be for this year. The suggestions made by parents in the questionnaire that we conducted in the spring have been incorporated into this plan.

*e-mail: admin@thorverton-ce-primary.devon.sch.uk
website: www.thorverton-ce-primary.devon.sch.uk*

LEA: Devon County Council, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter EX2 4QG

Family Information

If your family circumstances have changed over the summer please make sure that the school office have up-to-date contact information and that our records are correct. If you would like to talk to Mrs Parkes or Mr Jolliffe about anything that may affect your child, please do catch them before or after school or arrange a meeting via the school office. Everything that is shared will be treated in complete confidence.

From Mrs Parkes

Welcome back to the Autumn term. I hope that your summer was good and that you and your children have enjoyed the sun! It was lovely to see so many new faces in school and such smart children. Welcome all of you! The children have all come back eager to learn and are already working very hard. We have some exciting opportunities planned for them and as always we will make their learning as stimulating and relevant to them and their interests. Topics this term include Tremors, Alchemy and Flying. Class 3 have already been investigating a strange trail left in the gardening area and across the field. You will receive a detailed letter outlining all the areas of the curriculum that your child will be studying and tips on how you might be able to help next week. Look out for these in your child's book bag. Next week we are holding a short informal tea for all new and old parents to come and meet the staff and the PTFA. More details of this below.

Invitation to Tea, Wednesday, 14th September, 3.30pm

All parents and carers are invited in to school from 3.30pm to 4pm next Wednesday to meet the staff as well as other parents and carers. The PTFA will be providing tea, coffee and cakes. You will also be able to find out more about how the PTFA supports the school and how you can become involved.

Recorder Lessons

Mrs Heather Kershaw has one or two spaces for beginner recorder students of any age from Year 2 upwards. If your child is interested in starting lessons, then please contact the School Office **ASAP** or her direct 01392 860419 or heather@kershaw25.eclipse.co.uk.

PTFA and Pre-school Auction of Promises, 30th September, Exeter Inn

The Auction of Promises organised by the PTFA and Pre-school will take place on Friday, 30th September at the Exeter Inn. The auction will begin at 7.30pm and food will be served from 7pm. Entry is free; pasty and chips will cost £3.50 and food vouchers will be available in advance from the Berry Dairy, The Exeter Inn and school. Auction lots online are NOW live for bidding before the evening, weblink www.auctionofpromises.com/thorvertonauction.

Ploughing Match, Sunday, 18th September 2016

The Cheriton Fitzpaine and District Ploughing Match and Competitions will be held at Bidwell Barton, Thorverton next Sunday and everybody is welcome to come along. The children will be creating some artistic entries for the show either in school or for homework.

Diary Dates

Wednesday, 14th September

Welcome tea after school for all parents and carers

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Monday, 24 th to Friday, 28 th October	Half-term holiday
Friday, 16 th December	End of term
Wednesday, 4 th January 2017	Spring term starts (Tuesday, 3 rd January is a non-pupil teacher training day)

With best wishes,

Sarah Parkes

Head of Teaching and Learning

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