



# Thorverton C of E Primary School

## Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 860374

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29<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **From Mr Jolliffe**

On Tuesday and Wednesday this week we had our annual Federation Review, which this year included Silverton Primary School as we are working with them in a Management Partnership. The review was led by Neil Swait from the Dartmoor Teaching School Alliance and included visiting every class in the federation. Neil also spoke to Heads of School, Lead Teachers and Governors about their roles and what they have achieved in the last 12 months. Neil was very impressed with all the schools and in particular, the excellent behaviour and attitudes to learning that he witnessed in classrooms and beyond. He commented on the way that leaders and governors have created a culture across the federation that enables pupils and staff to excel and that leaders have instilled a strong sense of purpose and collaboration. Many thanks to Neil for his insightful and robust analysis and to all the staff and children for sharing their learning with him.

### **Sports Mornings at Lords Meadow Leisure Centre**

Next term the youngest children in our schools will be going to Lords Meadow to take part in swimming, gymnastics and outdoor games activities. We now have so many children in Class 1 at Brampford Speke and Thorverton, Maple/Ash Class at Cheriton and Classes 1 and 2 at Newton that there is not enough room at the Leisure Centre for them all. We have realised that this will be a particular challenge for swimming lessons as it would not be safe to have nearly 40 young children swimming at one time. We looked at various alternatives but have not been able to arrange anything that would work for everyone next term. We have, however, employed an additional swimming coach to help with the children in the learner pool next term.

This means that we will split the schools into two groups: Cheriton and Thorverton will go to Lords Meadow from Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> April to Friday, 24<sup>th</sup> May (five sessions) and Newton and Brampford Speke will go from Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> June to Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> July (five sessions). In the weeks that they are not at Lords Meadow, we will be organising additional sporting and outdoor learning opportunities for the children.

Letters will be coming home from the school offices with more details about the arrangements for next term, either today or early next week.

### **Clocks go Forward on Sunday**

British Summer time starts on Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup> March and the clocks go forward by one hour. We look forward to seeing everyone at the right time on Monday morning!

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website: [www.thorverton-ce-primary.devon.sch.uk](http://www.thorverton-ce-primary.devon.sch.uk)*

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### **From Mrs Parkes**

I would like to welcome Mr Kenchington to the school. He is a student teacher and will be working with Class 3 until July. We hope he enjoys his time at Thorverton.

### **6 Nations Cup Final**



Yesterday was cup final in the Crediton Learning Area 6 Nations Tag Rugby Tournament. Thorverton came first in the tournament, so brought home the cup! Well done to the team! Thorverton started with their semi-final match against Sandford, which they won 9 – 2, followed by the cup final match against Landscore, which they also won hands down 13 – 9. Mrs Barron was very impressed with the teamwork and sportsmanship of the children. Thank you to Dickie and Stella for their hard work training the children and to the parents who came along to

support the team and to help drive children to Crediton.

### **Class 3's Open Afternoon**

On Thursday, Class 3 had the opportunity to share some of their recent work with their parents and carers. They gave them a preview of both the World War 2 inspired play, "Duty", and an African song "Maliswe", both of which they will be performing in Exeter next week. The children also showed their visitors some of their own work, including their creative Anderson shelters and even a piece of 'Space Music', composed about the planet Venus.

### **Class 3 Paddleboat Performance**

On Monday afternoon, the children in Class 3 gave their parents a performance of the play they have been producing this term with the Paddleboat Theatre Company. They have worked really hard at this and this really showed in their great performance. They will be giving another performance for other schools in the Exeter area next Tuesday at the Phoenix Theatre. Remember to bring a packed lunch on Tuesday, as they will be at the Phoenix all day.

### **Space Dome**

On Monday, each class had the opportunity to visit the 'Space Dome', which had been erected in the Memorial Hall for the day. Class 1 and 3 explored space. Class 1 had great fun learning about night and day and constellations. Class 3 focused on the planets, going on a rollercoaster ride through Jupiter's rings. The children also took part in a simulated moon landing, which was very exciting. In their dome session, Class 2 travelled under the sea from Plymouth Sound to the Great Barrier Reef. It was really cool!

### **Easter Service**

Thank you to so many of you for coming to our Easter service in the Church on Tuesday afternoon. The children celebrated Easter with musical performances, readings about the Easter story and hymns. Thank you also to Mrs Kershaw for her accompaniment and work with the instrumentalists.

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## Class 1 Learning Outside in the Sunshine



On Wednesday, Class 1 took advantage of the glorious weather to spend the afternoon on the field doing observational art work. The children examined bark and flowers to do some very detailed drawings using a variety of different pencils.

## NSPCC Visit



Colette from the NSPCC came into school this week to talk to the children about keeping safe. She held two assemblies, one for each of the two key stages, explaining about how to keep safe and about the work of the NSPCC. She also held a workshop for the children in Class 3.

Parents and carers should have received two letters about the visit, one beforehand and one afterwards. This was a very informative visit, which children and staff found really interesting and thought provoking.

## Guitar Concert

Ginnie Cutler's guitar pupils gave us a lovely concert on Wednesday afternoon. They have all worked very hard and it showed in their talented performances.



## Next Week

### Class 3 Paddleboat Performance, Exeter, Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April

Class 3 will be giving their final performance of the play they have been preparing this term. Please remember a packed lunch for Tuesday, as the children will be in Exeter all day rehearsing and then performing.

### Class 2 Pancake Sale, Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 3.30pm

On Tuesday after school Class 2 will be selling pancakes in aid of Comic Relief. Remember to bring some money and support their cause.

### Class 3 'Celebrate in Style' at the Great Hall, Exeter University, Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019

On Monday Class 3 will be going to Newton St Cyres School for the afternoon to practise their songs with the other schools from the federation. On Wednesday morning they will be attending the dress rehearsal at the Great Hall and then taking part in the evening performance for their live audience. Tickets are still available from the Northcott Theatre box office and on line <https://exeternorthcott.co.uk/calendar/celebrate-in-style/>.

## Top Table



On Monday, Sophie-May, Bonnie M, Sufia, Zac M and Archie enjoyed their lunch at Top Table in the company of Mrs Parkes.

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## **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.

## **Federation Value for the First Half of the Summer Term**

The Federation value for the first half of the summer term is 'Service'. In our collective worship we will be thinking about how small acts of kindness can make a big difference. We will also be using stories from everyday life, the Old Testament part of the bible and the life and teachings of Jesus to illustrate this value. At the end of the series, we will think about how Jesus taught his followers to live a life of service for others, rather than living for him or herself. The final collective worship will focus on the birthday of the church, also called Pentecost.

## **Residential Reminder**

I would just like to remind parents and carers of children in Year 3 to 6 that final payments for the residential trips are due next week. If you have any questions about payments, or, indeed about the trips themselves, please see me.

## **Pre-school Accreditation**

Pre-school have achieved the prestigious 'Millie's Mark', one of only a few pre-schools in Devon to gain this. It is the gold standard in paediatric first aid, showing that Thorverton Pre-school goes above and beyond requirements to keep children safe.

## **Sciencedipity Holiday Club**

Sciencedipity are running a science and nature holiday club in Barnstaple from 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> April. Please see the poster in the noticeboard for more details.

## **Spring Crafts Family Learning Workshop, Crediton Library, 18<sup>th</sup> April**

Learn Devon is offering this session on craft ideas to use at home. Please see the poster in the noticeboard for more details.

## **Outdoors Forest School Club**

This company is organising forest school sessions during the holidays. Please see the poster in the noticeboard for more information.

## *Diary Dates*

|   |  |
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| Monday, 1 <sup>st</sup> April             | Class 3 practice for Great Hall event at Newton St Cyres |
| Tuesday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> April            | Class 3 Paddleboat performance at Exeter Phoenix         |
| Wednesday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> April, 3pm     | Class 1 open afternoon                                   |
| Wednesday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> April, evening | Class 3 music event at The Great Hall, Exeter University |
| Thursday, 4 <sup>th</sup> April           | Exmoor Challenge practice walk                           |
| Friday, 5 <sup>th</sup> April             | Last day of spring term                                  |

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Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> May – Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May Year 5 residential to Barton Hall  
Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> June – Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> June Year 4 residential to New Barn, Dorchester  
Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> June – Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> June Year 6 residential to Grenville House, Brixham  
Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> July – Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> July Year 3 residential to Plymouth Aquarium and Camp Wild Escot

## *Term Dates*

### **Summer term 2019**

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May (SATS 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> May)

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June to Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July

### **Autumn term 2019**

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October (Staff Development Days 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> September)

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October to Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December (Staff Development Day 29<sup>th</sup> November)

### **Spring term 2020**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February (Staff Development Day 6<sup>th</sup> January)

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March

### **Summer term 2020**

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May (Staff Development Day 14<sup>th</sup> April)

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June to Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

With best wishes,

*Sarah Parkes*

Head of School

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