



Thorverton C of E Primary School

Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 860374

18th March 2016

Dear Parents,

Message from Mr Jolliffe

This week the news has been full of reports of the Chancellor's plans for all schools to become academies and I am sure you have picked up from the media that there is a wide range of views about the most significant change to the way schools are managed to take place in the last 100 years.

Since the start of the year, the Exe Valley Federation Governors have been discussing the best way to ensure that the well-being and learning of our children are put first in a rapidly changing educational landscape. We are firmly committed to valuing the existing collaboration and to continuing to work with other local schools to improve outcomes for all our children. We are excited about the possibilities that lie ahead of us and rising to the challenge of significant changes in the near future. We will, of course, keep parents fully informed of any possible changes and ask for your views and opinions before any decisions are made.

Sport Relief

The children took part in their Sport Relief circuit on Wednesday, which was organised by the School Council. Everyone had fun trying to beat their best score at 'beat the goalie', bean bag throwing, hula hoops and hop scotch. With the sale of Sport Relief wrist bands and sponsor money we have raised just over £50. If anyone hasn't yet got a wrist band we found a little stash so we do have a few left, which we will be selling after school.

Tag Rugby Match

Yesterday afternoon our tag rugby team played another match in the CLC Six Nations tournament. We played against Brampford Speke at home. Unfortunately, we lost 7 – 4. The children played really well and enjoyed the game. Thank you to Dickie, Jonathan and Stella for coming to referee the game and provide refreshments. Our last two matches are at Haywards School on Wednesday.



Year 6 Jaguar Maths Challenge

Four girls from Year 6, Chloe, Ella, Samantha and Kaia, took part in a maths challenge day at QE on Wednesday. The girls had a great day developing a car on a computer using special software. The finished

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cars ran in a virtual race on line. The Thorverton team came second and the children thoroughly enjoyed the day.

Guitar Performance

Ginny Cutler's guitar pupils gave us a short concert on Wednesday, which was just amazing. Their performance of "The Eye of the Tiger" had everyone singing along. We also enjoyed the Spanish tunes, one which all the players took part in and a solo by Scarlett. Erin also gave us a beautiful piano recital.

Parent-Child-Teacher Interviews

Thank you all for coming in to meet your children's teachers. I hope you found the meetings productive and that you have a good idea of where your children are with their learning and what you can do to help your children at home. We really value your help and support. We have sent an email to those parents with children in Class 2 who missed their meeting on Tuesday, asking you to come and see Miss Holmes at the same time this coming Tuesday, 22nd March. If you are unable to come then, please see Miss Holmes to arrange another time to discuss your child's progress.

Top Table

Brent, Noah, Ben, Ethan, Olivia and Evie were chosen by the MTAs to sit at top table this week. They enjoyed lunch and conversation with Miss Holmes.

Easter Service

Everybody is welcome to come to our Easter service in the church on Tuesday, 22nd March at 2pm. Each class will recount a part of the Easter story and we will be singing hymns. Mr Biggins has asked if parents can provide a disciple's costume for children in Class 1 (a tea towel and robe would be great) who will be representing the Palm Sunday procession. There will also be instrumental pieces by some of the children. Please come back to school after the service for tea and biscuits and a chat with Mr Jolliffe and myself. You will be free to take your children home from 3.15pm.

Easter Lunch, Wednesday, 23rd March

On Wednesday Abby will be cooking a special Easter lunch of roast lamb or vegie roast with roast potatoes and fresh spring vegetables followed by chocolate cracknel nests and a mini egg with a drink.

Federation End of Term Assembly and Lunch

On Thursday 24th March all the children in the Exe Valley Federation will be meeting at Cheriton Fitzpaine School for an end of term assembly and lunch. Lunch will be provided for all the children at the usual cost (free to children in Reception, Years 1 and 2, and £2.40 for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6). It would really help us if as many children as possible could have a school lunch that day. There will be a choice of rolls (cheese, egg, ham or tuna) with salad, vegetable sticks and cake. At register on Wednesday morning the children will be asked for their choice of roll for Thursday, so that Abby can be prepared.

Yoga and After-school Clubs in the Summer Term

Vivien Hampson has given Class 3 a yoga taster session today. She will be running an after-school club in the summer term. We will be sending out detailed information on after-school clubs next week.

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Exmoor Challenge Practice Walk

Some children from Year 6 will be taking part in the Federation practice walk for the Exmoor Challenge this Sunday, 20th March around Dulverton.

PTFA Minutes of Meetings

Rachel Mildon has the minutes of recent PTFA meetings. Please contact her if you would like to see what the PTFA are planning. Rachel has plans and drawings of some proposed new play equipment for the field if you would like to see these, too.

PTFA Class 2 Cake Stall, Thursday, 24th March, 3.30pm

Class 2 will be selling cakes after school on the last day of term, Thursday, 24th March in the playground. Please bake some cakes or biscuits for them to sell and come and buy delicious goodies from the stall. Class 1 made £39 with their sale last half term, so let's see if Class 2 can beat this amount!

PTFA Bingo Evening

On Thursday, 21st April there will be a bingo evening in school. Doors will open at 6pm for the bingo to start at 6.30pm.

Tag Rugby Kit

There is quite a lot of tag rugby kit missing, which means that we are running short of kit for matches. Please would everybody have a look at home to see if any shorts, socks or tops have got stuck at the back of a cupboard and return them to school as soon as possible. Thank you!

Head Lice

We have still had several reports of head lice in children's hair this week. If you find any head lice or their eggs please treat the children before sending them back to school. **Please make sure that all children with shoulder-length or longer hair have it tied back.** If you would like more information on how to treat head lice please go to the NHS website: <http://www.nhs.uk/Conditions/Head-lice/Pages/Introduction.aspx>. If you would like a printed copy of this information please ask Veda or Katharine in the office.

Suspected Outbreaks of Respiratory/Flu-like Illness in Schools

Public Health England has asked us to give parents the following information about these infections that are prevalent at this time of year. Encouraging children to wash hands helps kill germs; for information on simple hygiene there is more information at <http://www.e-bug.eu/>. If a child has flu-like symptoms please keep them at home, usually for about a week after the symptoms start. We know this can be difficult for parents who have to arrange child care. However, this will help us to reduce transmission of the infection.

Recorder and Piano Lessons with Mrs Kershaw

Our piano and recorder players will be performing at the Easter service on Tuesday and look forward to sharing their achievements and favourite music with you.

If your child is interested in starting lessons at any age from 6 years upwards for recorder and 7 upwards for piano/keyboard, then Heather Kershaw has some **spaces for lessons next term**. Do contact the school office or her direct 01392 860419 heather@kershaw25.eclipse.co.uk.

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Memorial Hall Bingo, Saturday, 19th March

This Saturday there is an Easter Meat Bingo at the Memorial Hall. Doors will open at 7pm, eyes down at 7.30pm. Everybody is welcome to come along and have fun.

Collective Worship Dates

Tuesday, 22nd March, 2pm Easter service in church

Diary Dates

Thursday, 24 th March	Federation assembly and lunch at Cheriton Fitzpaine School
Thursday, 24 th March, 3.30pm	Class 2 PTFA cake stall
Thursday, 24 th March	Term ends
Monday, 11 th April	Summer term begins
Friday, 15 th to Monday, 18 th April	Year 4 Residential to Beam House
Friday, 6 th to Monday, 9 th May	Year 5 Residential to Barton Hall
Friday, 20 th to Monday, 23 rd May	Year 6 Residential to Grenville House
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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