



# Thorverton C of E Primary School

## Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 860374

28<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

### From Mr Jolliffe

In the next few weeks we will be publishing a consultation document about changing the age ranges at Cheriton Fitzpaine, Brampford Speke and Newton St Cyres. Currently, the 2-to-4-year-old provision at the schools comes under the 'extended schools' provision and we would like to bring the pre-school provision into the schools which will be much easier and simpler to manage. This means these three schools will be registered as providing education for 2 to 11 year-olds. In reality it will make no difference to the provision of education for the children but, if agreed, will make it much simpler and more efficient to manage. More information about the consultation will be sent out in the next few weeks, with an opportunity for everyone to comment on the proposed changes.

### Newton St Cyres Ofsted Report

The Ofsted report for Newton St Cyres has now been published and can be found on the school website or via the Ofsted website. It is a very positive report indeed and recognises the achievements of Mr Akhurst and his team. Many thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the inspection, especially the children who really shone, despite it being almost the last week of the school year!

### From Mrs Parkes

#### Harvest Lunch



Yesterday we all enjoyed a delicious Harvest lunch cooked by Abby and served up beautifully by Karen and Mandy. Thank you all for all your hard work. We



sat outside in the glorious autumn sunshine. We were glad to share our special lunch with some visitors from the WI and Parish Council. The children chatted away enthusiastically to them about all kinds of subjects. Many of our visitors also came to the church to enjoy the service.

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## Harvest Festival

Yesterday we celebrated our Harvest Festival in the church with hymns, prayers and poems sung and read by the children. Class 1's mandala was a lovely addition to the church. Both Class 2 and Class 3's poems, songs and readings were also wonderfully done. It was great to see so many of you in church for the service. Thank you all for your generous donations of food for St Petrock's in Exeter. I know they will be very grateful for this help for the homeless people that they care for in Exeter.



## Gardening Club



This week at gardening club we continued with our harvest, picking apples from our tree at the top of the field. The children also cleared weeds from all the raised vegetable beds, added manure for the winter and cleared the strawberry patch. In the next few sessions we plan to plant more leeks and spring cabbages, tend to the flower garden and plant some spring-flowering bulbs. There are also plans to add some autumn colour to the window boxes which sit on the roadside windows.

## Top Table

Mr Biggins enjoyed his lunch at Top Table on Monday in the company of Isaac, Thomas, Emily, Bonnie E., Riley and Zac M.



## 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.

## School Photographer, Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2018

The school photographer will be in school this Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October, to take individual and family photos. If you would like to bring younger siblings into school for a family group portrait, please come in at 8.30am.

## Flu Vaccination Programme

All parents and carers of children in Years Reception to 5 should have received an email earlier this week with a link to an electronic consent form. One or two of you may have had problems accessing this (we have been told there may be a problem if using a Samsung phone or tablet), so we have some paper copies in the office if you would prefer this.

## Paper Copy of the Newsletter

We usually email the newsletter to parents, guardians, governors and friends of the school. However, if you would prefer to receive a paper copy please let Katharine or Vanessa know in the office and we will put you on the list.

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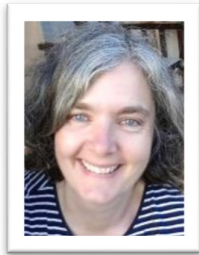
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## Governors Linked to Schools

As part of the Federation Development Plan we sent home this week, the list and photos of governors linked to the four schools were published. Gemma Poulton is one of the governors linked to Newton St Cyres, not Gemma Wright! Apologies to Gemma for this mistake which escaped the proof-readers!

### Pen Portraits for Newton St Cyres Link Governors

#### Gemma Poulton

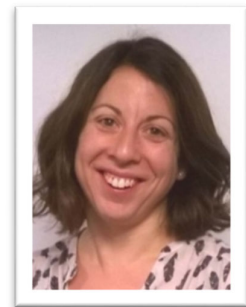


My background is in art, design and education and I currently work at Exeter University as part of the Heritage Collections department with archives, rare books and at the Bill Douglas Cinema Museum. I was a governor at Brampford Speke C of E Primary School from 2008 to 2017, when the school joined the Exe Valley Federation. I was Chair of Governors for six years and am now Vice-Chair of the federation. I enjoy the challenges of strategic governance and working with staff and pupils to help enable the schools to develop to their full potential.

#### Sophie Dunn

Having studied music at the University of Oxford, I initially trained as a secondary music teacher. I taught in a big London comprehensive school for four years, before deciding to move into education and outreach work with a London orchestra. I am now a Project Manager for a national music outreach charity, Live Music Now, which focuses on training professional musicians to work with older people and children with special educational needs.

I joined the board of governors for Exe Valley Federation in 2015 because I was keen to get more involved in my local community and help ensure that the schools continue to provide a fun and inspiring learning environment for children. I am a parent governor, with children at Newton St Cyres School. I am a member of the School Improvement Committee, where I have particular responsibility for Early Years.



#### Alison Golby



I have worked in education for 27 years, predominantly in secondary schools and sixth form colleges. As a head of creative and performing arts I have enjoyed being involved in the education of young people in music, art, drama and PE and developing creativity more broadly across the curriculum. I have supported student teachers, newly qualified teachers and advised heads of departments in curriculum development and Ofsted preparation. I have a degree in Music and a PGCE in Music and English/Drama.

I have been a governor in the Exe Valley Federation since 2015 and sit on the School Improvement Committee. This is a wonderful opportunity to work with others to ensure that all children thrive in a creative learning environment and have equality of opportunity.

## Governor Update

The Resources Committee met in Thorverton on Tuesday for the first time in this academic year. The Chair of the Committee for 2018/19 is Debbie Pearce and the Vice Chair is Jackie Enright. In addition, the Executive Head, EVF Business Manager and three other governors make up this committee. The first substantial item on the Resources Committee agenda is always finance. The EVF Business Manager provided governors with an update on the EVF budget and financial situation including the latest information on pupil numbers for the 2018/19 school year. We expect there to be in the region of 316 pupils across the federation this year. The committee also discussed various matters relating to health and safety (including fire risk assessments) and

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premises, data protection and the progress of the new federation website. Finally, governors spent some time discussing plans for the schools-based Parent Forums in 2018/19 at which governors and members of staff will be available to talk to parents. The dates of these forums, together with details of the staff and governors who will be attending, will be in newsletters and on school noticeboards in due course. Please do take this opportunity to come along and meet your school governors in an informal setting if you can.

### Exe Valley Schools Federation Recipe Book – Recipe Ideas Wanted



The PTFAs from the Federation Schools have joined together in an exciting joint venture to create a recipe book full of yummy recipes contributed by the children, their families and friends. Once printed the books will be available to buy to raise money for the school – the perfect Christmas gift for all. We sent you an information sheet and form at the end of last year. If you would like another one please come to see Katharine or Vanessa in the office. Simply create your recipe, fill in the form and send it back to us, either to the school office in paper form or via email to

[thorvertonPTFA@exevalleyfederation.org.uk](mailto:thorvertonPTFA@exevalleyfederation.org.uk). Please remember that the recipe must be your **own idea** to ensure we are compliant with copyright rules. We look forward to seeing your fantastic foodie ideas. Thank you.

### Crediton Schools Transition Choir

The Crediton Schools Music Cluster will be starting a transition choir on Monday afternoons for younger QE students and primary pupils at the music block, Barnfield Campus. The first meeting will be on 29<sup>th</sup> October, 4pm to 4.45pm. Please search for Crediton Transition Choir on Facebook, where you will find more details.

### Crediton Youth Theatre

This is a theatre group for children aged seven to ten and takes place every Thursday from 4.30 to 5.30pm at Crediton Arts Centre. More information is available on 01363 773337.

## Collective Worship Dates

### Diary Dates

Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> October

Tempest photographer in school

### Term Dates

An error has crept into the dates of our Staff Development Days this autumn. There will be staff development days on **Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> October** (the Monday after half term) and **Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018**. We do apologise for any confusion this may cause.

### Term Dates

#### Autumn term 2018

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October (Staff Development Day 3<sup>rd</sup> September)

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October to Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December (**Staff Development Days 29<sup>th</sup> October and**

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**30<sup>th</sup> November)**

**Spring term 2019**

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February (Staff Development Day 7<sup>th</sup> January)

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April (Staff Development Day 25<sup>th</sup> February)

**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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