



# Thorverton C of E Primary School

## Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 860374

20<sup>th</sup> April 2018

Dear Parents,

### From Mr Jolliffe

Welcome back to school! I hope you had a lovely Easter holiday and had some family time together at some point. This week I have been with Year 5 at Barton Hall in Torquay on their residential visit there. It has been



great to see the children getting to know each other and working so well together in teams from different schools and they are all a real credit to the Federation, their schools and families. Having fantastic weather has

helped as well of course! A huge thank you to Mr Akhurst for organising the visit and to Mrs Harris, Miss Finch, Mrs Griffiths and Mrs Wilkinson for giving up their time and home comforts to help lead the visit.

### From Mrs Parkes

I hope that you had a super Easter break and managed to fit in some activities that you love.

We have had a great start to the term, the Year 6 children have been working really hard on their SATs practice while the Year 5s have been on residential. The Year 5s have had a fantastic time in the sun challenging themselves with all the activities on offer. Miss Finch called the children "absolute stars". Class 2 have started their topic, "Road Trip USA", and will be having a "Wow Day" next Monday to learn all about the history of many of the different states. Class 1 have been working hard on their book reviews and making the most of the wonderful weather outside.

### Year 5 Residential Trip to Barton Hall

On Wednesday, the children in Year 5 from across the Federation started the residential season. They have spent three days at Barton Hall near Torquay. The children have thoroughly enjoyed a huge range of activities including: the big swing, vertical challenge, quad biking, survival skills, aeroball and zipwire, to name but a few. It has been an absolutely amazing and action-packed trip! All



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the staff have been really impressed with the positive attitudes of all the children and how well they have mixed with children from across the Federation. The children have shown real empathy, support and challenge to themselves and each other. We are so proud of all the children's efforts and achievements over the last few days. Many thanks to Mr Akhurst for organising this residential, I am sure it is one that the children will have fond memories of for many years to come.



### Courage

Our value for collective worship and assemblies for the first half of the summer term is COURAGE. It can take great courage to do something new or challenging and we sometimes call this 'stepping out of our comfort zone'. Sometimes just small steps are needed but they can take us to new and exciting places! We will be learning about some characters from the bible who showed courage, as well as stories taken from contemporary life. We will be asking the children to set themselves 'small step' challenges and share them in class or assembly.

### Exmoor Challenge Practice Walk, Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> April 2018

Tomorrow we are taking the Exmoor Challenge teams on a 10-mile practice walk around Dulverton in preparation for the actual 16-mile walk in two weeks' time. The weather promises to be good and I am sure the children will really enjoy the experience. Final details of arrival and start times for the Challenge itself will be sent to the children in the next week or so.

### Sun Hats and Sun Lotion!



The summer weather is here to enjoy! Please remember to send your children to school with sun hats and, preferably, to apply sun lotion before school. If necessary, you can provide your children with sun lotion to bring in to school for use later on in the day. Each child (or family) should have their own named bottle of sun lotion; please make sure children don't share this with others.

### 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.



### Parent Questionnaire

Last year we used the feedback from the Parent Questionnaire to shape our Strategic Plan for the next five years. This year we would very much like to hear the views of parents about their experiences of the four schools and the Exe Valley Federation as a whole. Please complete the form by clicking on the link below. This is your opportunity to add your voice - please use it. Please complete the form by 27th April.

<https://goo.gl/forms/XwmNUMkvX9ijtca42>

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## **Federation Business Manager**

At the end of this month, Mrs Pauline Woodbridge, who has been our Federation Business Manager, will be leaving us for a full-time post with a multi-academy trust in Exeter. We are very grateful indeed to her for all the work that she has done over the last two years and wish her every success and happiness in the future. We are very pleased to be able to announce that she will be replaced by Mrs Heidi Last, who is an experienced business manager in a local school. She will be joining us from the beginning of May and will be based at Cheriton Fitzpaine but will be visiting the other three schools during her working week. We are looking forward to working with her as she leads the administrative support team.

## *Diary Dates*

Friday, 27 <sup>th</sup> April	Class 1 start sports mornings at Lords Meadow Leisure Centre
Monday, 30 <sup>th</sup> April – Tuesday, 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Year 3 residential to Escot
Saturday, 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Exmoor Challenge (for Year 6)
Wednesday, 6 <sup>th</sup> – Friday, 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 residential to New Barn, Dorchester
Tuesday, 11 <sup>th</sup> – Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 residential to Grenville House, Brixham

## *Term Dates*

### **Summer term 2018**

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May (SATS 14<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> May)

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June to Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> July

### **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> and 30<sup>th</sup> October)

### **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

With best wishes,

*Sarah Parkes*

Head of School

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