



Thorverton C of E Primary School

Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 860374

25th May 2018

Dear Parents,

From Mr Jolliffe

This week marks the end of an era for two of the federation schools. Mrs Jacky Searle has been working in the school office at Bramford Speke for many years and is leaving her role today to embark on new adventures. She has been an invaluable member of the school community and provided support and guidance to many parents and colleagues as well as answering thousands of questions and dealing with innumerable enquiries over the years. I have appreciated her willingness to welcome Mr Nichols and me to the school this year and for all her support. The parents and children of Bramford Speke will be saying their own goodbyes today and thanking a very special person for everything that she has contributed to the school. We will miss her very much but wish her well for this new phase of her life.

Secondly, the new school at Newton St Cyres is completed and ready for the children to start there on 4th June. The building will be finally handed over to us next Thursday when we will take possession of it from the DfE and the contractors, Elliotts. The staff have worked incredibly hard to get everything ready for the start of this new era for the school and are looking forward to seeing the children's faces when they see their new classrooms.

Respect

The value for the final half term of this school year will be RESPECT. We will be thinking about how we can show respect for someone's views by listening carefully and by the way we speak in response, so that, even when we don't agree with our friends, we can still get along. We will be using a range of stories to illustrate this, including the Golden Rule from the United Nations, which is, "Do to others as you would have them do to you." We will also be exploring what this quote means, from J. Johnson, "Respect people's feelings even if it doesn't mean anything to you, it could mean everything to them."

From Mrs Parkes

SATs



Well done Year 2! You have been amazing these past couple of weeks! You have worked very hard on your SATs tests and deserve a well-earned rest this weekend.

e-mail: thorvertonadmin@exevalleyfederation.org.uk

website: www.thorverton-ce-primary.devon.sch.uk

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

Kwik Cricket Festival



On Wednesday, a team of boys from Years 4 to 6 took part in a Kwik Cricket Festival at Ottery St Mary. The team played three games and won them all, which means that they go through to the Devon County Kwik Cricket finals which will take place later this summer in Newton Abbott. There were 16 other schools at this tournament, so what a fantastic result! The boys were a credit to the school with their sportsmanship and cricket skills. I would like to give Tammi special thanks for coaching the boys and organising the team, umpiring the games and arranging for a minibus to take the team to and from Ottery.

Gardening Club

This week Alex and Tom went up and fetched a trailer full of wood chippings from Jim Greig's. At gardening club the children enthusiastically unloaded the chippings, using the splendid new wheelbarrow (purchased by Tom with the kind donation from the Gas Up charity day). They then spread the chippings on the paths in the vegetable garden. The children also spread straw under the strawberry plants, so the garden now looks very tidy and professional.



Top Table

This week Rowan, Finley, Marnie, Eliza K, Freddie H and Ethan enjoyed their lunch at Top Table with Mr Martin.



Play Equipment

Now that the summer is here and we are using the play equipment and the field all the time, I know it is tempting to let your children use these areas of school before and after school time. However, as most of you will know, the school rules are that children don't use the equipment or the field before and after school. During the school day, members of staff always supervise children on the equipment and the field. Outside school times, we do not supervise the children. The safety of the children is of paramount importance to us. Please make sure your children respect these rules for their own safety.

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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.

Free School Meals

The government has recently changed the criteria for children to be able to receive free school meals. If parents are in receipt of Universal Credit, Income Support, Income-based Jobseekers Allowance, Income-related Employment and Support Allowance, Child Tax Credit (provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income no higher than £16,190) and some other benefits, your children are entitled to free school meals. Schools also receive extra funding for any children on free school meals, so it is important that you apply for free school meals even if your children are in school years Reception, Year 1 or Year 2. You have to apply on line at <https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals> and follow the link to the citizen portal. You can also ring the Education Helpline on 0345 1551019.

GDPR

The new General Data Protection Regulations come into force today. Schools must comply with this but there has been a lot of misinformation and scare mongering about what this will mean and what the costs will be of making sure schools are compliant. The governors and Mr Jolliffe are working on a proportionate response to this new legislation and will be contacting parents in due course with new Privacy Notices and other information. The DfE has recently produced guidance to help schools with this and we will be following this carefully over the next few months.

PTFA News

The PTFA are having a social evening on Friday, 15th June at the Thorverton Arms. Come along and meet other parents and friends of the school, enjoy a natter and a drink, and find out more about the work of the PTFA. The PTFA summer fair promises to be great fun. It will be on Friday, 6th July after school on the field. The end of the school year wouldn't be the same without the PTFA barbecue for all children and their families. This year the barbecue will be on Thursday, 26th July from 4.30 to 6pm. Bring your own drinks, chairs and blankets.

Collective Worship Dates

Thursday, 26th July, 2pm Leavers' Service in the Church

Diary Dates

Wednesday, 6 th – Friday, 8 th June	Year 4 residential to New Barn, Dorchester
Wednesday, 6 th June	Year 6 Life Skills workshop
Tuesday, 11 th – Friday, 15 th June	Year 6 residential to Grenville House, Brixham
Friday, 15 th June, evening	PTFA social evening, Thorverton Arms
Friday, 6 th July, 3pm	Class 1 open afternoon and assembly

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Friday, 6 th July, 3.30 – 6pm	PTFA summer fair
Wednesday, 11 th July, 2pm	Key Stage 2 production
Thursday, 12 th July, 6.30pm	Key Stage 2 production
Wednesday, 18 th July, 1.30pm	Sports Day
Thursday, 19 th July, 1.30pm	Reserve Sports Day
Wednesday, 25 th July	Whole school trip
Thursday, 26 th July, 4.30 – 6pm	PTFA end-of-term barbecue on the school field

Term Dates

Summer term 2018

Monday 16th April to Friday 25th May (SATS 14th to 17th May)

Monday 4th June to Thursday 26th July

Autumn term 2018

Monday 3rd September to Friday 19th October (Staff Development Day 3rd September)

Monday 29th October to Wednesday 19th December (Staff Development Days 29th and 30th October)

Spring term 2019

Monday 7th January to Friday 15th February (Staff Development Day 7th January)

Monday 25th February to Friday 5th April (Staff Development Day 25th February)

Summer term 2019

Tuesday 23rd April to Friday 24th May (SATS 13th to 16th May)

Monday 3rd June to Thursday 25th July

I wish you all a relaxing, sunny half-term holiday and look forward to seeing you all again, fresh and revitalised, on Monday, 4th June.

With best wishes,

Sarah Parkes

Head of School

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