



# Thorverton C of E Primary School

## Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 860374

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15<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

### From Mr Jolliffe

Many thanks to all the parents who have completed the Parent Questionnaire, either on-line or by using a paper copy from the school offices. If you haven't been able to complete the questionnaire yet, there is still time to do it today [the link is <https://goo.gl/forms/8OclgdxF2OWeVwWy2> ]. During the next few weeks we will analyse your responses and then identify themes and work out how to make improvements where they are needed.

Thank you too, to the parents who responded to the age range consultation for Brampford Speke, Cheriton Fitzpaine and Newton St Cyres. The responses will now be considered by the Governors and Devon County Council. As Brampford Speke is a Church School, the Governors can make the decision themselves; for the other schools, the decision is now referred back to Devon County Council for their consideration. If all goes well, the new age range will be in place from April, which will enable us to rationalise the management of the early years' provision across the federation.

### Term Dates

The first half of the spring term ends today, Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February. Children return to school on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February and the spring term ends on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2019. Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> February is the last Staff Development Day of this year and the staff will be meeting at Brampford Speke School and working with an outside speaker on developing their understanding of how children learn in the context of mathematical development.

### School Reviews

This year we are holding School Reviews for each of the federation schools in March. This will give us an opportunity to explore some of the themes that emerge from the Parent Questionnaire with you and to talk about the different aspects of the questionnaire in a bit more depth. The School Reviews will take place on the following days: **Brampford Speke C of E School:** Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> March at 9.10am and repeated at 2.45pm; **Cheriton Fitzpaine School:** Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> March at 9.00am and Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> March at 2.45pm; **Newton St Cyres School:** Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> March at 9.10am and repeated at 2.30pm; **Thorverton C of E School:** Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> March at 9.10am and repeated at 2.45pm.

### From Mrs Parkes

Wow! What a week we have had!

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### Class 3

This week Class 3 have been really busy.

#### Visit by Lyme Bay Marine Foundation

On Monday Gavin from the Marine Foundation visited the class and spoke about the problems of plastics and other pollutants in the sea, their effects on the wild life in the sea and what can be done to help look after the environment. It was a very thought provoking and informative presentation.

#### Class 3's Trip to the Fleet Air Arm Museum

On Wednesday I was lucky enough to accompany the class to the Fleet Air Arm Museum where the children learnt all about what it was like to be a child in the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War. They practised air raid drills and learnt about evacuees. They even came away with their own identity card. A few children got to practise putting out an incendiary bomb. We then made aeroplanes and catapulted them across the museum. After lunch we had a guided tour of the museum, finding out all about the World War II planes and much more. It was a great day.



#### Class 1 at the Millennium Field

Class 1 had a lovely afternoon on Thursday when they visited the Millennium Green to look at all the snowdrops, crocuses and other spring flowers just appearing. They also tested natural materials for properties such as floating and sinking. It was a beautiful afternoon and they all really enjoyed their time exploring the field.

#### New Wall Boards

We have had new interactive screens installed in each class this week, which will greatly enhance the children's learning helped by an increase in the speed of our broadband. These screens allow the teachers to access the internet and are touch screens which the children can navigate so they will be able to do a huge variety of interactive activities as part of their lessons and learning. We are all very excited about having them.

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## Greek Day in Class 2



Class 2 also had a very exciting afternoon on Tuesday when the Spartans from Bramford Speke visited for a re-enactment of the Battle of Marathon, ancient Greek Olympic Games and to share ancient Greek food tasting.

As you can see from the photos, the children had great fun being ancient Greeks for a day.

## Collective Worship

We had two groups of visitors to hold collective worship in school this week: the ICE team and Lorraine and Peter Colebrook who always make our collective worship fun and engaging. There is a family service at the church this Sunday if you would like to go along.

## Federation Value: Justice

Every half term we focus on a different value and for the second half of the spring term we will be thinking about JUSTICE. We will be thinking about whether justice means treating everyone exactly the same or if it is a bit more complicated than that. We will be using stories and dramas from the world around us, the Old Testament and stories Jesus told, to devise rules for living well today. During this series of Collective Worship gatherings, we will also be thinking about Lent and the story of Jesus' death and resurrection as we approach Easter.

## Great Hall Singing Event, 'Celebrate in Style', Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019

Class 3 at Bramford Speke and Thorverton, Class 4 at Newton St Cyres and Beech Class at Cheriton Fitzpaine are all going to be performing in the Crediton Learning Community Great Hall Singing Event, which this year is entitled 'Celebrate in Style'. This will take place at the Great Hall, University of Exeter, on **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 7pm**. Tickets are now on sale from the Northcott website and box office. The link for tickets is <https://exeternorthcott.co.uk/calendar/celebrate-in-style/>. We look forward to seeing you there!

## If you are running late at the end of the school day ...

Please, please ring the office, if you possibly can, to let us know that you will be late. It saves your children from getting worried and lets us know where you are. Please also remember to let us know of any change of phone number or email address so that we can get hold of you if necessary.

## Top Table

On Monday, Freddie, Jacob, Etienne, Phoeynx, Ethan and William S enjoyed their lunch at Top Table in the company of Miss Holmes.



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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.

### **Drumming Lessons**

After half term Tony Price will have space for two children to learn to play the drums. Please see Vanessa or Katharine in the office for more details.



### **Cello Lessons**

We are now able to offer cello lessons on Tuesday afternoons in school for anyone who is interested in learning, including adults. Please ask in the office for more information.

### **PTFA Update**

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported the Christmas Fair and the Nativity in the Church last term. We raised a total of £432.65 for the school. Special thanks go to the staff and children of Class 3 who once again designed and ran some fantastic stalls.

### **Thorverton Parish Church Family Service, Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> February 2019**

This Sunday everybody is very welcome to attend the family service in the church. The church will be open for refreshments and children's activities from 9.30am. The service will start at 10am.

### **Mobile Library**

Do you know that the mobile library visits Thorverton once a month between 3.35 and 4.20pm? The next visit is Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> February. The library bus has a great selection of books and DVDs, including lots of children's books. There is no charge to borrow the books. Go along and choose a book for the holiday!

### **Charity Dance at the Memorial Hall, Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2019 from 7.30pm**

The Memorial Hall is hosting a dance, at which 'Stay Lucky' will be playing, in aid of the Devon Air Ambulance Trust night landing site at Thorverton. Come along and support this very worthwhile cause – tickets cost £5 at the door or in advance from the Berry Dairy, the Exeter Inn and the Thorverton Arms.

## *Collective Worship Dates*

Tuesday, 26 <sup>th</sup> March, 2.30pm	Easter Service in the church
Friday, 5 <sup>th</sup> April, 3pm	Class 1 assembly

## *Diary Dates*

**Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> - Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> February Half-term holiday (25<sup>th</sup> is a non-pupil day, staff training)**

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Wednesday, 27 <sup>th</sup> February	School nurse in to weigh and measure Reception and Year 6 children
Thursday, 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Class 1 Forest School morning at Silverton
Thursday, 28 <sup>th</sup> February, 4pm	Tag Rugby 6 Nations festival, Crediton Rugby Club
Friday, 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Sports session at QE for some Year 5/6 children
Friday, 8 <sup>th</sup> March	Class 1 multi-sports session at QE
Thursday, 14 <sup>th</sup> March, 9.10am, 2.45pm	School Review sessions for parents
Thursday, 14 <sup>th</sup> March, 4pm	Tag Rugby 6 Nations festival, Crediton Rugby Club
Monday, 18 <sup>th</sup> to Friday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Bikeability training for Year 5
Tuesday, 19 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday, 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Parent Teacher meetings
Wednesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> March 3pm	Class 2 open afternoon
Thursday, 28 <sup>th</sup> March 3pm	Class 3 open afternoon
Tuesday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Class 3 Paddleboat performance at Exeter Phoenix
Wednesday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> April, evening	Class 3 music event at The Great Hall, Exeter University
Friday, 5 <sup>th</sup> April	Last day of spring term
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*

### **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 for a fun and restful half term. We will see you back here on Tuesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February.

*Sarah Parkes*

Head of School

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