



# Thorverton C of E Primary School

## Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 860374

22<sup>nd</sup> June 2018

Dear Parents,

### From Mr Jolliffe

On Tuesday this week I attended the annual Safeguarding Conference for Designated Safeguarding Leads in schools across Devon. One of the speakers was Lorin LaFave, who spoke movingly about her son Breck, who was murdered in 2013 aged 14. Breck had got involved in an online gaming community and was groomed by a 19-year-old man who gained his trust and then manipulated him into meeting him in real life and then murdered him. Lorin spoke about the actions she had taken to keep her son safe but how these had ultimately failed to protect him. Co-incidentally, the BBC repeated a programme about Breck, called 'Murder Games: the Life and Death of Breck Bednar', on Tuesday evening at 10.55 on BBC1. It is a very moving and disturbing programme but well worth every parent watching it on i-player so that everyone is aware of just how easily this can happen to a child or young person playing any kind of online game, including Fortnite and Minecraft. If you should ever have any concerns about your child being groomed in this way, please do talk to your child's Head of School or to me or contact CEOPS via the 'report abuse' button on your computer screen or Childline, all of whom will be happy to help. We will be introducing age-appropriate learning for children across the federation on this important issue in the autumn.

### From Mrs Parkes



What a beautiful week we have had. The children have been very sensible with their hats and sun cream; please do remember that they will need hats and sun cream every day as long as the warm, sunny weather continues.



### QE Ambassadors

Two ex-pupils, who are now at QE, Chloe Fice and Scarlett Williamson, visited our Year 6 children this week to tell them all about what it is like at QE. IT was a very informative and rewarding session for everyone and it was great for staff as well as children to see Scarlett and Chloe again. There will be a number of other transition sessions for the Year 6 children in the next few weeks.

### Exe Valley Challenge

This Sunday we have an intrepid group of Year 6 children doing the Exe Valley Challenge. They have to walk 10 miles along the quay in Exeter. We wish them good luck and I am sure they will do well. Hopefully the weather will be kind to them.



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### Football Match Thorverton vs Newton St Cyres

Yesterday we took a mixture of Year 4, 5 and 6 boys to Newton St Cyres and played a 7-aside game in the blistering heat! We went up 1-nil very quickly, but Newton equalised shortly after. With that, Thorverton went up a gear and a flurry of goals followed. The final score was 5-2 to Thorverton. Goals came from Greg, Zach V, Charlie B and Harry W (2). Well done team! Thank you to the parents who transported the children to and from the match.



### Wimbledon Lunch, Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2018

On Tuesday we will be celebrating the tennis championships at Wimbledon with a special lunch cooked by Abby. The main course will be New Balls (meatballs) in a baguette with tomato sauce or McEnroe-ni Cheese with garlic bread or Jacket Potato Grand Slam (with gammon ham and coleslaw) or Boris Becker Triple Decker BLT sandwich. The vegetables will be Mini-green Tennis Ball Peas and Centre Court Carrots or Mixed Doubles Salad. This will all be followed, of course, by strawberries and ice cream.

The normal options for Tuesday (beef burger in a bap or stir fry in a wrap) will be available on Thursday instead of Brunch Plait and vegetable fajitas.

### Top Table



This week Miss Holmes enjoyed her lunch at Top Table in the company of Sufia, Emily, Brent, William F, Olly C and Ben.

### 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 Meal Price from September 2018

The price of a school lunch will be going up in September from £2.40 per meal to £2.50 per meal. The weekly price will then be £12.50.

### Class Photos

The class photos and Year 6 group photo have arrived from Tempest and are available to view in the office windows (on the outside!). The children have received order forms. Please return these by next Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> July, so that prints will be back for you before the end of term.

### Guitar Assembly, Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> July, 9.10am



The children who have been learning the guitar with Ginnie Cutler will be giving a short performance on Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> July at 9.10am. Parents and families of the players are very welcome to come along and enjoy the concert.

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## **Drumming Assembly, Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> July, 3pm**

There will be a drumming performance by the drumming pupils on Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> July at 3pm. Parents and families of those children involved are warmly invited to come along to enjoy the playing.



## **Parent Questionnaire**

Thank you to those of you who completed the Parent Questionnaire this year. The EVF Governors, Executive Head and all four Heads of School have now reviewed your responses in detail and are in the process of incorporating your comments and feedback into the Federation Development Plan (FDP) for the next school year (2018/2019).

Happily most parents said that their child is happy and feels safe at school and that they are well taught and well looked after. Most parents also thought that their child is encouraged to do their best at school and to develop a love of learning. Most also agree that behaviour is generally good in their child's school and that their school is well managed. Most parents would recommend their child's school to another parent. A large majority of parents said that their child's school responds to concerns and gives feedback and that they receive valuable information on their child's progress. There were many positive comments from parents. From across the Federation parents commented on the kind, caring and supportive attitude of staff as real strengths. These 'great relationships between staff make for a relaxed and happy environment'. In addition, parents have recognised that teachers are 'very good at taking on board feedback' and are 'inclusive and responsive to the individual child's needs'.

The Parent Questionnaire also asked how parents thought we could do better in our schools. There were a number of suggestions for improvements, ranging from an increase in the variety and amount of PE (to include inter-school sporting events) and outdoor education opportunities (e.g. forest school) to improvements in communication. Some parents would like more notice of school events and to receive more regular feedback on their child's progress. Some parents would like the opportunity to speak with teachers without their child being present at parents' evening. While most parents were positive about the changes made this year to home learning (the introduction of 'pick and mix' style homework), a very small minority did not feel that their child received appropriate homework for their age. A few parents are still unsure of who the EVF Governors are or how to get in touch, but many were positive about the introduction of 'Governor News' in the weekly newsletters and thought communication with governors had improved.

The Governors and Heads have carefully considered all of these comments and will be working hard to address any concerns during the coming months as we move into the new school year. Thank you once again for all of your feedback – we read and take note of every single comment and appreciate the time and thought which goes into your responses.

## **Governor News**

### **Finance Governor**

An exciting opportunity has arisen. The Exe Valley Federation Governing Board has a vacancy for a Finance Governor on their Resources Committee. If you or someone you know is interested and would like to find out more, please contact the Chair of Governors, Jackie Enright, at [jenright@exevalleyfederation.org](mailto:jenright@exevalleyfederation.org). As Governors, we aim to make a difference to every child.

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### **PTFA Summer Fair, Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> July 2018, 3.30 to 6pm**



Everyone is welcome at the school Summer Fair on Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> July from 3.30 to 6pm. We will have lots of lovely stalls including cakes, skittles, toys and books, face painting, plants, refreshments and more. If you can help out at the fair please speak to Georgia or a member of the PTFA. We are also looking for donations of cakes, toys and books and raffle prizes... If you or someone you know would like a stall to sell your wares (£5 donation) please get in touch!

### **Rewe Village Fete, Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> June 2018, 12 midday to 4pm**

A Viking Re-enactment Society will be giving a display of Viking life and battle tactics at Rewe Village Fete on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> June. Go along and have fun finding out more about the Vikings!

## *Collective Worship Dates*

Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2pm

Leavers' Service in the Church

## *Diary Dates*

Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> July

Class 1 Trip to Killerton

Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> July

Year 5 Harry Potter day at QE

Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> July, 3pm

Class 1 open afternoon and assembly

Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> July, 3.30 – 6pm

PTFA summer fair

Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> July

Transition Day

Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> July, 9.10am

Guitar performance

**Please note the change of dates for the Key Stage 2 production and Sports Day**

**Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> July, 2pm**

**Key Stage 2 production**

**Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> July, 6.30pm**

**Key Stage 2 production**

**Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> July, 1.30pm**

**Sports Day**

**Friday, 20<sup>th</sup> July, 1.30pm**

**Reserve Sports Day**

Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> July, 3pm

Drumming performance

Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup> July

Whole school trip

Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> July, 4.30 – 6pm

PTFA end-of-term barbecue on the school field

## *Term Dates*

### **Summer term 2018**

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)

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

**Summer term 2019**

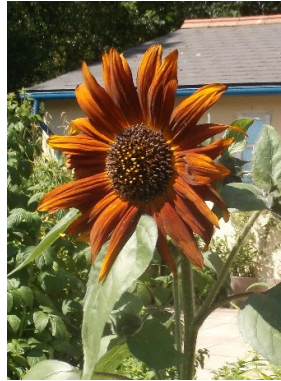
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April to Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May (SATS 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> May)

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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