



Thorverton C of E Primary School

Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 860374

29th September 2017

Dear Parents,

From Mr Jolliffe

This week has seen the start of the Harvest Festivals in the Exe Valley. Newton St Cyres held their Harvest Festival yesterday with all the children taking part and showing their parents all the work that they have been doing. I am looking forward to the other three schools' Harvest Festivals over the coming weeks and sharing these important school and community events with you.

Every five years Church of England Primary Schools are visited by an inspector to evaluate the way that they demonstrate their Christian ethos and values. On Thursday this week, Rev David Hatrey spent the day with us at Thorverton, talking to children, parents and governors about their experiences of the school. He also spent time in classrooms and on the playground as well as having lunch with the children. It was a real pleasure to see the children talking so confidently to him and to hear about their views of the school and its ethos and values. Many thanks to Mrs Parkes and all the staff and children there for all their hard work in preparing for the inspection and all the energy that went into making the day a success. The report will be published in a couple of weeks and will be available on the school website. A similar inspection is due to take place at Brampford Speke in the spring.

From Mrs Parkes

SIAMS Inspection

Yesterday we welcomed Rev David Hatrey into the school. He thoroughly enjoyed his day with us. He spoke to many children on subjects such as the impact of collective worship, their RE lessons, reflections and relationships and, lastly, what they really enjoy about our school. We were all really proud of the children. They spoke with such passion about their school and were a real credit to Thorverton Primary School. Rev Hatrey said that he wished all schools were like Thorverton! I'd like to thank all the staff, parents and children who were involved in making Rev Hatrey's day so successful.

Our School Council

Last week the children voted in new members of the school council: Archie and Eliza K, Henry S, Isla, Neve and Sophie. The School Council has had its first meeting and have many great ideas to improve the school, including forming a band and a reading group, as well as plans for different fund-raising activities.



*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

Harvest Festival, Tuesday, 10th October, 2pm in the Church



We will be celebrating our Harvest Festival in the Church on the afternoon of Tuesday, 10th October. Everybody is welcome to come along. We will be collecting donations for CHAT, the Mid Devon Churches Housing Action Team. The charity would especially like donations of instant mash, instant custard (the just add water kind), long-life milk, tins of veg (peas, carrots, potatoes), tins of meat, (stews and minced beef). We would also like some fresh produce for a display in the church for the Harvest Festival. We will then sell this and the proceeds will go to CHAT

School Photographer in School, Tuesday, 3rd October from 8.45am

On Tuesday morning the Tempest photographer will be in school to take portrait photos of the children. If you would like family groups including younger siblings please see the photographer before school.

Top Table

This week Miss Holmes enjoyed her lunch at Top Table in the company of Ettie, Sophie, Riley, Zac M, Henry S and Zac V.



Special Paddington Lunch, Thursday, 5th October 2017

Abby will be cooking a special Paddington Bear lunch on Thursday. There will be “Paddington Bears” (chicken in a bear shape) or “Wellington Bake” (vegetarian sausage roll) or “filled battered suitcase” (jacket potato with triple cheese) served with vegetables followed by “Marmalade Sandwiches” (sponge cake with a jam filling).

Head Lice, Worms and Chicken Pox



There are a few children with **head lice**. Please check your children’s hair over the weekend and treat against head lice if necessary before sending the children back to school on Monday. Please make sure all long hair is tied back at school.

A parent has also reported a case of **worms**. Threadworms (pinworms) are tiny worms in your poo. They’re common in children and spread easily. If you think your child might have threadworms, there are over-the-counter medicines available at the chemists’. There is more information on the NHS website: https://beta.nhs.uk/conditions/threadworms/?WT.mc_id=organic_split.

Pre-school have let us know that they have a case of **chicken pox** in a pre-school child.

SOE3 and SOE3A Forms

There are a few SOE3 forms still outstanding. Please return the completed SOE3 forms to the office as soon as possible; if you didn’t receive one or have mislaid the original, please come to the office for another one. We need these forms back, as they are your permission to let your child go on short visits around the village etc during the school year. The form also lets us know if you are happy for photographs to be taken of your children and any medical and/or dietary needs they might have.

School Improvement Committee

Governors came together on Tuesday evening for the first meeting of the School Improvement Committee. The group used to be called “Teaching and Learning”, and the name change reflects the wide remit of the committee, which has an important role in monitoring safeguarding procedures in the school, as well as curriculum, pupil attainment, inclusion and SEND (special educational needs).

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With a new chair, Elly Babbedge, and governors from Brampford Speke new to the Federation, the first item of business was to make sure that all governors are aware of their roles and responsibilities. Each governor has a particular focus (such as monitoring delivery of the curriculum) and reports back to the board on a regular basis. This ensures that all aspects of school life are scrutinised thoroughly, whilst keeping the workload manageable for individual governors.

The main item on the agenda was looking at emerging data on pupil progress in the four schools. The staff team have been working on producing Venn diagrams to give an immediate visual impression of individual attainment in reading, writing and maths within their classes (all names are removed when governors look at data). This helps teachers to identify pupils who might need some additional help in particular areas of the curriculum, and enabled governors to ask questions to assure ourselves that measures are in place to help all children to reach their full potential.

Governors will be visiting the four schools during the week of 6 November to observe activities and talk to children and staff, with a particular emphasis on safeguarding.

PTFA Annual General Meeting, Thursday 19th October, 8pm, Exeter Inn, Thorverton

Do come along to the AGM and join the PTFA in planning some jolly fundraising for the year ahead. We would especially like to welcome any new parents to the school – we hope to see you there! There will be wine and nibbles on offer.

Christmas Coach Trip to Bath, 25th November 2017

This trip is being organised by the Pre-school to raise funds. The coach will leave Thorverton at 8.30am and return by 7pm and will cost £15 for an adult and £10 for a child. Please contact Fiona to book tickets on 01392 861738 or milestogo@btinternet.com.

Open day at the Exeter Snow Sports Centre, 1st October from 10am

The above event will be open to anyone who would like to “have a go” at skiing at a cost of £3 per person for a 30-minute session (Arms and legs must be covered and you should bring suitable gloves).

Collective Worship Dates

Tuesday, 10 th October, 2pm	Harvest Festival in church
Friday, 24 th November, 3pm	Class 2 assembly
Tuesday, 12 th December, 2pm	Nativity and Carol service in church

Diary Dates

Tuesday, 3 rd October	Tempest photographer in school
Wednesday, 11 th and Tuesday, 17 th October	Parent-child-teacher interviews
Thursday, 19 th October, 3pm	Class 3 open afternoon

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Mon, 23rd Oct – Weds, 1st Nov
Tuesday, 28th November, 3pm
Wednesday, 29th November, 3pm
Friday, 15th December

Half-term holiday (Mon & Tues, 30th & 31st Oct are non-pupil days)
Drumming concert (Tony Price's drum pupils)
Guitar concert (Mrs Cutler's guitar pupils)
Last day of autumn term

With best wishes,

Sarah Parkes

Head of School

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