



Thorverton C of E Primary School

Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 860374

13th October 2017

Dear Parents,

From Mr Jolliffe

Yesterday we were able to appoint a new Head of School for Brampford Speke. We had a very strong field of candidates and the panel, which included governors and staff from the school, were unanimous in their decision. As the person we have appointed has not yet been able to tell his or her current school about the move, I will be writing to Brampford Speke parents as soon as possible to let them know who it will be and telling everyone else in next week's newsletter.

As well as a very positive day yesterday at Brampford Speke, there has been a lot of other great work being done at the other schools, with harvest festival being celebrated at both Cheriton Fitzpaine and Thorverton. It was lovely to see all the work that the children had been doing and to hear them singing new songs and the traditional harvest songs as well. At Newton St Cyres the new building is now forging ahead with much of the groundwork being completed, including the car park and games area. The steel frame is due on site in the next few weeks and, as soon as that is in place, we will be able to take children down to see their new school.

From Mrs Parkes

Harvest Festival

Our Harvest service in the church this week was very special. Class 1 shared their thoughts and ideas of harvest, Class 2 explained what harvest meant to each of them and Class 3's song was very beautifully sung, making us really think about what we can do for others less fortunate than ourselves. Thank you so much for all the donations, you have been very generous. These will be taken to CHAT's office in Crediton where the charity will distribute the food to the homeless. This week we have been selling the fresh produce that you brought in.

Harvest Lunch

On Wednesday the children welcomed some guests from the village into the school to share our harvest lunch. They were all very appreciative of the meal and enjoyed the company of the



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children. Thank you, Abby, Karen, Mandy and Danielle for cooking and managing such a wonderful spread.

Child-Parent-Teacher Interviews, Tuesday, 17th October 2017

If you haven't yet signed up to see your child's teacher, there are spaces left on Tuesday. Please do sign up on the lists on the classroom doors as soon as possible. If you are unable to make either of these dates, please see your child's teacher to arrange another time.

Top Table

This week George S, Harry L, Eliza K, Isla, Olly C and Aaron enjoyed their lunch at Top Table with Mrs Parkes.



Class 3 Open Afternoon, Friday, 20th October 2017, 2.40pm

Parents of children in Class 3 are welcome to come along to the open afternoon next Friday to find out in more depth what the class is learning at the moment.

Message from the Governors

The full governing body met at Newton St Cyres on Tuesday, 10th October 2017.

Each term, Heads of School submit their HOS reports. Within these reports, the heads comment on the current attainment and progress of children in each year group. This data is sent to governors, who respond with questions, which are discussed and answered during the meeting. Since the addition of a fourth school to the federation, it has been decided that different governors will focus on a different school each time. The majority of discussion with the Cheriton Fitzpaine subgroup was around challenging targets and predictions. Mrs Harris spoke positively about the additional support which has been put into place to support teachers and teaching assistants delivering phonic sessions to groups of children from Reception to Year 3 working at similar abilities. There was also discussion about the need to have high expectations for more able mathematicians across the school and the ways in which challenge was provided for those pupils. The discussion with the NSC subgroup focused on behaviour in school, and what is being done to develop appropriate behaviour both within classrooms and at playtimes. There was also further analysis carried out on the data, specifically focusing on Year 2 and Year 5, where current attainment is not as secure as other year groups. Mrs Parkes led the discussion for both Brampford Speke and Thorverton, where much of the discussion was around the recent SIAMS inspection, and looking ahead at the future inspection at Brampford Speke. Mrs Parkes was optimistic about the SIAMS inspection, which took place at Thorverton this half term. While she was not able to report any findings as the report has not yet been finalised, she spoke positively of the way the children spoke to the inspector, particularly when sharing their spirituality and visions and values of being a Christian in school. This experience will obviously help support Brampford Speke in their SIAMS investigation, which is due in the spring term. A learning walk and planning meeting have been arranged to assist staff in preparing for their inspection. Priorities for the ICT budget were discussed, with money being spent initially on the server at Thorverton, and the replacement of an interactive whiteboard at Cheriton Fitzpaine.

Applications for Secondary School

Just a reminder to parents with children in Year 6, the closing date for applying for a place at secondary school is 31st October 2017. You must apply using the online system www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline or by contacting My Devon customer service centre on 0345 1551019 to request an application form.

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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.

Pre-school News

Pre-school will be saying good-bye to Becci on Friday, 20th October. Becci has worked at Pre-school for many years and is now moving on. There will be a tea party in the pre-school at 2.30pm and all parents from pre-school and school are warmly invited to come along. Pippa is also organising a collection for a leaving gift, so if you would like to contribute to this, please give your donation to Pippa in pre-school by Wednesday.

Pre-school Cake Stall, Friday, 20th October, from 3pm

Pre-school will be running a cake stall next Friday after school. Please do support them and buy a cake.

Harvest Festival Service, Thorverton Parish Church, Sunday, 15th October 2017

Everybody is welcome to come to the parish church's Harvest Festival. Refreshments and bacon rolls will be served from 9.30am and the service will start at 10am. The church will be collecting donations for CHAT.

Family Hallowe'en Party, Thorverton Memorial Hall, Saturday, 28th October, 6pm

Following on the success of last year's Hallowe'en Party, the Memorial Hall Committee have organised another family party for this year. There will be fun and games for the children from 6pm and a disco, too. Fancy dress is optional – there are prizes! There will be Frankenstein dogs and fried fingers (hot dogs and fries) and the main bar and a children's bar will be open. The evening will cost £3 for adults and £2 for children.

"Electric Spank" at Cheriton Fitzpaine, Saturday, 18th November, 8pm

This local band will be playing tasty rhythms and jazzy vibes in Cheriton Fitzpaine School Hall on 18th November in aid of Cheriton Fitzpaine PTA. This event is for adults only and there will be a licensed bar. Tickets will cost £9 and will be available shortly from the school, from Becky on 01363 866279 and at <https://www.wegotickets.com/event/418166>.

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.

Collective Worship Dates

Tuesday, 10 th October, 2.30pm	Harvest Festival in church
Friday, 24 th November, 3pm	Class 2 assembly
Tuesday, 12 th December, 2pm	Nativity and Carol service in church

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Diary Dates

Tuesday, 17 th October	Parent-child-teacher interviews
Thursday, 19 th October, 3pm	Class 3 trip to Exeter
Friday, 20 th October, 2.40pm	Class 3 open afternoon
Mon, 23 rd Oct – Weds, 1 st Nov	Half-term holiday (Mon & Tues, 30 th & 31 st Oct are non-pupil days)
Monday, 13 th November, 11am	Remembrance Day at war memorial
Tuesday, 28 th November, 3pm	Drumming concert (Tony Price's drum pupils)
Wednesday, 29 th November, 3pm	Guitar concert (Mrs Cutler's guitar pupils)
Friday, 15 th December	Last day of autumn term

With best wishes,

Sarah Parkes

Head of School

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