



Thorverton C of E Primary School

Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 860374

10th November 2017

Dear Parents,

From Mr Jolliffe

The Governors' Learning Walks that took place this week were a real credit to the children and staff of all the schools. The governors were really impressed with the confidence that the children showed in answering their questions and their understanding of how they are kept safe in school. I am very grateful to the governors, staff and children who prepared for the Learning Walks and for the time governors spent writing up their reports. The work of schools in keeping children safe is often not seen but is very much an everyday part of our work. We have worked hard to improve the systems in schools that help keep children safe from harm and also increasing staff awareness of all sorts of potential causes of harm and the learning walks help us to see what has been achieved and what still needs to be done. Governors will be writing a section for each school's newsletter either today or in the next few weeks to let parents know what they found on their visits.

From the Governors

On Wednesday a group of governors from the Exe Valley Federation came into school to talk to children and staff about teaching and learning in relation to safeguarding (with a particular emphasis on online safety). The governors were accompanied by Mrs Parkes during their visit and were able to speak to members of staff and children and to observe a lesson being taught on the subject. The governors were very impressed by the knowledge many of the children demonstrated about how to stay safe online, and by their confidence in discussing this issue in class with their teachers and with the governors. The governors were also impressed by the level of understanding that members of staff showed in relation to a wide range of safeguarding issues (including how to encourage children and parents to use the internet safely) and by their commitment to the safety of children around the school and its grounds. We would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that there are a number of very useful online resources/websites which give tips and advice on how to keep your children safe online.

From Mrs Parkes

IT Work at School

As you may be aware, some of our IT equipment is rather outdated. Next week, all this will change! A specialist company, Softegg, are installing a new server and will be updating all our computers and laptops.

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Outdoor Musical Tubes



We have now installed the last piece of outdoor equipment purchased with the Tesco grant which we won last year. It sounds lovely and the children are all eager to have a go. I would just like to thank Leslie Hampson for installing it so quickly for us.

Remembrance Day



We shall be holding a short Remembrance service at the Church on **Monday, 13th November**. In the morning, before our time at the war memorial, Alex Fice will spend time in each classroom talking to the children about the war and Thorverton's history. We will also be sharing a war-time lunch with Alex and some local residents with memories of life at that time to share with the children. Look out for the special Remembrance Day menu on the whiteboard. Abby will be serving Lancashire hotpot or potato Jane followed by ginger parkin cake with custard.



Next **Thursday, 16th November** we will be holding our Children in Need day. We would like the children to dress up in something bright and preferably spotty and donate £1 for this important charity event. The School Council will also be selling cakes in aid of Children in Need at the end of the day. So please bake some cakes to bring in to sell! Thank you for your support.



Lunch Menu Next Week



On three days next week the lunch menu will be different. On Monday, as mentioned above, Abby will be cooking a special war-time lunch for Remembrance Day; on Tuesday, there will be a special promotion "Devon lunch" and on Thursday, Abby will be making a Pudsey Bear Children in Need "Teddy Bears' Picnic". Look out for the posters in school and on the whiteboard in the playground for the details.

Multi-sports After-school Club

The **Key Stage 1 multi-sports club will finish every week at 4.30pm** and not 4.45pm. Please would you be at school promptly to collect your children. I am sorry for any confusion caused by details in the letter last week.

Flu Vaccinations for Children in Reception to Year 4, Wednesday, 29th November 2017

The NHS team will be in school on 29th November to administer the nasal flu vaccination for children in Reception, Years 1, 2, 3 and 4. If you returned your consent form then your child will be on the list to receive this at school.

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Head Lice



Unfortunately, head lice have been spotted again. Please check your child's hair over the weekend and if necessary treat before sending your child back to school on Monday. Please make sure all long hair is tied back. This does make it more difficult for the head lice to spread.

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.

PTFA Events

Film Night, Friday, 24th November 2017

Back by popular demand! We will be holding another film night with hot dogs and popcorn on Friday, 24th November. Please sign up in the school office. Tickets are £5 per child. Children from Class 1 will need to have a parent with them to join in the fun!



Non-uniform Day, Friday, 1st December 2017

Wear non-uniform to school on Friday, 1st December in exchange for some chocolate for the tombola at the Christmas Fair.

Christmas Fair, Friday, 8th December 2017, 2.30pm - 4.30pm



A great start to the festive season! Come and join the fun, lots of stalls - crafts, chocolate tombola, toys and books, refreshments, sweets, cakes and several very imaginative games run by the children! If you are interested in having your own stall please get in touch with Georgia, Rachel or Elaine. We are also looking for donations of second-hand toys and books, cakes and raffle prizes. Please bring your donations into the office.

School Admission Arrangements

The public consultation for school admission arrangements and education travel arrangements for 2019/20 is open from now until 5th January 2018. You are invited to consider the arrangements proposed by Devon County Council and by the academy, voluntary aided, foundation and free schools in Devon which are their own admission authorities. To view the proposals, please visit www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements or call My Devon on 0345 155 1019 for a paper version.

Thank You from Becci Mason at Pre-school

Becci left Pre-school at half term after many years working there. She would like to say a huge thank you to everybody who came to wish her well in her future and who had a part in her lovely leaving gifts. She was given a beautiful cast iron candle stick made by local artist Georgina Richards and some vouchers. Becci has thoroughly enjoyed working with all your children over the years.

“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.

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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.

Opening of Hulk Lane Bridleway, Saturday, 25th November 2017, 2.30pm

Everybody is invited to attend the official opening of the Hulk Lane Bridleway. Meet outside Berry Dairy at 2.30pm and join the community walk to Hulk Lane for the opening ceremony with Councillor Margaret Squires. The return walk will take in refreshments at the Exeter Inn skittle alley.

Thorverton Church Christmas Choir 🎵

This year's village carol service is on Sunday, 17th December at 5.00pm, a lovely occasion for all age groups from Thorverton and beyond. If you and/or your children/family/friends would like to sing in the choir on that occasion, then we'd welcome you at our four Thursday evening practices beginning on Thursday, 23rd November. All are welcome from aged 8 to 108! Practices are 7.45 to 9.00pm in Thorverton Church on: 23rd and 30th November, 7th, 14th and 17th December (3.45pm for the last one). Please contact Heather Kershaw for more information: 01392 860419 or heather@kershaw25.eclipse.co.uk.

Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony, Thorverton Memorial Hall, Saturday, 2nd December, 5.30pm

Everyone is very welcome to come along to see Father Christmas light the Memorial Hall's Christmas tree. There will be a children's disco afterwards.

Collective Worship Dates

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

Diary Dates

Monday, 13 th November, 11am	Remembrance Day at war memorial
Tuesday, 14 th November	Class 2 trip to the cinema
Wednesday, 15 th November	Class 1 trip to the cinema
Thursday, 16 th November	Children in Need – wear spots for £1 donation
Friday, 17 th November	Class 3 trip to the cinema and Exeter
Friday, 24 th November	PTFA film night
Tuesday, 28 th November, 3pm	Drumming concert (Tony Price's drum pupils)
Wednesday, 29 th November	Flu vaccinations for Reception, Years 1, 2, 3 and 4
Wednesday, 29 th November	Crediton area swimming gala
Wednesday, 29 th November, 3pm	Guitar concert (Mrs Cutler's guitar pupils)

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Friday, 1 st December	PTFA Non-uniform day
Wednesday, 6 th December	Christmas lunch
Friday, 8 th December	PTFA Christmas Fair
Friday, 15 th December	Last day of autumn term

With best wishes,

Sarah Parkes

Head of School

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