



# Thorverton C of E Primary School

## Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 86

23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018

Dear Parents,

### From Mr Jolliffe

On Wednesday this week I had the opportunity to spend the day showing a colleague around the Federation schools as part of his Aspiring Senior Leaders Course, run by the Dartmoor Teaching School Alliance. The Federation is a member of the DTSA and we are increasingly using the training and professional development opportunities that the teaching school offers. This training includes governors as well as teachers and support staff and also enables us to give back to the profession through days such as last Wednesday. It was a real pleasure to go into every class in the Federation and to see the work that was going on, so thank you to all the children and staff for their enthusiasm and welcome.

### From Mrs Parkes

We have such a busy time coming up over the next couple of weeks, which is really fantastic. There are so many events and activities, the first of which is ...

### World Book Day



Next week we will be celebrating World Book Day on Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> February. This is because Class 2 will be out on a trip on 1<sup>st</sup> March. This year we are planning a number of activities for the children in class, and they will also have time to listen to many of the staff sharing an extract from a book that they really enjoy. As always, children are encouraged to dress up if they want to. They can come dressed as a fictional character from a book and if possible bring the book in to share with their friends. It is always a fun day that raises the profile of the joy of books and reading. Look out for a special World Book Day book token which every child will be given to take home on Wednesday.

### Bikeability, Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> February to Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2018

I'd just like to remind those of you in Year 5 who are taking part in the Bikeability cycle training next week that you must have your bicycle (in good working order!) and helmet in school on Monday morning please. Also gloves and a warm coat for the cold weather.



### Class 2 Trip to Exeter, Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> March and Class 3 Trip to Morwhellam Quay, Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> March

Classes 2 and 3 will be starting their new topics with a trip. Class 2 will be going to Exeter to find out more about the Romans next Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> March, and Class 3 will be finding out about the Victorians at Morwhellam Quay on Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> March. You should have received a letter with all the details and a permission slip to

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return to the office as soon as possible. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the PTFA for subsidising both these trips to make the costs much more affordable for parents.

### **'Pop of Colour' at the Great Hall, Exeter University, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2018**

The children in Years 5 and 6 will be performing at the Great Hall on Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> March. This promises to be a fantastic concert; I hope you all have your tickets for the evening! These are available at <https://exeternorthcott.co.uk/calendar/pop-of-colour/> or direct from the Northcott Theatre box office. The children have been asked to wear a **yellow T-shirt, black trousers or leggings and black shoes** for this performance. Please let me know if you are having trouble organising this. A letter giving more information about arrangements for the day went out earlier this week. Please complete the reply slip and return to us in the office by next Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March.

### **Visit by Paralympian David Hill and Sponsorship**

We had great fun today completing our PE workshop with David Hill. His story is an inspiring one and one that we can all learn from. I know that everyone enjoyed themselves today doing the various exercises and challenges David set them. If you have any sponsor money please could we have the form and any money back in school by Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> March? Thank you for supporting the school in this venture.

### **Class 2's Roman Day**

On Thursday, Class 2 were invaded by Roman soldiers trying their luck at joining a Roman Legion. One of Emperor Claudius' cheeky helpers aided the class to make sure they were all tall enough to join (1.7m!) and the children thought carefully about what qualities they possess that would be useful to a soldier. They made their own shields and helmets and used them to practise formation drills and invasion games. Miss Holmes was particularly impressed with their team work skills throughout the day. Thank you so much for the last minute donations of costumes and boxes.



### **Federation Value: Friendship**



Our value for the second half of the spring term is friendship. We will be thinking about the characteristics of good friends and the sorts of actions that show



true friendship. We will be focusing on ways that we can build each other up rather than being negative or

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critical. As well as learning about stories from the Bible, we will be looking at the Hindu practice of making friendship bracelets at Raksha Bandham and the artwork of He Qi. Towards the end of term, we will be preparing for Easter by looking at the role of Jesus' friends in the Easter story and telling the story of the Three Trees in our Federation assembly at the end of term.

Please find attached to this newsletter a sheet of ideas for you to use at home to explore 'friendship' with your children together.

### **Residential Visits, Years 3 to 6**

Some of you have not yet returned your slips to let us know whether your child will be going on the residential trips or not. We now need to confirm numbers with the venues, so if you have not returned your reply slip please do so as soon as possible. If you don't have one, please ask for another copy in the office.

### **Multi-sports Club**

There will be no multi-sports club after school on Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> February.

### **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.

### **Increase in Cases of Scarlet Fever**

There has been a recent national increase in notifications of scarlet fever to Public Health England, above seasonal expected levels. Scarlet fever is a common childhood infection caused by *Streptococcus pyogenes*, or group A streptococcus (GAS). The early symptoms of scarlet fever include sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. After 12 to 48 hours the characteristic red, pinhead rash develops, typically first appearing on the chest and stomach, then rapidly spreading to other parts of the body, and giving the skin a sandpaper-like texture. The scarlet rash may be harder to spot on the skin of some Black and Asian people, although the 'sandpaper' feel should be present. Patients typically have flushed cheeks and pallor around the mouth. This may be accompanied by a 'strawberry tongue'. As the child improves peeling of the skin can occur. Children and adults with suspected scarlet fever should be excluded from school or work for 24 hours after the commencement of appropriate antibiotic treatment. Good hygiene practice such as hand washing remains the most important step in preventing and controlling spread of infection. Please let your child's school know as soon as the infection is confirmed so that we can take further action if necessary.

### **Safeguarding Training**

We take our responsibilities for keeping children safe at school and beyond very seriously and offer regular training sessions for parents and volunteers to attend. If you volunteer to work with children on a regular basis or could be on your own with school children at any time, then you need to have completed this training. The next courses will be held on Tuesday, 20<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7.30pm at Thorverton School. Please let your child's school office know if you are intending to come to this session and if you have said you are coming please make every effort to come on the night.

### **Parking**

The Thorverton Arms have asked if **next Friday afternoon, 2<sup>nd</sup> March**, parents would please leave the parking areas outside the church and the pub free of cars as there will be a funeral followed by a wake at the pub and many mourners are expected. Please use the car park at the top of Bullen Street and at the Memorial Hall.



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## School Office Closed Monday Afternoon, 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Just to let you know that Vanessa and Katharine will be out at a meeting from 12.30pm on Monday, so there will be nobody in the office.

## *Collective Worship Dates*

Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> March, 9.30am      Easter service in the church

## *Diary Dates*

Monday, 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb – Thursday, 1 <sup>st</sup> Mar	Bikeability cycle training for Year 5
Thursday, 1 <sup>st</sup> March	Class 2 trip to Exeter
Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	6 Nations tag rugby tournament
Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Exmoor Challenge practice walk
Monday, 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Class 3 trip to Morwhellam Quay
Wednesday, 7 <sup>th</sup> March	'Pop of Colour', Class 3 in Concert at the Great Hall, Exeter
Friday, 16 <sup>th</sup> March, 2.30pm	Class 2 open afternoon and celebration assembly
Tuesday, 27 <sup>th</sup> March, 3pm	Drumming assembly
Thursday, 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Last day of spring term
Wednesday, 18 <sup>th</sup> – Friday, 20 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 5 residential to Barton Hall
Monday, 30 <sup>th</sup> April – Tuesday, 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Year 3 residential to Escot
Saturday, 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Exmoor Challenge (for Year 6)
Wednesday, 6 <sup>th</sup> – Friday, 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 residential to New Barn, Dorchester
Tuesday, 11 <sup>th</sup> – Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 residential to Grenville House, Brixham

With best wishes,

*Sarah Parkes*

Head of School

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