



# Thorverton C of E Primary School

## Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 860374

30<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Dear Parents,

### From Mr Jolliffe

The governors of the Exe Valley Federation and Brampford Speke School are meeting on Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> July to make a decision about re-forming the Federation to include Brampford Speke. There has been a lot of feedback from the consultation meetings which is on our website. The Chairs of Governors of both the Exe Valley Federation and Brampford Speke will write to parents to let them know the outcome of the meeting. The same letter has to be sent to all parents but as it affects Brampford Speke more than the existing EVF schools, it is focused on the changes that will take place at Brampford Speke next year. If you have any questions or concerns about this proposal please do let me know via the school office.

### From Mrs Parkes

#### Gardening Club

As you may have noticed, gardening club have been beavering away and the garden paths, borders and vegetable plots are looking great. We are also clearing paths in the forest and keeping the flower boxes outside the school watered and healthy. Thank you to Alex and Tom for collecting and delivering the bark chippings for the paths and to Russell at the Farm Shop for providing the bark.



### Science Week

This week our theme has been 'Supersized' Science with a focus on forces. Class 1 have looked at pushes and pulls in Forest School by experiencing log rolling up and down a hill with different sized logs. They have also



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made skeletons and produced bubbles and bubble paintings. Class 2 have focused on their Kingfisher Award project. They have also found time to investigate levers, pulleys and motors, devising a machine to dip a biscuit into a pot of tea! Class 3 have been looking at flight, linked to the design of aeroplanes and their World War 2 topic, and making bombs with bicarbonate of soda. We have finished our Science Week today with a visit from Ruth from Sciencedipity who has worked with each class. She made giant bubbles and butterflies with Class 1, conducted a rocket workshop with Class 2 and created robot bugs with Class 3. Thank you to the PTFA for funding these workshops. Altogether, it has been an exciting week with so much science learning going on.

### Forest School

Class 1 had a lovely time with Sara Burnand in the forest on Monday. As well as doing their experiments with logs, the children made elderflower fritters, created massive model trees from objects they found around them and, of course, cooked and ate the compulsory smorg.



### PTFA Summer Fair



What a fantastic afternoon we had last Friday. The sun was out, the bouncy castle was up and the food was cooking. All we needed was people ... So thank you so much to so many of you who came along and to the PTFA for organising it all. On behalf of the PTFA, thank you to everyone who donated, helped out and joined us. The PTFA raised a brilliant £480. I would also like to thank Mr Martin and his class for creating some excellent stalls, which were a lot of fun. The photo provided by Georgia shows me beating Mr Martin's top score to win the chocolates! They were yummy!

Also, a thank you to everyone who had a clear out of their wardrobe in aid of the Bag 2 School collection, this raised us another £68. Thank you also goes to the Berry Dairy who handed out bags on our behalf.

### Tag Rugby Tournament

Yesterday evening our tag team competed at a tournament at Crediton Rugby Club. The children played exceptionally well, working together superbly as a team. They won their league and were also awarded the fair play cup again. We are so proud of the team. They really are a fantastic group of children. Thanks again to Dickie and Jonathan for training the team and Mrs Barron and Miss Finch for organising for them to take part in the tournament.



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## Packed Lunches and Healthy Eating



It has come to my attention that some children are sharing their packed lunches with their friends. Please would you ask your children not to share their lunches with each other, especially as some children do have allergies and food intolerances. On this note, I would also like to ask you to provide healthy packed lunches and snacks for your children. There are too many chocolate bars and crisps creeping into packed lunch boxes; pieces of fruit and cereal bars are so much healthier!

## Top Table

This week Sophie, Emily, Jacob, Aaron, Hannah and Neve enjoyed their lunch at Top Table in the company of Miss Holmes.

## Outstanding Debts

As we are nearing the end of term, on behalf of the Business Manager, I would like to ask you all to pay any outstanding money for residential visits, other trips (Class 3 trip to Fleet Air Arm Museum and Class 1 trip to the beach) and dinner money as soon as possible. There are in particular a few substantial amounts of dinner money owing. Katharine will be sending out letters in the next week or so.

## Head Lice

Parents have reported head lice again. Please check your children's hair over the weekend and, if necessary, treat before sending the children back to school. Please make sure long hair is always tied back for school.

## Class teachers for next term

We have now finalised the teaching arrangements for next year. All the Teaching Assistants at Thorverton will remain with their current classes or children and Mr Martin, Miss Holmes and Mr Biggins will be teaching the same classes as this year. If the proposed addition of Brampford Speke to the Federation goes ahead, Mrs Parkes will be sharing her time between Thorverton and Brampford Speke for the autumn term until a new Head of School is appointed. This means she will not have a teaching commitment at Thorverton next term (this is currently three afternoons a week) so that she can fulfil this role. She will be able to spend time at both schools each day.

## Kingfisher Award Ceremony, Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> July, 4pm

Class 2 will be presenting their FWAG project on 'The Hedgerow' at the Recreation Ground in Newton St Cyres on Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> July after school. The children will be given a picnic outside on the grass after presenting their project to the FWAG judges. Class 2 have been working really hard to learn about so many aspects of what a hedgerow is, what lives there and what you can do with some of its produce. Please come along to the ceremony to see all the hard work the children have put into the project.

## Ofsted inspection at Cheriton Fitzpaine

The Ofsted Report for Cheriton Fitzpaine has now been published and can be viewed on the school website: <http://www.cheriton-fitzpaine-primary.devon.sch.uk/content/cheriton-fitzpaine/news/ofsted-report-13th-june-2017.ashx> or, alternatively, on the Ofsted website. It is in the form of a letter to Mr Jolliffe, which is the way that Section 8 short inspections are reported to schools. You will see that the positive attitude of the children towards their work and their excellent approach to learning is praised by the inspector. The report also identifies all the hard work that has been undertaken by Mrs Harris and the whole staff team in bringing

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about improvement and making sure that it is sustained. The inspector also comments on the work that governors have done to support the school and I would like to echo that; they have been incredibly involved in the school and very effective in what they have done to bring about improvements. There are, of course, ways to improve and the report identifies three aspects of the school's work which are still a 'work in progress'. These are areas of school improvement that we had identified ourselves and will be continuing to work on during the coming year.

### *Collective Worship Dates*

Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> July                      Leavers' service in church

### *Diary Dates*

Wednesday, 5 <sup>th</sup> July, 4pm	Kingfisher Award ceremony, Newton Recreation Ground
Tuesday, 11 <sup>th</sup> July, 1.15pm	Sports Day
Thursday, 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 5 transition event at QE
Monday, 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 trip to Clip 'n' Climb and iBounce; barbecue
Tuesday, 18 <sup>th</sup> July	Whole school trip to Crealy
(Wednesday, 19 <sup>th</sup> July)	(Reserve Sports Day)
Friday, 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Federation Assembly at Newton St Cyres School
Wednesday, 26 <sup>th</sup> July	Last day of summer term
Tuesday, 5 <sup>th</sup> September	First day of autumn term (Monday, 4 <sup>th</sup> September is a non-pupil day)
Mon, 23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct – Weds, 1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Half-term holiday (Mon & Tues, 30 <sup>th</sup> & 31 <sup>st</sup> Oct are non-pupil days)
Friday, 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of autumn term

With best wishes,

*Sarah Parkes*

Head of School

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