



Thorverton C of E Primary School

Newsletter

School Lane, Thorverton, Exeter EX5 5NR

01392 860374

23rd June 2016

Dear Parents,

From Mr Jolliffe

Now that the residential visits are completed for this year we are looking at making bookings for next year. We have asked staff and children for their views and a small group of governors have talked to different groups of children as well. We have also taken careful note of the comments made about residential visits in the Parent Questionnaires and will be putting all this together soon to make sure that we make next year's visits as good as they can be for everyone. I thoroughly enjoyed being with Year 6 at Grenville House recently and seeing what a super group of young people they are! If you have any additional feedback that would help us plan visits for next year, please do let me know by the end of next week, via the school office emails.

From Mrs Parkes

This week has been HOT and busy. The children have really coped well with the heat and have been calm, sensible and kept cool when they can - helped along a little by Mr Biggins and his water pistols. Thank you all of you who have ensured that your child has had a hat and sun cream as the sun is very strong at the moment.

We have had a number of activities for the classes this week Class 3 forest school and class 1 trip to the beach, were both a great experience and the children were a credit to the school once again.

NEXT WEEK. We have a number of other activities happening. On Monday, the children entered for the Exe valley challenge have a practice walk starting at The Quay. On Wednesday, we have the photographer coming to take pictures of the classes and teams, as well as Rev. Katie cross coming in to work with the year 6 children on aspects of transition to secondary school. And finally, on Thursday 29th our Tag rugby team will be competing in a tournament at Sandford School. So, another busy week at Thorverton. On top of all this next week we are having a focus on science. Our theme is going to be supersized science. Each class will be carrying out some amazing investigations linked to forces and on Friday we will be having a workshop run by 'Sciencedipity!' Last but not least Class 1 will be having their class assembly on Friday.

*e-mail: admin@thorverton-ce-primary.devon.sch.uk
website: www.thorverton-ce-primary.devon.sch.uk*

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Class 1 Beach Trip

Class 1 had a wonderful time at Exmouth beach. They enjoyed finding crabs, jellyfish and starfish in the rock pools. Class 1 all worked together to create a giant crab out of seaweed and even remembered to dig up the children who were buried.



Active Kids Vouchers

Please can everyone have a hunt around at home for any Active Kids Vouchers that could be hiding away, and bring them into school next week so we can get them counted and sent off.

Bags for Schools

Thank you to everyone who has donated to the 'Bags for Schools' collection today. It was great to see so much donated we raised £68 for school.



Year 6 Residential

Last weekend Year 6 went to Grenville House. They had great fun experiencing their mainly water based activities at Grenville House but it wasn't easy for them! For most of the weekend they had to endeavour high winds but they really did grit their teeth and made the most of their opportunities. The children particularly loved the coasteering activity!. The children were well organised, polite, supportive and encouraging. They made it a truly pleasurable few days away; real ambassadors for their schools.



Class 3's Forest School

This week, the children of Class 3 had great fun at forest school. They practised their cave painting, den building and foraging skills. They cooked up elderflower fritters and some gooey marshmallows!



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Governors

Claire Theedom, Staff Governor.



The governors met for a special strategic planning meeting last week to review the federation development plan. The Extensive document created by Mr. Jolliffe with input from school staff, governors and parental feedback sets out priorities for the coming academic year, split into 10 key areas.

The governors and staff have been involved in reviewing the document to see which areas have been achieved, which need to be continued and which areas we can add as new objectives for next year. With the completion of the parent questionnaire, we will also feed in any feedback you have given us to create clear development points for next year.

I am pleased to note that as a federation, many of the development areas have been completed and this is reflected in many of the positive comments which have been made on the parent questionnaires. The new document is already in production and will provide the children of the federation with more new and exciting opportunities next year.

Sophie Dunn, Chair of Teaching & Learning Committee.



The governors' Teaching and Learning Committee met on Wednesday and covered a very full agenda! Each governor has responsibility for a particular aspect of school activities – such as Curriculum and Safeguarding – and we reviewed these roles to make sure that we are carrying them out as effectively as possible.

Mr Jolliffe gave us an update on feedback and questions he has had regarding the possible expansion of the Federation to include Brampford Speke School (a summary of these can be seen on the News section of the Federation website). We also discussed responses from the recent Parent Questionnaire – many thanks to all parents who completed it, and we will be feeding back soon to parents about how we will be addressing some of the issues that have been highlighted.

The committee then had the opportunity to find out from Heads of School how staff are approaching curriculum planning for next year – we hope that your children have been enjoying some of the new topics this year, and teachers are working very hard to make sure that the topics really inspire and excite pupils, whilst also covering the essential aspects of the National Curriculum.

Finally, we undertook our regular task of reviewing federation policies and procedures. These can all be found in the Policies section of the website and are very important in underpinning teachers' work in keeping children safe, happy and motivated at school.

If you'd like to find out more about the Governing Board's work, you can find information on all the governors, minutes of past meetings and other useful details on the Governors section of the Federation website.

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Thorverton Fun Day

SATURDAY 8 JULY, 11.00 a.m. - midafternoon. There are lots of things for children (and mums and dads) to do including Wizz Bang, face painting, children's treasure hunt, duck race, other children's entertainment, craft competition, ice cream and burgers and chips. See the Focus for full information.

Crediton Rugby Club Under 9's

Crediton RFC are looking for some coaches to take on the running of the new u9's as of September, if any Teachers or Parents are interested could they please contact Shane Bayley at juniorchairman@creditonrfc.co.uk for more information.

Training is on Friday evenings 18:00 - 19:00 at the club.

Any boys and girls who wish to play are also welcome.

CONSULTATION WITH BRAMPFORD SPEKE SCHOOL

The consultation process for the proposed inclusion of Brampford Speke C of E School into the Exe Valley Federation closes on Monday 3rd July at 3.00pm. The information shared at the parent consultation meetings and responses to the questions asked at the meetings can be found on our website on the main page as a news item. The link to the page

is <http://www.exevalleyfederation.co.uk/> <http://www.exevalleyfederation.co.uk/content/federation/news/consultation-meeting-june-2017.ashx>



Fursdon House & Gardens

Devon Meadows Day

Sunday 18th June 2-5pm

Meet Devon Wildlife Trust staff & learn about our meadow restoration work.

Walks and Gardens FREE

Also House tours and tea room

Fursdon, Cadbury, Exeter, EX5 5JS 01392 860860

www.fursdon.co.uk



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Collective Worship Dates

Friday, 30th June, 3pm Class 1 assembly
Wednesday, 26th July, 2.30pm Leavers' service in the church

Diary Dates

Wednesday, 28th June Tempest photographer to take group photos
Wednesday, 28th June Class 3 open afternoon
Wednesday, 5th July Kingfisher Award
Monday, 11th July Sports Day
Tuesday, 18th July Whole school trip to Crealy
Wednesday, 19th July Reserve Sports Day
Wednesday, 26th July Last day of summer term

With best wishes,

Sarah Parkes

Head of Teaching and Learning

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