



West Exmoor Federation

'Rooted and Growing – Together we Love Learning'

Dear Parents/Carers

08.12.2017

I can't believe that the end of term is nearly upon us. How on earth did that happen? As always, it has been an incredibly busy term and I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of my staff for their hard work since September. I am incredibly proud of how much that we do as a federation to enhance and enrich the curriculum but I know that this puts an additional workload onto all of my staff. However, I know that each and every one of them would not have it any other way as it all of the additional elements of the curriculum that making learning fun, motivate and engage our children and encourage them to be active, life-long learners. I would also like to thank your children for their hard work this term; their enthusiasm for learning is wonderful and I am so very proud of each and every one of them. Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support throughout the term and wish you and your family a happy and peaceful Christmas and New Year. I look forward to welcoming you and your children back to school on Wednesday 3rd January.

PANTOMIME – CHANGE TO LUNCH ARRANGEMENTS

We are all very much looking forward to the performance of Beauty and the Beast at the Queen's Theatre in Barnstaple on Thursday. As this production finishes later than anticipated (1pm), we have made the decision that children should bring their own packed lunch to have when they arrive back at school. Please let us know by Tuesday 12th December, at the very latest, if your child requires a school packed lunch. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. We would advise that you send your child with a snack or two to take to the theatre, together with their federation water bottle. Please can we also ask that all children come in/bring their federation hoodie to school for the trip.

CAR PARK SAFETY

Can I please ask that all parents/carers supervise their children fully when leaving the school premises? We recently had a 'near miss' when a young child, who had been collected by their parent/carer, was left to run around the car park and narrowly avoided being run over. It would be awful if one of our children were to be run-over, so please do ensure that your children say with you and that you remain vigilant at all times. Thank you.

TO INFINITY AND BEYOND

Next term our theme will be 'To Infinity and Beyond'. To get our theme off to a rocketing start we will be joined by Space Lab on Friday 5th January. All of the children will visit the mobile planetarium and take part in a workshop which will, amongst other things, explore the moon and how we see it; the sun as a star; the light, brightness and colours of the stars; the changing altitude of the sun throughout the day; the solar system; the moon phases and the concept of infinite space. Later on in the term we will consolidate the children's learning by visiting 'We the Curious' in Bristol. Science Week will also have a rocket theme – watch out for our family challenge!!

Best Wishes

Jayne Peacock
Executive Headteacher

Our theme for Collective Worship this term has been 'Hopes, Dreams and Aspirations'. In the run up to Christmas we have been thinking about the hopes, dreams and aspirations that we have for other people, both those that we know and those who we have never met. In particular, we have been hoping and praying that children across the world can live in a world of peace, free from fear and persecution.

Class News – Streams

Streams have been working extremely hard on our rehearsals for the nativity, we really hope that you enjoy watching it as much as we have enjoyed making it. Thank you to those of you who provided their excellent costumes. They all look fantastic and we can't wait to show you.

With that in mind here is a reminder of everything we have coming up in the next week: Tuesday is Lynton's nativity performances at St Mary's Church at 10.30am and 5pm. Wednesday we will be wearing pyjamas and watching the polar express with hot chocolate and marshmallows, on Thursday, we will be going to the Queen's Theatre to see Beauty and the Beast in the morning and last but not least, on the last day of term, children are welcome to wear their Christmas jumpers or 'Christmassy' clothes to school.

There will be no homework set but we would like all children to continue with their reading please.

I would like to thank all of the volunteers Kelly Peacock, Eve Parkinson, Pat Taylor and Nicole Oxenham who have been coming in to help read with the children this term and Naomi Gubb-Fradgley for the work she is doing in Streams on Fridays.

I hope you all have a lovely Christmas full of fun and festivities and a happy and healthy New Year.

Mr Mackenzie

Class News – Rivers

Rivers class have been completing their assessments this week. After Christmas we will be looking at multiplication and division. You can help your child by making sure they learn their times tables in preparation for this unit. In English we will be writing newspaper reports and then adverts. Their writing will be based on our Space topic for next term.

In art, we have made Snowman puppets and the children have created some beautiful, hand stitched designs. We have also decorated Christmas baubles for the school Christmas tree and designed some pop up Christmas cards. We are all very excited for the Christmas Holidays and I hope you all have a truly wonderful break.

Many thanks,
Miss Martin

Class News – Oceans and Year 5/6 Oaks

We hope you all have a wonderful, family Christmas. This is a very busy time of the year for everyone and as such we are setting no homework over the festive period. Having just completed our termly assessments we will be conferencing with the children so that they are aware of their next-steps. Year 6 pupils will have their SATs revision books by the end of term to help them do this.

Next term our theme is SPACE... the final frontier! Any research you undertake will help and any resources you have on or around this subject are always welcome.

A heart felt Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us in years 5 and 6.

Thank you for your continued support,

Sincerely,
Sarah Adams Lemon and Lisa Hamer.

Class News – Young Buds

We have a very busy week ahead of us so we thought a reminder of all of these would be useful.

On Wednesday, we will be performing our nativity to all of you. Young Buds have been working extremely hard on this so we really hope that you enjoy watching it. Thank you to those of you who were asked to provide costumes. The children really do look amazing in them. Look out for their picture in the North Devon Journal in their costumes too.

On Thursday, we will be going to the Queen's Theatre to see Beauty and the Beast in the morning. On the last day of term, children are welcome to wear their Christmas jumpers or party clothes to school. In the afternoon, there will be a party for the children in the village hall run by the PTFA.

Finally, a huge thank you to Shelley and Harriet for coming into school and decorating Christmas cakes with Young Buds. All of the children had a great morning and the staff enjoyed helping to clear away the left over cake.

We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and enjoy the break. We look forward to seeing you all in the new year.

As always, thank you for your ongoing support.

Sally Pile and Jill Kelly.

Class News – Oaks

Oooo! It's nearly Christmas!! Nativity practise is well under way and we are very much looking forward to seeing you and the children's performances.

The children of Parracombe School have blown us away with the variety and dedication towards their home learning and we have thoroughly enjoyed sharing our creations all together at Kentisbury on Wednesday, and the Christmas dinner was lovely. Congratulations to our home learning winners, Zoe, Tilly, Abigail and Levi. Keep it up J

As this is a busy (but fun) time of year, I will not be setting homework for my year 3/4 class. However, I do ask that your children continue to read and practise the times tables at home.

After Christmas, our theme will be Space. I'm very much looking forward to this and the Christmas holidays.

I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a fabulous New Year. See you all next year.

Miss Johnston.

Little Berries News

Christmas is just around the corner and we are very much looking forward to a month of celebrations and festive activities with the Little Berries. This month we will be practicing our numbers as we count down the days until Christmas. We will be making decorated lanterns, cake decorating and creating Christmas cards as part of our festive fun.

Congratulations to Ellie on her promotion to management in Little Berries and a big warm welcome to our new starters Natalie and Michelle, welcome to the team!

Little Berries would like to wish Nadine a massive congratulations on the birth of her baby boy on 30th November. We are very much looking forward to meeting him.

Lynton Polar Express Pyjama Day

On Wednesday 13th December we will be having a pyjama day and watching the Polar Express. To make the day more magical we will all be wearing pyjamas, eating cookies and drinking hot chocolate with squirty cream and marshmallows! This is a special Christmas treat to celebrate all the children's hard work in the lead up to the Christmas service. Children are welcome to bring in their own soft toy too.



Choir children will be attending the Kentisbury Nativity so will need to come to school in their school uniform and change in to their pyjamas when they return to school.

Lynton Christmas Jumper Day

We will be wearing Christmas jumpers to school on the last day of term (Friday 15th December), please feel free to send your child to school their school jumper or something anything 'Christmassy'. If your child doesn't have anything, non-uniform is fine.

Kitchen News

On the first day back to school (Wednesday 3rd January 2018) the menu will be Sausage or Vegetarian Sausage with Pasta and Vegetables or Jacket Potato.

Many thanks

Jayne Hoskins, Kitchen Manager.

Lynton Dance Classes:

Dance classes will commence on the second week back in January, I have made changes to suit parents as follows: Monday's years 3,4,5 & 6 3.30pm - 4.30pm in the Hall Fridays foundation, key stage 1 & 2 3.30pm - 4.30pm in the Hall £1.50 per child, if you would prefer to pay per term or weekly just let me know. **Well done to the children for working very hard on the dance we have learnt. It's been great fun and they will be performing it in the end of term assembly (please make sure the dancers bring dance appropriate clothes that day)**

Thanks, Laura Dyer

Admin News

Absence

If your child is absent from school, it is very important to notify the School **before registration** takes place for **each day** of absence. If no reason is given for your child's absence, we are required to mark this as an unauthorised absence.

With many thanks,

Wendy, Jacqui, Mel and Vikki

Kentisbury & Parracombe PTFA

To get us into the Christmas spirit we will be running our Christmas hamper raffle again this year. Your children will be bringing home some raffle tickets very soon - please buy some of these and sell to friends and family to be in with a chance of winning one of our hampers of festive food and drink items or gifts and children's toys. The tickets cost £1 each. Please send all money raised into the school office, in an envelope (with names written on the back of tickets sold please) by Wednesday 13th December. The draw will be held on Thursday 14th December during the afternoon.

The PTFA Children's Christmas party will be held on the afternoon of Fri 15th December, the last day of term at Kentisbury Village Hall. We will be organising festive fun and games for the children, followed by a visit from a special guest and a party tea. Children will be able to come to school in Christmas Jumpers or party clothes, for a £1 donation to the PTFA. We are also asking if children could bring in a small plate of food to share with their friends during the party. Please could children in Reception and Years 1/2 bring in savoury items (sandwiches, sausage rolls, crisps, cheese etc) and Years 3-6 bring sweet items. We also need parents to help during the party, please let the school office know if you are able to.

If you would like to help out with the PTFA and be involved in future events or have a say in how the money raised is spent, please come along to the next meeting - date to be arranged next term.

Many thanks for your support and wishing you all a Merry Christmas,
Kentisbury & Parracombe PTFA

Lynton PTFA

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who came along to our bingo night on Friday 17th November, the evening was a huge success and everyone seemed to really enjoy the evening. We would also like to thank those who donated bingo and raffle prizes or gave their time to help on the evening. We raised an amazing £535.07 which will go towards the bicentenary celebrations in 2018. It was so successful that we are hoping to make this a termly event, so watch this space for future dates. Our next event is our school disco tonight from 4.30 – 6.30pm, for £3 per child, we hope to see as many of our children there as possible. We will also be providing refreshments for donations at the school nativity performances on Tuesday 12th December.

If you would like to help out with the PTFA, be involved in future events or have a say in how the money raised is spent, please don't hesitate to come along to the next meeting which is on the 11th January at 7.30pm at Sunny Lyn Campsite. If you can't make the meeting, feel free to speak to Vikki at school if you have any ideas or comments and she will take these to the meeting. You can also find us on Facebook at Lynton CofE Primary School PTFA.

Thank you once again for your continued support and we hope you have a lovely Christmas and Happy New Year.
Lynton PTFA

Governing Body Update

Governor Vacancy

The Governing Body has a vacancy for a Parent Governor following a recent resignation. Applications of interest are welcome from any parent/guardian or grandparent of a pupil at any of the Federation schools. The generic requirement is attendance at 3 Full Governing Body meetings per year, each starting at 5pm and ending no later than 7 pm, and a termly meeting at one of the 4 sub-committees, again lasting no more than 2 hours. No previous knowledge/experience of education is required, as all necessary training will be provided free of charge. The post is voluntary, though reasonable expenses, including, where appropriate, childcare costs, can be claimed.

If you are interested in a position to influence your child's education please contact the Clerk to Governors Mrs. Jacqui Skelton Norrish on 01598 763338, or the Chair of Governors Mr. Jan Stokes via any school office.

Dates for your diary

12.12.2017	Lynton Nativity and Carol Service, 10.30-11.30 and 5.00 – 6.00 @ St Mary's Church
13.12.2017	Kentisbury and Parracombe Nativity and Carol Service, 10.30 - 11.30 and 5.00 – 6.00
14.12.2017	Federation Trip to the Pantomime @ The Queen's Theatre
15.12.2017	Wear a Christmas Jumper to school/End of Term
03.01.18	Children return to School
05.01.18	Theme Enrichment Day – Mobile Planetarium @ Lynton
15.01.18	Fire Service Visit
25-30.01.18	Scholastic Book Fayre
12-16.02.18	Half Term
21.02.18	Federation Trip to 'We the Curious' (Previously Learning@Bristol)
27.03.18	Theatre Alibi Performance – The Boy Who Climbed into the Moon
27.03.18	Easter Service @ St Mary's, Lynton
29.03.18	End of Term

COMMUNITY