



West Exmoor Federation

'Educating with love, for life in all its fullness'

Summer Term 2019 – Newsletter 16 – 24th July 2019



Quick Reminders

3rd September – Children return to school

Mrs Peacock

Dear Parents/Carers

As the end of another year draws to a close, we have so much to be grateful for. It has been an action packed year with so many high-lights and I never cease to be amazed by just how much we manage to pack into each year! Our children are so incredibly lucky to enjoy such a wide range of enrichment opportunities throughout the year and it is this, amongst other things, which makes our federation truly unique. The end of a school year is always tinged with sadness as we say goodbye to our Year 6 children; they have been remarkable role-models across the federation and we will miss them all dearly. However, they are more than ready to take the next step on in their learning journey and we all wish them much success and happiness in the future.

THE LION KING



Oh my goodness me, wasn't our production of The Lion King just awesome! The children were incredible, from our youngest supporting artists to our incredible Year 5 and 6 children who took on leading roles. The acting, dancing



and singing was truly stunning and totally awe inspiring. Well done to all of the children for their amazing performances and to all of the federation staff who made this production possible, especially Harmony Constant who directed the performance with such enthusiasm and passion. Plans are already underway for next year's production and I have no doubt that it will be equally stunning!

SPORTSDAY



Wow! What an incredible Sports Day we had earlier this month. Thank you so much to Lynton and Lynmouth Cricket Club for allowing us to use their amazing facilities again this year – we must have had the most incredible back-drop for a sports day anywhere within the UK. We were incredibly lucky with the weather and all of our children enjoyed a fun-filled, action-packed day of sport. The morning was filled with team events which accrued points for each house team and then, after a picnic lunch, an afternoon of traditional races added further points to each teams' tally. Well done to Clouded Yellow for being our winners this year.

Thank you to everyone who came along and supported our children on the day and to those parents/carers/grandparents who helped to set-up the venue for us. Thank you also to Jill Kelly for planning such a wonderful day and to her husband who took some stunning drone photographs of the event.

ASSOCIATE GOVERNOR CONFERENCE



At the beginning of July, five of our Year 5 & 6 Associate Governors took part in the Annual Associate Governor Conference in Bristol. At the conference our children gave a presentation about the work that they have been doing this year with a particular emphasis upon mastery in maths across the federation. The children were incredible and we were delighted to receive a letter from founder of the Associate Governor programme stating 'what a privilege it was to hear *our* children give their fantastic presentation'; how we should be 'rightly proud of them'; and inviting our federation to again be part of the programme next year with three mini residential conferences taking place, one of which we will be hosting. This really is an incredible opportunity for our children and I am incredibly proud of how they have embraced this initiative and how competently they represent our federation beyond North Devon.

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WEST BUCKLAND SPORTS PROGRAMME



Yet again, our children have enjoyed a fabulous sports programme at West Buckland School. We are so lucky to be able to use the amazing facilities that the school has to offer. The progress that all of our children made within their swimming over the two-week period was incredible. It was lovely to see so many happy, confident swimmers and I am so very proud of them all. When not swimming, our children enjoyed a PE session in the Jonathan Edwards Sport Hall and



also a First Aid and Water Safety lesson. The beautiful weather meant that each day we were also able to enjoy a picnic lunch in the beautiful school grounds. Thank you to all of my staff who worked so hard to ensure that the swimming and sports programme ran so smoothly.

YEAR 6 LEAVERS

On Monday, we held our Year 6 Leavers' Services at St Mary's and Christ Church. This enabled our children to reflect upon their time within the federation and for us to formally send them on their way to secondary school. That evening, I had the great privilege of leading our Year 6 Leavers' Camp. We were blessed with incredible weather for our camp (dare I say a little too hot!) and the children had a wonderful time enjoying each other's company, possibly for the last time as a whole group. It was lovely that so many parents, friends and family were able to join us for our BBQ. After a rather warm night under canvas, we woke the children early enough to enjoy a beautiful sunrise whilst feasting on a platter of fruit; a truly memorable occasion which hopefully the children will reflect upon in the years to come.



LOOKING AHEAD

Next term we will be welcoming the international poet, Josh Siegal, to the federation as part of the Appledore Book Festival (www.joshuaseigal.co.uk). After the holiday, we will be sending home information on how you can order one of Josh's books for him to sign during his visit. We will also be welcoming Wonderstruck to the federation early next term (www.wonderstruck.co.uk). They will be running some fabulous STEM workshops to launch our science learning for the year with a BANG! Also, in response to parental feedback, we will be restarting our regular drop-in/information sessions for parents/carers; further details to follow after the holiday.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and, of course, your wonderful children, for your incredible support throughout the year; it is always very much appreciated. I wish you all a super summer break and look forward to welcoming your children back to the federation in September.

Best Wishes,

Jayne Peacock
Executive Headteacher

In collective worship this term, we are thinking about stories and how these enable us to connect with God and develop our sense of spirituality within the context of CARIS.

Reception , Year 1 & Year 2 – Streams and Young Buds

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your support this year; for those of you who have read consistently at home, who have supported the home learning, numerous trips, sporting events and the general day to day things that support your child/ren at home, which in turn supports us and our work. It has been a busy year with many experiences for all of the children!



Please do keep reading as much as possible over the holidays. The children will also continue to have access to Athletics over the holidays where they can play against other children.

Finally, we would like to wish you all a wonderful Summer break. Have fun, make memories but above all, stay safe! We look forward to seeing you all in September!

Your KS1 team

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Year 3 & 4 - Rivers & Oaks



Well...what a year this has been. We have ended the year in style with the wonderful school production of the Lion King, attending swimming sessions at West Buckland and the school fair. Although the children are tired and ready for the holidays, they have made the final section of the year ever so enjoyable with their positive attitude and eagerness to carry on! We'd like to wish everyone a lovely summer holiday, have lots of fun and stay safe. We will be sending out a pack of revision so keep a look out for that! Keep practising the times tables and year 3/4 spellings and we look forward to welcoming you back in September.

Year 5 & 6 – Oceans and Forests

The Year 6 children had a fabulous end of year camp at Kentisbury school. Thank you to all parents for their support over their time at the West Exmoor Federation. They will be greatly missed by everyone and we would all like to wish them the best in the next stage of their journey.



We hope you have a wonderful and relaxing summer break and we look forward to welcoming the year 5's back in September as they move in to year 6 and our year 4s as they join Oceans and Forests.

Sports News

Schools Showjumping Championships



The WEF Show Jumping team comprising of Tiarna Falco, Tegan and Mia Surman-Jordan and Abi Payne were in action again on Saturday at the Championship Show for the North Devon Schools Show Jumping League. They finished the series in 5th for the 40cm class and 7th in the 50cm class. Well done to Tiarna and Mia for their individual rosettes for attending all competitions and having multiple clear rounds. Also a special mention to Jessie Lerwill for stepping in when Abi was competing at a pony club competition and riding a beautiful

double clear round. They have had lots of fun and have each made so much progress over the last few months. We are looking forward to next year's competition and would welcome new riders. If you are interested, please let us know.

Little Berries News

Here at Little Berries have been having lots of fun splashing around with lots of water activities during the hot spell we have been having.

It's nearly time for us to say goodbye to our older little berries as they start their next journey into school. We would like to wish them well and will miss them very much. Next term for Little Berries is looking extremely busy already with lots of new children joining the federation. Any parents with younger siblings wishing to increase their hours or days in the coming months is recommended to apply as early as possible as spaces are very limited.

I would like to ask if anyone has any old sheets/ baby sheets or pots and pans we would be very grateful for them in Little berries.

Many thanks the Little Berries team

Admin

Thank you

Staff at Kentisbury would like to say a big thank you to Colin Peacock. He has dedicated his free time over the weekend to put up shelving in the storage container and this has been a fantastic help. Thank you.

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School Dinner Payments

Please remember that school dinners for children in Key Stage 2 (year 3 to year 6) are £2.30 per day. Payment should be brought in to school on the day the meal is taken in a named envelope. Alternatively, you could pay an amount in advance for the term or half term for example. Cheques should be made payable to Devon County Council.

Name Labels

At the end of the year, we end up with lots of unnamed uniform items. Please ensure all items of uniform and PE kit are labelled with your child's name. You will have received a leaflet from My Nametags who make stickers that can stick on uniforms and other things like drinks bottles and lunch boxes. By purchasing through My Nametags, you will also be helping to raise funds for the school if you enter the school code from the leaflet when you order.

Kind regards,
Wendy, Jacqui, Mel and Vikki

PTFA News

Lynton PTFA would like to thank everyone who attended and contributed to our Summer Fair last week, we raised approximately £150 profit and the children all had a fantastic time. We would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to parents, children and members of the community who have supported us, by either attending our events, donating prizes or even offering time to help out with our fundraising. Your support means so much and we are extremely grateful. We hope you have a fantastic summer and we look forward to seeing you in the new school year when we will announce dates for our AGM. We would love to see some new members on the committee.

Governor News

FROM THE GOVERNING BODY.

When this newsletter comes out we will all either be on holiday, or about to begin. The Governors would like to wish all children, parents/carers, grandparents and staff a lovely summer break. The children and staff have certainly earned it with all their hard work over the year, and, especially the huge efforts put in by all concerned for the Sports days, the summer production, the swimming programme and the leavers services recently, as well as the day trips, residential, invites to, and from, various people and groups to extend our childrens' learning. A huge thank you to all involved is richly deserved! The children, staff, parents and governors continue to support the work of the Federation, and it was clear from the leavers speeches that they have valued their time at West Exmoor.

We will shortly lose our yr6 as they move on to the next stage of their education. We will miss them, and I sure, that in the short term, at least, they will miss us. The governors wish them well in the future. We will also be saying, or have said goodbye to some staff, namely Jayne Hoskins, Sammy and Sarah Adams and wish them well in their future.

I am sure that the holiday will finish only too soon, but I hope that all children and staff will return looking forward to the new year. We will then be able to welcome some new children, and some new staff, and some staff in different locations or phases, and we hope they all settle in quickly.

If any parent of any pupil in the Federation would like to know more about the Governing Body, and its' work, with a view to becoming a governor could they please contact me on the contact below, or via any school office.

Jan.stokes @westexmoorfederation.org.uk

Jan Stokes, for and on behalf of West Exmoor Federation Governing Body.

Diary Dates

3 rd September	Return to School
4 th September	EYFS Forest School Starts
12 th September	Lynton Year 1/2 Forest School Starts
13 th September	Parracombe Year 3/4 Forest School Starts
13 th September	Roald Dahl Day
23 rd – 26 th September	Year 5 & 6 Eden Project Residential

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From the Rectory

Dear Friends,

I write this on my return from a week on retreat – a time I spent largely in silence and in prayer and reflection, a time for which I am hugely grateful. It was a time when I was actually putting onto practice my own advice from last month’s letter (about our willingness to receive, inspired by the next of the prayer stations in St Mary’s) and I was amused at how my words came back to teach me as I watched the effect of the rising wind on the sea, filling the sails of yachts and enlivening the flags of the church and lifeboat station. It was a time of living simply enough to become more deeply aware of the love of God, to feel loved, and to see God’s love in the beauty of Creation.

The third prayer station in the Experience Pentecost series is “telling”. It recalls the courage the Holy Spirit gave the early disciples in spreading the message of God’s love that they had learnt with Jesus across the ancient world – often in spite of dangers and resistance to their message. The prayer station is simple – it is a series of speech bubbles with the words “God loves you” in different languages and the invitation to write of that love in our own words.

How do we become the “tellers” of that love? I think it is important that we learn how because our world need more people who make it their purpose to tell of love.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has just launched the Church of England’s new social media policy which seeks to bring love to the heart of all the communication on its social media platform with some simple rules*. Most of these rules apply to our face to face conversations and other forms of written communication too. They are habits that make us tellers of love both in what we say and how we say it and they include very simple things: be respectful, be kind, be honest about yourself, take responsibility for your words, be a good ambassador for your beliefs, or those you represent, disagree well, credit others for their ideas. They encourage us to make sure that our communication is loving in content and style.

So, the invitation for this deep summer month, is to make it our intention to find all the ways we can to tell of love – in our speaking, in all our communications, and in the ways we speak without words too!

God bless,
Samantha

*to read more about this visit <https://www.churchofengland.org/terms-and-conditions/our-social-media-community-guidelines>

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West Panthers Summer Hockey Camp
West Buckland School

Thursday August 29th and Friday August 30th 2019
Both days 10 am - 3 pm
Boys and Girls aged 8 - 14 years all abilities welcome,
beginners, advanced or Goal Keepers

Learn new skills, play fun games and matches, win prizes and
get a FREE Gift

Cost: £40 for both days, £25 one day only

Sue Hutchings, Level 3 Coach, West Panthers, UK Lions U14 Girls
Nikki Peters, Level 2 Coach, West Panthers
Lauren Hutchings, Level 2 Coach, Welsh International

Contact
Sue Hutchings on suejhutchings@yahoo.co.uk or mobile 07414894799

Registration form available at
www.westpanthers.co.uk
