



West Exmoor Federation

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

Summer Term 2021 – Newsletter 6 – 25th June 2021



Quick Reminders

Mrs Peacock

Dear Parents/Carers

How wonderful it has been to see our children out and about and enjoying some normality over the last few weeks. It's been incredibly busy with trips to Lynmouth to learn about the Lynmouth Flood; Year 3/4 enjoying a fabulous residential at Lee Abbey and the first of our three trips to Lyme Regis taking place. Next week there is another trip to Lyme Regis and our Y5/6 children will also enjoy their camping experience. When out, our children have been an absolute credit to themselves, you and the federation – I'm so very proud of each and every one of them.

CARIS

This half term we are thinking about our CARIS value of support. We have revisited the story of the Good Samaritan and the children have been tasked with thinking about whether or not you need to know and/or like someone in order to help them. The children have also been drawing upon their own experiences, within and outside of school, to identify support in action and we have started to think about how supporting others enables us to grow as individuals. If you have some good examples of your children being supportive at home, please do share them with us.

NEWSLETTERS

During the course of the pandemic, the way in which we have used Class DoJo has changed significantly. Class DoJo has become the main way in which we share immediate information and/or reminders and also celebrate the wonderful things that are taking place across the federation. As a consequence, the purpose of our newsletter has somewhat shifted and is no longer our main means of communication. With this in mind, newsletters will now become monthly rather than fortnightly. Nearly all of our parents/carers are signed up to DoJo and using it on a regular basis. If you are not signed up, please do contact your child's class teacher and they can resend an invitation to you. If you are signed up, but do not receive notifications, please check both your app and phone settings, as it is possible that you have notifications turned off. If this fails, please try reinstalling the app.

COMMUNICATING WITH STAFF

Throughout the pandemic channels of communication between parents/carers and staff have become quite informal. This has included staff providing personal mobile phone numbers, etc, to parents/carers in order to provide necessary support during these unprecedented times. As we begin to move towards a more normal way, on behalf of my staff, could I please request that remote communication is now limited to Class DoJo or email. Furthermore, to enable staff to enjoy quality time away from school, could I ask that DoJo messages and emails are only sent during normal working hours (Monday – Friday, 7.30am – 5.30pm, term time only). I do appreciate that sometimes evenings or weekends are the best time for parents/carers to send messages to staff. However, if this is the case, please messages via email and use scheduled send to ensure an appropriate delivery time. All of the federation staff are exceptionally conscientious and will check emails and DoJo messages out of hours but, by using schedule send, you will enable them to suitably recharge their batteries and enjoy some uninterrupted family time. Many thanks for your cooperation regarding this matter.

COVID-19 UPDATE

With covid-19 cases rising within the locality it is essential that we remain vigilant to ensure that our children and communities remain as covid secure as possible. If your child has one of the three formally recognised symptoms of covid-19 (new persistent cough, high temperature, loss in taste and/or smell) please ensure that, as a household, you isolate whilst arranging a PCR test for your child. So long as the test result is negative, you may cease isolating and your child can return to school as soon as they are well again. If your child has any other symptoms widely recognised as being associated with covid-19, especially in children, eg, sore throat, headache, tummy ache, etc, please keep them at home (even if you consider them well enough to attend school) and carry out a lateral flow test (LFT). If the test is negative they can return to school immediately; if it is positive, please notify us and arrange for your child to have a PCR test. LFT Test Kits can be collected from the chemists in Lynton or Combe Martin and from several other locations in Barnstaple and Ilfracombe. LFT Kits can also be ordered for home delivery. For further details, please visit <https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/rapid-testing-devon/>

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With Best Wishes,



Jayne Peacock
Executive Headteacher

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

A very warm welcome back to school after the wonderful, sunny half term break. The children have come back raring to go which has been wonderful to see.

Over the next couple of weeks, Raindrops will be learning about number bonds to 10 in Maths.

In English, Raindrops and Saplings have started to read ‘Somebody Swallowed Stanley’ and have begun to think about how rubbish ends up in the ocean. The children will be using this in Literacy, where they will sequence the story and begin to write their own versions, based on the original.

As a result of the discussion we had earlier in the week, Raindrops decided that they would like to do a litter pick around the local area. Saplings, Streams and Raindrops are also learning about Rivers within Theme, alongside a historical focus on the Lynmouth flood.

Raindrops have spent the last few weeks observing some tadpoles in their classroom; some of them have grown their back legs and we now have one that has front legs as well! When they are ready, Raindrops will be releasing some of these into the pond in the new Forest School area in Lynton!



All of Key stage 1 had a fantastic morning running to raise money for Race for Life. The children were absolutely amazing and really got into the spirit of the run with some of them running 5km and even 10km! Thank you for all of your support.



Finally, just a reminder regarding applying sun cream to your child before school on sunny days; please do this at home prior to your child coming into school. Feel free to send some in with your child so that they can re-apply at lunch time or alternatively you can purchase good all day protection cream.
Your EYFS and KS1 teams.

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Key Stage Two

Lower KS2 – Young Buds, Oceans and Rivers

This side of half term, we will be studying the tragic Lynmouth flood of 1952. To start of this topic, Rivers took a trip down into Lynmouth to visit the Flood Memorial Hall. There we were able to see pictures, newspaper reports and witness accounts to retrieve facts and information to help us begin writing our newspaper reports.

In Maths, we have to started to look at fractions. What is a fraction? Identifying fractions and applying our understanding to answer questions. Please can I remind you to practice the times tables with your children at home. Fractions encompass many of the same skills as multiplication and division, therefore practicing at home would only benefit their learning further.

Upper KS2 – Oceans and Forests

What a busy half term so far! We have only been back a week or so but yet we have achieved so much already! We are beginning to look at fractions in maths which require a solid understanding of times tables. Keep practising them as well as the inverse (multiplying and dividing). Games like times table bingo and Mathletics are great resources. Year 5/6 are finishing the subject of 'Changes of Materials' the learning about the historical event of the Lynmouth Flood. Each class will visit Lynmouth for a hands-on experience. Mr Mackenzie and myself are looking forward to the residential. The activities will be a wonderful opportunity for the children to build on their teamwork skills as well as themselves. Parracombe year 5/6 will erect the tents prior to the residential...let's hope they remember which way round the tent cover goes!

Sporting News

Race for Life

I would just like to say a massive well done to EVERY single one of our children here at West Exmoor Federation for taking part in Race for Life last week. You were all amazing and have raised over £4000 with online and cash donations. You should all be proud of yourselves.

The children really seemed to enjoy this as an activity. If your child enjoyed themselves and would like to take part in activities like this then there are local junior parks runs in Barnstable and Torridge, which are completely free. See below for links to their website.

<https://www.parkrun.org.uk/barnstaple-juniors/>
<https://www.parkrun.org.uk/torridge-juniors/>

Miss Johnston
PE lead

North Devon Schools Showjumping

We would like to congratulate the Federation Team of Mia Harris, Blake Goodman and Jack Payne for getting off to an excellent start with the first three competitions of the Showjumping league.

The team have all ridden really well taking first place at the first competition and were placed second in the third competition, so well done to you all.

The team can consist of four children with the top three scores being counted for placing purposes. If you have a child who would like to join the team, whether they can ride on their own, or if on a lead rein, this will help to ensure we always have a full team, if any member should have any other commitments. If you would like to find out more, please contact Wendy at Kentisbury School.

Keep up the good work Mia, Blake and Jack and enjoy yourselves.

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Little Berries Foundation Stage Practitioners / Playworker Vacancies

We currently have a vacancy for a Foundation Stage Practitioner. This position will be a temporary fixed term contract for at least 2-3 days per week, term time only. This position will start the 6th September 2021 with an annual review of Little Berries funding and numbers on roll.

Pay will be based on experience and qualifications.

The job will involve day to day running of the nursery under the direction of the Foundation stage senior Practitioners either Mrs Nikki Pierce or Mrs Michelle Tearall.

We are currently recruiting for Foundation stage Practitioners who are;

- Committed to providing a high quality child centered service
- Confident, flexible, articulate and organised
- Warm, patient, caring and have a genuine love and enjoyment of working with young children
- A team player
- Appreciative and willing to work with the Federation.
- Demonstrate a working knowledge of the Early Years Foundation stage
- Demonstrate a willingness and ability to accept responsibility and become involved in all aspects of Nursery life.

If you are interested in applying for this role, please contact Nikki Pierce, one of our Foundation Stage Senior Practitioners on 01271 828660 or email nicola.pierce@westexmoorfederation.org.uk for a job description and further details of the vacancies.

Closing date;12/07/2021

A DBS disclosure will be required for this post.

Admin

Devon Norse Vacancy for Kitchen Manager

Sadly, we will be losing our lovely Kitchen Manager Jackie in a couple of weeks. She is leaving us to work closer to home to be nearer to her elderly parents. We wish her all the best in her new adventure and we will miss her dearly.

Her departure means there will be a vacancy for Kitchen Manager through Devon Norse. The position is Monday to Friday from 8.30am to 1pm (25 hours per week, term time only) £872/month (paid 12 months a year).

Duties to include:

Cooking & serving healthy meals, ordering supplies, stocktaking, kitchen paperwork (working in a team of two) (also cooking for two other school dining centres – approx.100 meals in total per day across the three sites)

Full training given & uniform provided

DBS check required

For more details, please contact

dawn.wood@ncsgrp.co.uk

mobile: 07867 650415

The image is a job vacancy poster for a Kitchen Manager at Lynton Primary School. At the top, there is a logo for 'Devon Norse' with a circular emblem. Below the logo, the text reads 'JOB VACANCY at LYNTON PRIMARY SCHOOL' and 'KITCHEN MANAGER'. The working hours are listed as 'Monday to Friday 8.30am - 1.30pm (25 hours/week, term time only)' with a salary of '£872/month (paid 12 months a year)'. A section titled 'Duties to include:' lists 'Cooking & serving healthy meals, ordering supplies, stocktaking, kitchen paperwork (working in a team of two) (also cooking for two other school dining centres - approx.100 meals in total per day across the three sites)'. It also states 'Full training given & uniform provided' and 'DBS check required'. At the bottom, it says 'For more details, please contact dawn.wood@ncsgrp.co.uk mobile: 07867 650415' and '(also posted on www.indeed.co.uk)'. There is a small logo in the bottom right corner of the poster.

Devon Norse Vacancy for Cleaner at Parracombe

Devon Norse are also looking for a cleaner at Parracombe school, please see the poster at the end of the newsletter for more information.

Governor News

Parent Governor Appointment

We are pleased to announce that following parent governor nominations, West Exmoor Federation have a new Parent governor to join the existing members of the governing board.

Many of you will already know Phil Brown as a valued member of the Lynton community. For those of you that do not, here is a pen portrait from Phil: I moved to Lynton in 2012 with my wife and small daughter, who is now in Year 6 at Lynton. My son was born in 2013 and is currently in year 2 at Lynton. I have been an active supporter of the local community. I am a member of the Lynmouth Coastguard Team and have been DBS checked and cleared to volunteer support throughout the Federation. I have enjoyed helping the Federation at Sports days and various outdoor curriculum activities. I have accompanied school visits and been able to employ my previous sports background to assist with the planning and management of walking activities on Exmoor.

I currently work with young people in residential care and am familiar with safeguarding and child protection issues.

Governing Body Update from the Chair of Governors

As we approach the end of another academic year I am sure that everyone is reflecting on the last 12-15 months, and possibly, looking forward with mixed feelings.

As a Governing Body we have been immensely impressed by all the work and commitment to learning displayed by staff, pupils and parents. Our children have been well looked after and have returned pleased to be back and to see friends and staff. A recent Devon review revealed some lack of progress but nothing like that which you read in the press. The team were very impressed by their visit and the work everyone had done over the last few months. In fact, in some areas pupils have shown an improvement in their progress, for example in reading, and I am sure in IT skills too.

For the Governing Body it has been frustrating to meet remotely, but over the year we have managed to meet as committees and as a Full Body as often as we usually would, and conduct business as usual. We have even been able to appoint two Parent Governors in this time, so the Governing Body is back up to full capacity.

I would like to thank all Governors for their work over the last year, and, in particular, the vice-chairs and committee chairs who have been very willing to give of their time.

On behalf of the Governors I should like to wish all our children the very best for their summer break, which I hope they can all enjoy. We would like to say a special "Thank you" to our yr6 children who will be leaving us in a few weeks. I know your last term at WEF has not been as much fun as you had all hoped, but I trust you will all leave with fond memories of your time with us, and we wish you all the best for the future.

Jan Stokes Chair of Governors on behalf of the Governing Body.

Diary Dates

29 th June 2021	Kentisbury Lyme Regis Visit
29 th June - 1 st July 2021	Year 5 & 6 Kentisbury Camp
2 nd July 2021	Big Little Voices Recording Day
6-8 th July 2021	Federation Swimming Programme
13 th -15 th July 2021	Federation Swimming Programme
16 th July 2021	Lynton KS2 Lyme Regis Visit
19 th July 2021	Year 5/6 Rescheduled Crealy Visit
21 st July 2021	Year 6 Leavers Service and Camp and BBQ at Kentisbury (Details to follow).
23 rd July 2021	End of Term

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Community

Wrights Care Farm Project

We would like to introduce you to Wrights Care Farm Project. We are a family run farm that made the decision last year to turn our farm into a therapeutic day centre here in Kentisbury, North Devon. Nestled on the edge of Exmoor national park we have 130 acres of organic grassland and a wildlife corridor throughout the farm teeming with buzzards, wild orchids, waterfalls, trees and wild animals.

Here are some of the activities on offer as part of our therapeutic days out:

Animal husbandry, animal therapy, close and personal contact with the animals. Gardening skills with our own polytunnel to grow your own vegetables, and then cook and eat them alongside our wood fired pizza oven. Bush craft and other great outdoors skills such as fencing, and tree maintenance in our very own apple orchard. Specialist projects working with motor bikes and tractors tailored to individuals' needs. Picnics and overnight camping watching the stars in the dark skies of Exmoor.

Parts of the farm are accessible to wheel chair users and disabled toilet facilities are also available on site.

Our overall aim is to provide opportunities to people to gain life skills and a sense of wellbeing and joy! We are delighted to be working alongside Blanching Out Respite Care on a regular weekly basis.

Please do get in touch if you would like to find out more or to arrange a taster visit, asking for Jason or Gary, details below. And please do pass on this information to anyone you think would like to know about us.

Yours sincerely,

The Team at Wrights Care Farm Project

Kentisbury, Barnstaple, North Devon, EX31 4NQ

Tel: 01271882283, 07710673337, 07858254981

Email: wrightscarefarmproject@gmail.com

www.wrightscarefarmproject.co.uk

www.facebook.com/wrightscarefarmproject

Find Yourself
with the
Royal Marines Cadets
at Chivenor!

If you are aged between 9 and 16 and want to do something exciting and fun with your spare time why not join the Royal Marines Cadets of the Volunteer Cadet Corps? We are starting a new unit at RM Chivenor near Barnstaple soon!

Our cadets learn a variety of new and useful skills such as seamanship, fieldcraft, ceremonial drill, field gun, sports, shooting, swimming and adventure training. You'll also make loads of new friends.

#MeetTheChallenge
www.volunteercadetcorps.org

VOLUNTEER CADET CORPS

Free workshop for parents and carers

Do you ever feel you are about to explode? That your child might too? We can help turn tantrums into calm connections. From the Social, Emotional and Mental Health Team - a free, informal workshop for parents and carers. Held virtually on 30 June 2021, 10am – 11.30am

There are times when we all feel overwhelmed with our emotions. Children feel like this too. In this workshop, we will explore why your child behaves in the way that they do; how you can respond to help them calm and how to re-connect to strengthen your relationship with them. We will also offer some specific de-stressing techniques that both you and your child can start using straight away. Join us to find out how you can help build a healthier relationship with your child and develop a sense of inner calm.

To book your free place: sue.vanstone@babaockinternational.com

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V.I.P. INVITATION

STAY CURIOUS OPEN DAY
a fun family event
at Ilfracombe Museum

Sunday 4 July 2021
11am - 4pm

FREE ENTRY
To keep you as safe as possible
in the museum, please book
your free, timed entry tickets
now on our website or by
telephone.

ALL FREE!
goody bags
prize competitions
nature trail
weird & wonderful crafts
butterfly design exhibition
creepy crawly art installation

www.ilfracombemuseum.co.uk
info.museum@gmail.com
Wilder Rd, Ilfracombe EX34 8AF
01271 863541





Devon Norse Careers

we're *hiring...*

Cleaner – Parracombe Primary School

A fantastic opportunity to join our quality driven cleaning team, giving you the chance to work for a national service provider with excellent opportunities and benefits.

**9 Hours per week, Monday to Friday,
Afternoon job, key holder £8.91 Per Hour**



Full Management
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www.norsecareers.co.uk

or call the Recruitment Team on: **07587031153**

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