



# The Flying Start Federation Newsletter 8th January 2018 Issue 8

[www.buckland-brewer-primary.devon.sch.uk](http://www.buckland-brewer-primary.devon.sch.uk)



Happy New year to you all and welcome back to the Spring Term. It has been lovely to welcome the children back into school as well as welcome new children and their families who have started this term. In school and preschool. We aim for all the children to be happy and thrive in school and we can do that best by working closely with all parents and carers. So please make time to talk to your child's teacher at the end of the day to help us learn more about your child and what we can do to help them develop. When any concerns arise please speak to your child's teacher sooner rather than later and then the headteacher if the concern persists. We aim to resolve any issues as soon as possible.

## Reading for Pleasure- Spring Term Theme

This term we are having a focus on reading for pleasure and we have lots of exciting activities planned to encourage children to engage with books:

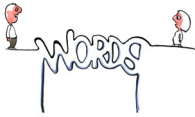


- A book reading bingo challenge for all ages
- After school book fair where children and parents/carers can browse and buy books
- Reading book club at Buckland
- Visits by the Torrington Librarian to encourage children to visit their local library
- An after school session with the school librarian to guide children and parents in choosing books.
- World book day celebrations

Watch out for further details.

Children who have access to and read a wide range of reading material- books- fiction and non fiction, newspapers, magazines will find it easier to fulfil their potential. Reading feeds the imagination, causes discussion and critical thinking and deposits knowledge in the mind. Reading more will help with writing by developing vocabulary and sentence structure. Even if your child does not read fluently yet, reading and sharing books regularly will develop those thinking skills and vocabulary skills incidentally. So make a point this term of reading more with your child, visiting the library, trying different types of reading material and having fun with books.

## Mrs' Finch's Word Challenge:



To link with our focus on reading Mrs Finch has launched a challenge in school for children to explore and collect new and unusual words to help extend vocabulary and understanding. So each fortnight two new words will be put on the display board in school for children to explore by writing a definition, using in a sentence, as well as space for children to write up exciting new words they have come across in their reading. Each week we will look at what has been added to the board and there will be special scented stickers for children who have contributed. Please encourage your child to explain the meaning of the challenge words as well as bring in on a postit new words they have found. In their reading. The challenge words to start off are **discovery** and **impression**.

## Parent App:

This term is quite a short term and there is a lot packed into it. Watch out for dates on the calendar on this newsletter, on the website and on the website App. If you have not downloaded it yet please do as all parents using it say it keeps them well informed. Go to your APP store and find it by searching the postcode EX39- The Flying Start Federation.



## Dates

### OFFICE HOURS:

Parkham: Mon—Thurs 8.45—3.45pm  
(please note there is no one in the office on Fridays)

Buckland Brewer: Mon—Fri 8.45—12.15pm— please avoid making requests when office is not manned.

**If you need to telephone the school urgently and the office is not manned, please ring the partner school as hopefully they can get a message through.**

**Buckland TEL:01237 451315**

**Parkham TEL: 01237 451334**

### Term Dates

**Spring Term: 2018** Thurs Jan 4th—Fri 29 March

Half Term: Mon 12 Feb—Fri 16 Feb

Half Term: Fri 25 May—Fri 1 June

**Summer Term 2018:** Tues 16th April—Thurs 26 July

## Parkham

Tue 16 Jan stay & play-mud kitchen for 0-4 yr olds. 9-10 refreshments in staff room and 10-11 mud kitchen

Wed 17 Jan Yr 5-6 Tennis Festival at ARC

Tue 23 Jan stay & play-sensory for 0-4 yr olds. 9-10 refreshments in staff room & 10-11 sensory

Fri 26 Jan Kate from Torrington library to visit assembly

Tues 6 Feb: Class photos

Last day of term: Fri 9 Feb

New term starts: Mon 19 Feb

Non-pupil day: Fri 25 May

Milly Lane: School Caterer  
07340710693 If it is necessary to make a change to a meal request please text between 7.30-9.30am. For general queries please telephone or text between 2-5.30pm

## Buckland Brewer

Wed 17 Jan Yr 5-6 Tennis Festival at ARC

Fri 19 Jan—Kate from Torrington library to visit assembly

Thur 1 Mar-World Book Day

Last day of term: Fri 9 Feb

New term starts: Mon 19 Feb

Non-pupil day: Fri 25 May

Leaflets will be going home this week from Atlantic Racquet Centre offering a free open day Saturday 13 Jan from 2pm—5pm. Do try to go along as there are various activities going on.

Attendance: Target: 97% Whole school:  
Buckland: 97.38% Parkham: 96.83%  
Falcons: 96.13% Ladybirds: 97.02% Eagles:  
98.24% Fireflies: 96.45 %

**REMEMBER TO BEAT THE BUGS** by wet combing your child's hair with a nit comb at least once a week.



**Severe weather arrangements:** If it becomes necessary to shut either or both schools due to severe weather, notices will be posted on the website/school app and Radio Devon will be notified. Schools are only ever closed after consultation with Chair of Governors either because the school site is unsafe or not enough staff can get to the school. If only one school is closed then all children are welcome to attend the other school. However parents must decide whether conditions are safe enough for them to travel to school.

### How to apply for a primary school place in Devon.

Was your child born between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014? You can apply online at [www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline](http://www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline) from 15 November 2017—15 January 2018. Or you can call the education helpline on 0345 155 1019 or email: [primaryschooladmissions@devon.gov.uk](mailto:primaryschooladmissions@devon.gov.uk). Even if you have given details to a primary school you must apply for a place through the Admissions Team.



Vicky Teague -  
School Nurse

School Nursing  
team

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