



West Exmoor Federation

'Rooted and Growing – Together we Love Learning'

29.01.2018

Dear Parents/Carers

FAMILY SCIENCE CHALLENGE



Hopefully you have now received details of our Annual Science Week Family Challenge. The children certainly seem very excited about it and I know that a number of families have already started researching different designs for water rockets. We are all hopeful that the Rocket Launch day will prove to be as successful as our Boat Race at the end of last year. We are hoping that a few teams from other local schools will also join us to heighten the sense of competition! We are very grateful to British Science Association for the Kickstart Award that we have been given to purchase resources and prizes for this event. Just in case you need a reminder, the aim of the challenge is to make and launch a rocket powered by water/air pressure and land it in a marked target zone. Rockets can be entered by teams of up to 4 children and one adult. Rockets will be launched from a Fullbore Rocket Launcher. They will be filled with water, pressurised and launched by designated staff/volunteers. Rockets do not need to include a cap, bottle top or cork to retain the water. First, Second & Third Prizes will be awarded for the longest time in the air, the furthest distance travelled, and for the most creative rocket. All entrants will receive a certificate. Only plastic bottles specifically designed for holding pressure should be used - a used carbonated drink bottle is perfect. Bottles for still water or juice must not be used. Rockets should only be made using light-weight

plastic, foam, card, tape or other light weight, soft materials. Solid wood, metal and other hard and potentially hazardous materials must not be used. Any rocket using materials considered hazardous will not be launched. There are plenty of websites that you can visit for further information but in particular I would recommend www.rocket-fun.com and www.npl.co.uk/educate-explore/water-rocket-challenge/.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to our Operation Christmas Child campaign last term. We have just heard that all of our shoebox gifts were sent to Albania. Albania is currently one of the poorest countries in Europe. It has a population of 3 million, with 18% under the age of 15. Thank you so much for helping to bring joy to just a few of those children who are most in need.



SAFER INTERNET DAY - 6TH FEBRUARY 2018

This year Safer Internet Day will be on Tuesday 6th February. We will be using this as an opportunity to high-light safe use of the internet across the federation. The campaign website has some useful resources for parents to use at home to also get involved in this campaign. They can be found by visiting: <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2018/sid2018-education-packs/education-pack-parents-and-carers> In a world where the internet is ever evolving our children are exposed to world that we could barely have dreamed of as children. There are many benefits but equally we need to educate our children on how to keep themselves safe and how to act responsibly as a citizen of the ever-changing online world. According to a survey conducted by the children's charity Barnardo's, only 55% of parents monitor who their children speak to online. Do you know who your child is talking to online? Did you buy your child an internet-connected device for Christmas? As parents it is important for us to remember that internet connected devices like tablets and iPhones can also come in the guise of harmless dolls or teddy bears and potentially allow strangers to pinpoint our address, obtain our child's name and birthday, download their photograph and even listen in on conversations. If your child has an internet enabled device there are a number of things that Barnardo's recommend you check. What information does the toy collect?

Where is the information stored? Will the toy take pictures and/or store recordings of your child? Does the toy require location services to work? Can location services be switched off? Does the toy require a password? Who can interact with the toy? Are parental controls available? How are parental controls accessed? Which has compiled a smart toy checklist of the things you need to be aware of before buying a connected toy and once you've brought one home. You can find this by visiting: <https://www.which.co.uk/documents/pdf/connected-toy-safety-469632.pdf> If you are concerned about who your child might be talking to online, help and advice is available from CEOP. You can find out more by visiting: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Concerned-about-your-child/>

CAR SEATS

It has been pointed out to us that a small number of parents are not always using appropriate car seats for their children on their journey to and from school. It is a legal requirement for all children to normally use a child car seat until they are 12 years old or 135 centimetres tall, whichever comes first. Please ensure that you are abiding by the law at all times. For further information, please visit www.gov.uk/child-car-seats-the-rules.

PUNCTUALITY

I appreciate how difficult it can sometimes be to arrive at school on time in the morning (we all have mornings where everything seems to conspire against us) but we have an ever growing number of children who are not arriving at school until after the start of the school day (8.45am). A late arrival has to be recorded as such and is treated as an absence by the local authority. More importantly, arriving at school late can make a child feel 'wrong-footed' all day as they miss the opportunity to settle gently into the school day whilst the register is taken and they select their lunch option for the day. Being late also results in your child missing out on early morning work which often paves the way into vital learning later in the day. We would be grateful if you could please try to ensure that your child arrives at school between 8.35am and 8.45am when the school day officially starts. Thank you.

PARKING

Parking is continuing to cause a few issues at all three of our schools. Could I please ask that all Lynton parents park in Bottom Meadow car park when dropping off or collecting their children. The children can then safely walk into school via the rear gate. Parking permits are available from the school office to allow free parking at the start and end of the school day. At Parracombe we are coming under increasing pressure from local residents who are unhappy that the road is often blocked at the start and end of the school day. I appreciate that parking space is limited but urge parents who need to park rather than simply drop off to use the village hall car park to ensure that the road remains clear. At Kentisbury we are currently looking at how we may be able to expand the parking space available but again ask that parents park considerately and are patient if they find that they have been unavoidably blocked in. Thank you so much for your cooperation regarding this matter.

Best Wishes



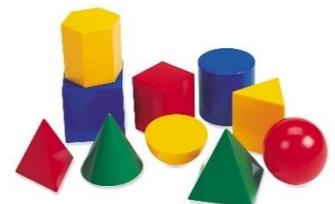
Jayne Peacock
Executive Headteacher

This term within Collective Worship we are exploring Christian Values. We have been thinking about the values which are important to us and how living by these values impacts upon our friends and those within our community. We have been giving thanks for our friends and families and praying for those who are experiencing difficulties.

Class News – Streams

Curriculum Focus

Over the next two weeks we will be learning about 2d and 3d shapes. Please take some time to talk about 2d and 3d shape names, look out for examples of these shapes in real world scenarios. Constructing different shapes is a great way to get children to explore language of shape. We will be sending home an information sheet to help with this.



Mathletics



The children are really enjoying the new 'Mathletics' maths activities. We have been using it at school and we have already seen evidence that the children's mathematical skills are benefitting. The trial will continue for another week after which time we will send out a consultation letter to decide whether this is something that would benefit the West Exmoor Federation.

Names on Property

Please take a moment to check that your child's name is on all their property in school. As the school year progresses and any new items are brought, names are not always being written on items of clothing, PE kits etc. The lost property baskets are overflowing. If you are missing anything, please have a look in lost property which is located at the top of the stairs.



Thank you

A huge thank for all your continued support. We have had lots of junk modelling contributions which the children love! Thank you to Eve Parkinson, Naomi-Gubb Fradgley, Kelly Peacock and Nicole Oxenham for continuing to read with the children and support them at school. We are also very lucky to have Naomi Gubb-Fradgley joining us every Friday as part of her FE work placement in Early Childhood Education.



Mr Mackenzie

Class News – Rivers

Rivers and Oceans have been busy making Paper Mache planets. We have had great fun, researching and designing our planets.

We are working on the artist Kandinsky at the moment and we are creating copies of the artist's work. This will then help us to design our own painting based on this artist's style in the theme of space. We will be using our knowledge of shape and the music 'Planets' by Holst in order to inspire our art.

In English, we are finishing off our newspaper reports and then we will move onto adverts. In maths we are focusing on multiplication and will move onto division later on in the week.

Many thanks,
Miss Martin

Class News – Young Buds

Young Buds are really enjoying our current topic of space. In theme, they have been learning about their own local surroundings and are gradually working their way out to space. During their visit to Rosemoor next week, Young Buds will learn about the habitats of local birds, consider the changes of the seasons and the impact the seasons have on the birds and the natural resources that birds use to make nests. This is linked to The Big School Bird Watch which will then be followed up in the classroom.

In Literacy, we have just started a sequence on non-fiction in which the children are beginning to learn all about what non-fiction books are. We will move onto the children using books to research some of the planets in our solar system. If you have any books at home that your child can bring in to share with their friends and to help them find out about planets we would be very grateful.

In Maths, we are currently working on addition and subtraction up to 10, 20 and 100. Next week, we will be moving onto shape. As you all know, Young Buds have also been introduced to Mathletics. Please do let us know how you are getting on with it at home and whether your child is enjoying using it.

Young Buds have clearly been working hard on their camera words at home, with more and more children getting 5/6 or 6/6. These words will help your child to read with greater fluency and become better writers too so thank you for the efforts you are putting in. I have noticed in phonics that some of the year one children find it hard to use the word 'was' correctly in a sentence. Any extra help with this at home would also be appreciated.

Thank you all for your continued support.
Sally Pile and Jill Kelly.

Admin News

For Sale

Hot Food Pie Warmer/Heated Warm Showcase Cabinet Unit for sale at Parracombe School. RRP approximately £250 in good condition £100 ono. For more information, please call Jacqui at Parracombe School on 01598 763338.

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. We now have a dedicated absence option on the answer phone service. If no reason is given for your child's absence, we are required to mark this as an unauthorised absence.

Up to date contact information

If you or one of your child's named contacts move house, start a new job within school hours or any other contact details change, please can you ensure that you have advised the office. It is very important that we have up to date contact details should we need to reach you.

With many thanks,
Wendy, Jacqui, Mel and Vikki

Kitchen News:

Packed Lunches

In recent weeks we have noticed an increasing amount of sweet, sugary snacks being brought in to school in lunch boxes. We would really appreciate your support in enabling all of our children to enjoy a healthy balanced diet on a daily basis.

Some ideas for alternatives to sugary snacks taken from the Change for Life Website include:

- Malt loaf slice
- Lower-fat, lower-sugar fromage frais
- Chopped vegetables and lower-fat hummus
- Plain rice cakes or crackers with lower-fat cheese
- Sugar-free jelly



The Change for Life Website offers some really good suggestions for healthy snack alternatives and gives some quick, easy ideas for lunch boxes. Please visit www.nhs.uk/change4life-beta/be-food-smart for further information.

Lynton PTFA

We are in full swing planning and preparing for our upcoming events to raise money for the Bicentenary projects. We will hopefully be able to provide more details of what we are hoping to achieve very soon once we have all quotes in. We have two confirmed events organised so far which include our Quiz Night at the Cottage Inn on 2nd February at 7.30pm. Entry is £5 per person with up to 4 people in a team. The top prize is a Thai takeaway for 4 or a £50 voucher to spend in the restaurant (winner's choice). Please book your table by calling Charlotte on 07521 220570 or with Vikki in the office. We are also holding another Bingo Night following the huge success of our first one. It is on the 16th March at the Bowls Club, eyes down at 8pm. The last one was extremely popular so we recommend you book early for this as above to avoid disappointment., it is a really fantastic evening.

We are still seeking any raffle prize donations for the events. If you have anything you could donate we would be extremely grateful. Please could you take any suitable prizes in to Vikki in the office as soon as possible.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best Wishes,
Lynton PTFA

Governing Body Update

I am pleased to say that a parent has come forward and applied to become a member of the Governing Body, thus restoring us to full strength. The aspiring governor is currently undergoing the Devon process for acceptance, and I am sure the successful applicant will be known to all shortly. Meanwhile, for the remainder of this term the Governors will be holding

their usual sub-committee and Full Governors meetings, as well as undertaking a number of Learning Walks across the Federation schools.

However, if any parent, guardian or carer is even possibly interested in finding out more about the workings of the Governing Body, we would welcome approaches from interested people. Anyone interested should first make contact with the Clerk to the Governors, Mrs. Jacqui Skelton Norrish on 01598 763338, or to myself via any school office.

Jan Stokes
Chair of Governors

Dates for your diary

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

Lynton PTFA Proudly Presents

QUIZ NIGHT

Raising funds for Lynton School's Bicentenary Projects

WHERE WHO WHAT

HOSTED BY DISCO DAN

HOW WHO WHEN

FRIDAY 2ND FEBRUARY AT 7.30PM

Booking advised - Please call 07521 220570 or message Charlotte Smallman on facebook to reserve your table

@ THE COTTAGE INN

TOP PRIZE THAI TAKEAWAY FOR 4 OR £50 VOUCHER

£5 PER PERSON UP TO 4 PER TEAM



NIGHT!

EASTER BINGO @ THE BOWLS CLUB

FRIDAY 16TH MARCH

EYES DOWN at 8PM

£10 For a Night of Entertainment

Lynton PTFA are raising money to help fund the bicentennial celebrations at Lynton School in May 2018. Come and join us for a wonderful night of bingo. Many fabulous prizes to be won ...

Booking Essential - Please contact Charlotte Smallman on 07521 220 570



Workshop 2018

Join us for a pair of exciting subsidised workshop classes on Sunday 25th February.

Clare Palethorpe – Musical Theatre

Clare is Director, Producer & Choreographer at Rubix Dance & Productions based in the West Mids. She is also a Freelance Dance Artist for the RAD & BBOdance, delivering workshops and classes to students in jazz, musical theatre, contemporary and lyrical.

Brandon Lee Sears – Jazz

Brandon is an experienced performer and teacher in many genres, most recently seen performing in Motown the Musical in London's West End. He is also the founder of Yes I Can Academy based in East London.

Students will be split into 2 age groups:
8-12 yrs & 13-18 yrs - both workshops are open to dancers of all abilities.

Class times will be 10.30am – 12.30pm & 2.00pm – 4.00pm, finishing with a demonstration to parents at 4.15pm.

The cost to attend both classes and receive a complementary t-shirt is £10.00 per student.

To be held at Kingsley School, Northdown Road, Bideford, EX39 3LY (North Devon Dance Festival venue).

For more information please email northdevondancefestival@live.co.uk or call 01271 326291

Fight Fuel Poverty

Need to reduce your household energy bill?

Struggling to keep your home warm in the cold weather?

Get advice and help from **Devon Communities Together.**

Our home energy advisors can help you reduce your energy costs, keep your home warmer and help you understand how to get the best energy prices.

To arrange a FREE home visit please call:

01392 248919

Or email:

info@devoncommunities.org.uk

