



# West Exmoor Federation

*'Rooted and Growing – Together we Love Learning'*

*Spring Term 2018 – Newsletter No 5 - 29<sup>th</sup> March*

## Quick Reminders

**CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL** on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April

**TENNIS COACHING** starts on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April for Foundation, KS1 & KS2 – please ensure that your child has their kit with them

## Mrs Peacock

Dear Parents/Carers

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a restful Easter break. It has been a challenging term with flooding, snow, illness and incredible heartache as we have all constantly held Gini and her family in our thoughts and prayers. I thank you all for your support, kindness and understanding. I also thank you for entrusting your wonderful children into the care of the federation. Throughout the term they have exemplified our CARIS values and I am immensely proud of each and every one of them. The quality of their learning has been outstanding and I never fail to be amazed by the incredible effort that they all put into their home learning – thank you for supporting your children and enabling them to excel.

## THE BOY WHO CLIMBED INTO THE MOON



All of our children thoroughly enjoyed Theatre Alibi's visit earlier this week. The performance of 'The Boy Who Climbed to the Moon' told the story of a boy called Paul who lived at the bottom of a huge apartment block. He wanted to break free, to go right to the top of the block, and to touch the sky. From there he kept on climbing until he reached the moon. The characters in the play were amazing and the use of puppets really enthralled the children. I would like to say a massive thank you to Diana and Keith Gray of Ingleside Guest House who helped to fund Theatre Alibi's visit – we are incredibly appreciative of their support.

## STAFFING UPDATE

As you may be aware, we have recently advertised and interviewed for a teaching vacancy within the federation. This appointment is for an additional teacher to ensure that we have three discrete classes at Lynton and two at Parracombe. As of yet we have not made an appointment, nor has any firm decision been made about where our new teacher may be based; this will be dependent upon their area of expertise and where we feel their skills will be best suited. We are hoping to finalise this new appointment soon after the Easter break. Once this has been done we will be able to advise you of our teaching arrangements for September 2018. Should you wish to discuss this matter with me, please do not hesitate to do so.

## SPORTS COACHING

As another term of sports coaching comes to an end, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Jon from Rugby Tots, Heather Robertson (Hatha Yoga) and the Falcons Gymnastics Academy for their fantastic input this term. Our children really are very fortunate to benefit from such high level sports coaching which is not only helping to improve their physical health but also their mental well-being. Next term we look forward to welcoming Beth from the Tarka Tennis Centre who will be coaching all of our children on a weekly basis for the duration of the term.

## SATS

As you will be aware, children in Year 6 will be taking their SAT tests next term. They have been working incredibly hard and I have no doubt that each and every one of them will do their very best. SATs will begin

*Curiosity ~ Achievement ~ Respect ~ Inspiration ~ Support*

on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May and take place over four days. On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May, to celebrate the end of the assessment week, the children will be treated to a well-earned day out at the Devon County Show.

### **LIFE EDUCATION BUS**

Next term the children will enjoy their annual visit to the Life Education Bus. We have been extremely fortunate this year to secure a grant from the Rotary Club of Great Britain to enable us to offer this to our children at no cost. Further details regarding this visit will be sent home after the Easter break.

### **CHRISTIAN AID NON-UNIFORM DAY/BAKE SALE**

To mark Christian Aid Week we will be holding a belated Non-Uniform Day and Bake Sale on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May. The focus for the week is that of Standing Together to enable families to weather future storms.

Best Wishes,



Jayne Peacock  
Executive Headteacher

## **Streams & Young Buds**

Next term we will be learning all about the Ancient Egyptians. This is a fascinating topic that is sure to grab the curiosity of the children. In English, we will be learning about fairy tales. In foundation the children will be learning to retell them and create their own puppet shows and dramas. In KS1, we will be giving our favourite fairy tales an Egyptian twist. The 3 little pigs may be making pyramids made of straw! We will also, be making our own stop frame animation and learning about the science behind it. In maths, we will be learning about time, measure, multiplication and division.



### **Mathletics**

Please keep using the Mathletics to support your children's learning. The impact on the children's maths understanding has been good. If you need log in details, please see your class teacher.

### **Easter Service**

Thank you for coming to see the children at the Easter Service. It was lovely to see so many of you there. We loved sharing our songs with you.



### **Reading**

The children have been given extra reading books for the Easter Holiday. Please continue to read over the two week break to consolidate all of the children's learning in school.

## River, Oceans & Oaks

### Home Learning:

Our topics next term are Ancient Egypt and “Lights, camera, action” – plays, movies and musicals. In readiness for this we would like the children to research and plan and prepare to pitch their ideas for a new historical adventure, blockbuster feature film that is to be set in Egypt!

The children will pitch their ideas to a panel of potential investors and their work will be prominently displayed in both schools and across our term’s work. Year 6s, please use your Easter break wisely. Revision books have given out and we have discussed areas to focus on.



### Easter Holidays:

As previously mentioned our topics next term will be Ancient Egypt and lights, camera, action.

We are all excited about this and keen to get underway, however we do hope that you have a restful and enjoyable Easter break.

Years 3 & 4: Please remember to read and continue to practise your times tables.

Year 6: The Easter holidays are a great time for you to get underway with SATs preparation and revision. Please use your time wisely.

We hope you all have a lovely Easter. Look forward to seeing you again in a couple of weeks.

## Little Berries

We have had a wonderful term at Little Berries, finally welcoming in the spring weather as we approach Easter. We have had lots of fun decorating eggs and making our scrummy chocolate Easter cakes. We will be open during the half term and have lots of activities planned for our Little Berries that are booked in with us. Fingers crossed for some lovely weather during the Easter break.

## Admin

### After School Clubs:

Please could we ask for any Summer Term After School Club forms and payments that have not yet been returned, to be brought in on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April as the clubs start on this day.

### Forest of Dean Year 5-6 Residential, September 2018:

The second instalments for the Residential in September are now overdue, if you have not yet sent in your payment, please can you do this on the 16<sup>th</sup> April so we are all up to date.

### Absence:

Please remember 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, Vikki, Jacqui and Mel

## Diary Dates

16 <sup>th</sup> April	Children return to school
3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Meet the Lifeguard Talks
4 <sup>th</sup> May	Tag Rugby Qualifier
11 <sup>th</sup> May	Rounders Qualifier
23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Devon Air Ambulance Talks
25 <sup>th</sup> May	Christian Aid Non-Uniform Day & Bake Sale

## Community