



# West Exmoor Federation

*'Passionately pursuing educational excellence with our children and community for their lifetimes'*

December 2008

Dear Community,

## **Fitness Festival**

Last month infant children from across the federation took part in a fitness festival held at Ilfracombe College. During the festival they participated in a wide range of non-competitive events and had an excellent, albeit exhausting, time.

## **Remembrance Day**

On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November the children of the federation were privileged to be invited to take part in the very special Service of Remembrance and Dedication of the Locomotive AXE at the Lynton and Barnstaple Railway, Woody Bay Station. The AXE locomotive was used in service on the western front during the Great War and was dedicated by The Lord Bishop of Exeter, The Right Reverend Michael Langrish. During the Service the children planted crosses in the Garden of Remembrance, bearing the names of servicemen within their communities who lost their lives in active service during WWI.

## **Non-Uniform Days**

The children have participated in two non-uniform days this half-term. The first was a Red and Black themed day during which the children raised money for the Royal British Legion and the Lynton and Barnstaple Railway. The second was a Pyjama Day which raised funds for Children in Need.

## **Federation Day**

On Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November the federation held an Open Day for headteachers, governors and officers of Devon County Council and wider afield. There is a great deal of interest in the work that we are doing as we are

one of only 28 proper federations in the country and still the only federation comprising of a Voluntary Aided, Voluntary Controlled and Community School. During the day the visitors enjoyed a presentation about our federation and how we came to be. This was followed by a question and answer session which allowed them to explore the benefits of federation with a view to establishing similar models within their own communities. Throughout the day the visitors enjoyed pupil guided tours of each school before the day culminated with a cream tea at Kentisbury. I have received a great deal of positive feedback about the day and would like to take this opportunity to thank the children, staff and governors who helped to make the day such a resounding success.

## **Wren Music**

Last month each school within the federation was visited by the Wren Music Company. The children had a wonderful experience and thoroughly enjoyed listening to a wide range of musical instruments being performed. To top off the experience many of the children then had an opportunity to try different instruments for themselves. By the end of the session the children were left feeling very inspired with many eager to learn to play an instrument. We very much hope to do more learning with the company in the future.

## **Guardianship**

Once again our Year 6 children are being given the opportunity to participate in the National Trust Guardianship Scheme. The children will study the ecology of the local environment and extend their understanding of the need to conserve

our natural world. Before Christmas they will be working with Steve Proud in the Heddon Valley, assisting with the National Trusts programme of coppicing. I am sure that this will prove to be a great success once again.

## **Anti-Bulling Day**

At the end of November the children in Year 6 participated in an Anti-Bulling Conference at Ilfracombe College. The day involved all of the Year 6 children from across the Local Learning Community and explored why children bully and how to say no to bullying.

## **Pantomime**

On Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> December the entire federation will be visiting the Queen's Theatre to see the pantomime of Jack and the Beanstalk. This has become an annual event and is always very much enjoyed by the children and staff alike during the run-down to Christmas.

## **Nativity and Carol Services**

Each school within the federation will mark the festive season with a Carol Service and Nativity. Lynton will start the proceedings with services at St Mary's on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am and 6p. Parracombe will follow on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December with a service at Christ's Church at 11.00am. Finally Kentisbury will hold its service at St Thomas' on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00pm. I very much hope that you will be able to join us at one, or even more, of these services.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a very enjoyable Christmas and a happy, peaceful and healthy New Year.

Kind Regards,

Jayne Peacock, Executive Headteacher

*'Together we love learning'*

**Lynton CE Primary School**, Market Street, Lynton, North Devon, EX35 6AF

01598 753309, [admin@lynton-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@lynton-primary.devon.sch.uk), **Head of Teaching & Learning – Miss Vicky Cawley**

**Kentisbury Primary School**, Kentisbury Ford, Barnstaple, North Devon, EX31 4NG

01271 883263, [admin@kentisbury.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@kentisbury.devon.sch.uk), **Acting Federation Deputyhead – Mrs Clare Cooke**

**Parracombe CE Primary School**, Parracombe, Barnstaple, North Devon, EX31 4QJ

01598 763338, [admin@parracombe-primary.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@parracombe-primary.devon.sch.uk), **Acting Head of Teaching & Learning – Mrs Jody Davie**