



# West Exmoor Federation

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

**March 2009**

Dear Community,

## **Out and About**

Since the last newsletter Jacob Bartlett, Kristian Winn, Huw Prosser, Liam Hazell and Michael Byrne participated in a literacy 'Gifted & Talented' day at Ilfracombe Junior School. They had a wonderful day and thoroughly enjoyed working with a professional author. Year 6 have also been out and about, visiting Ilfracombe College to watch 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. The performance was truly inspirational and provided the children with a glimpse of what to expect when they move up to the College in September.

## **Kentisbury Pond**

The Kentisbury PTFA are kindly reviving the pond within the school grounds. They will be holding a gardening day on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March from 10:00-3:00 and would very much appreciate your time and support. 'People Power' will be used to dig, sow grass and flowers and plant shrubs. Help will also be required to make animal shelters, bird tables, feeders, etc. Please come along as and when you, bringing with you any tools that you think you may need. The donation of wood off-cuts would also be appreciated for the animal shelters and feeders.

## **Help your child with Maths**

Just a reminder that North Devon College are running a Numeracy skills course at Lynton Primary school on Thursday mornings from 10am – 12pm for 11 weeks. The course will start on February 26<sup>th</sup> and is open to any parent/carer with a per-school or school aged child who would like to develop their maths skills in order to

better support their children with maths learning. Please telephone Lynton Primary School to express your interest.

## **Federation Visitors**

The month the Federation is being visited by people from across the country who wish to learn from our good practice as a federation. The visit will be made by the Deputy-Chief Executive of Shropshire County Council plus some, or all, of the members of the Policy Commission which is made up of Neil Kingham (Former DG at the Department for Communities and Local Government), Professor Louise Stoll (University of London), Margaret Clark (Rural Adviser to Business & the Community/Former Director at the Commission for Rural Communities) and Tony Travers (Director of Research Centre at London School of Economics and Adviser to House of Commons Select Committee for Schools, Children and Families). Our work as a federation of small rural schools is at the cutting edge of innovation and leading the way for many other small schools that are at potential risk of closure.

## **World Maths Day**

Children across the federation will be celebrating world maths day on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March by taking part in an online mental maths competition with children across the globe.

## **Lynton Play to Learn**

Lynton Primary School will be running a pre-school drop in session on Mondays between 9:15am – 10:15am for anyone wishing to bring their child in to school. The session

will cost 50p and will be held in class 1. Parents/carers will be required to stay with their child. If you require further information please contact Vicky Cawley, Head of Teaching and Learning, at Lynton School.

## **Parracombe Gymnastics**

The Key Stage Two children at Parracombe will be attending a 6 week block of gymnastics at Gazelles School of Gymnastics. This really is a wonderful opportunity for the children to develop their skills within gymnastics at the very highest level.

## **Kentisbury Rosemoor Trip**

This month the Key Stage One children from Kentisbury will be visiting the RHS gardens of Rosemoor. During their visit they will take part in a workshop about growing vegetables which they will be able to apply in the school allotments on their return to school.

## **Music Project**

The federation is delighted to have been selected to participate in a music pilot project; just one of three within the county. Details of the project have yet to be finalised, but it is hoped that a number of children from across the federation will have the opportunity to learn to play an instrument within the context of ensemble playing. Watch this space for further information.

Kind Regards,

Jayne Peacock  
Executive Headteacher

*'Together we love learning'*

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