

Dear Parents/Carers

It seems hard to believe that two weeks have passed since our last newsletter – the term is just flying by! It's certainly been a busy couple of weeks, especially with the Ofsted inspections that took place across the federation last week. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff for their hard work and support during the course of the inspections. We are now waiting to hear the outcomes and will share this with you as soon as we are able.

It was lovely to see so many parents/carers at our Lynton Harvest Festival this morning. We have two further services at Parracombe and Kentisbury – please see full details below. Parent consultations are also on the horizon and it would be lovely to see all of you attending to find out how your child has settled into the new school year, how they are progressing and how you can best help them with their learning at home. Again, please see further details below.

With the slightly darker mornings upon us I know that it is increasingly challenging to get children up and ready for school. However, I ask you to do your utmost to ensure that your child arrives at school in good time for the start of the day. For some children arriving just a couple of minutes late can unsettle them for the remainder of the day. Equally, at the end of the day, could you please ensure that you arrive in good time for a 3.15pm collection. If there are any changes to the transport or collection arrangements for your child at the end of the day, please ensure that your child's class teacher is aware. Many thanks.

With Very Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'J Peacock'.

Jayne Peacock
Executive Headteacher

Within Collective Worship across the federation the children are given the opportunity to contribute to our thoughts and prayers. Our thoughts are currently with those who are living in war zones and those who are less fortunate than ourselves.

Class news – Streams

We have been working very hard during the last two weeks.

In our literacy learning we are looking at the fable, The boy who cried Wolf, and reading a book called The boy who cried Ninja. So far the children have retold the traditional story and have started to think about the characters in the new book. We have done some freeze framing and sequencing of the story. We are also looking at how speech marks are used.

This week in our maths, we have been learning all about length and how to measure accurately. The children have enjoyed finding out about how much they have grown. Next week we will start thinking about how to make amounts – for instance how many ways can you make 10 using 2 numbers. Then we will move on to using our number bonds to 10 to help us with our number bonds to 100. The children will also begin to learn about doubles.

Thank you to those of you who have brought in photographs of your family. If any more of you could do so, it would be a great talking point. In the foundation room we have created a role play cellar – based on the Allan Ahlberg books of Funny bones. The children have enjoyed playing in it. We have been looking at the human skeleton and the names of the various bones. We will be thinking about our five senses and what they do. The children will be encouraged to identify sounds and smells without seeing what they are.

The children have been working hard at preparing their songs for our Harvest service on Monday morning. We do hope you will be able to join us at St. Marys so that they can share them with you!!
Mrs Kirby

Class news – Rivers

It's all go in Rivers class exploring our Egyptian theme. This week we made a model of a shaduf – a simple machine which lifted water from the river Nile to water crops. We had to use our knowledge of levers which we have been exploring in science and use this to solve this real-life problem. The children have been learning about the role of the Pharaoh in Ancient Egyptian society. They have created some wonderful mind maps displaying their research into this subject. In literacy we are writing an Egyptian myth together based on The Star Bearer. The children have created new Gods with new powers and we are using our skills in writing complex sentences to add details and variety for the reader. We are building up a bank of skills so that next week the children will be planning and writing their own myth, with less input from me.

In maths we are currently looking at the relationship between multiplication and division. The children are learning new strategies to quickly recall their times table facts. Next we will be moving onto the relationship between division and fractions – ie. half = $\div 2$ etc. We will be performing poems in the harvest festival on Monday at 10.30, St Mary's. It would be wonderful to see you there to celebrate harvest with us.

Many thanks

Mr Doherty

Class news – Oceans

Having made instructions for chocolate mousse we have already tasted the fruits of our labours this term. Our detailed look at what makes a sentence, has led us to playing with clauses, we've been identifying them, combining, separating and re-ordering them. As a result of this, our instruction writing has become much clearer and we are eager to wrap up our first sequence this year with instructions on how to mummify your own teddy.

In maths we have focussed on place value, reading, writing, partitioning and ordering numbers with and without decimals. Everyone is enjoying having a go at challenging tasks, there is a supportive and engaged atmosphere in class, as we push each other to explain our answers mathematically and question and justify our decisions. The year six pupils have been explaining methods of efficiency to the year 5 pupils and writing instructions on how to order and round numbers for our displays.

We have been very lucky to have Pip Ash working with us for the past few weeks. Mr. Ash is hoping to train to be a KS3 Physics teacher, he was enthused by his two weeks with us and he was a great help. As a parting gift he brought in his cello on Friday, children enjoyed listening to him play a variety of pieces, some were lucky enough to have a go at playing the instrument ourselves. It really was a fantastic opportunity for us to hear a beautiful instrument being played at a high standard.

Our house and vice captains have been chosen this week and their first tasks are to re-design our house shields. School council members will be organised this week and they will continue the positive work that previous pupils who have sat on the council have undertaken. PGL is not far off and we are getting increasingly excited about our break at Beam House and a little further in the future you should note that Bike ability has been booked for the second half of the summer term.

Sincerely,

Miss Adams.

Class news – Young Buds

This week has been a busy week for all the little buds, working on their basic handwriting and sentence structures. The latter part of the week saw Ofsted coming to visit and I am very proud to say all the children behaved wonderfully and offered great responses to questions! On Thursday the children each made their own Play-doh dragons and enjoyed writing all about them in our literacy lessons. In the afternoon, the whole class went on an "Autumnal adjectives walk" up to the community field, where we found a wealth of interesting items to help us improve our descriptive talking and writing. In Maths we have been learning how to measure length and height using standard and non-standard units. Next week in science we will be looking at our 5 senses, so keep them sharp for some good learning!

Mr Fletcher

Class news – Oaks

Oaks class have made a positive start back to the term and progression in their learning is already noticeable. In literacy we are still studying 'The Star Bearer', this week we will be thinking about ideas for our own myth set in Ancient Egypt. In maths we are moving onto multiplication and division facts, we will focusing on three, four and six times tables this week. Children will begin to apply their knowledge to solving real life problems. We are very busy getting ready for the Harvest Festival; children have produced some amazing art work to go on display in Parracombe Church already. Children are loving and taking a keen interest in our current topic 'Walk like an Egyptain', so far we have discussed the similarities and differences between Devon and Egypt along with the importance of the River Nile. As a reminder please ensure children always have the correct PE kit in school along with a water bottle daily and every item is named/labelled.

Many Thanks.

Miss Hill

Dates for your diary & Community news(details will follow nearer the time for events)

Parent Consultations

Parent Consultations will take place during the week beginning 20th October. At Lynton they will be held on Tuesday 21st October, commencing at 3.30pm. At Parracombe and Kentisbury consultations will take place on Thursday 23rd October, commencing at 4pm. To assist parents with children at both Parracombe and Kentisbury, consultations will be held for all parents of Parracombe and Kentisbury children at Parracombe School (our Spring Term consultations will take place at Kentisbury to keep things fair). Sheets to sign up for parent consultations will be made available in each school from Monday 6th October. If you are unable to get into school to select a time, please call the school office where Betty, Jacqui or Mel will be happy to 'sign up' for you.

Harvest Festival

A Harvest Festival Service will be held for the children of Lynton at St Mary's on Monday 29th September at 10.30am. The children of Parracombe and Kentisbury will take part in two services; the first at Christ Church, Parracombe on Friday 3rd October at 10.30am; the second at St Thomas', Kentisbury on Wednesday 8th October at 10.30am. If you are able, please do come along and join us as we celebrate the bounty that Autumn provides us with.

Admin

School Photographs

Tempest Photography will be visiting Parracombe and Kentisbury School (Including Little Berries) on Weds 22nd Oct to take individual and family photographs. The photographer will start the day with family photo's at Kentisbury at 8.30am; Any parents of children that attend **both** schools that would like a family picture should attend Kentisbury at this time and then transport their own child to their base school afterwards.

Individual photographs will then follow at both schools.

If you have children at the same base school family photographs will be taken at the same time as the individuals.

If you have not already done so can we please remind parents to return the Data Collection Sheets that were sent home for completion, these are very important as this enables information about pupils/contacts etc to remain up to date, if you require another sheet please contact the Administrator. Thank you.

If anyone can spare some time, you would be most welcome at Kentisbury school to read with the KS1 children, please contact Mel or Wendy 01271883263

Free Schools Meals eligibility

We would like to let you know, that you may be entitled to claim free schools meals, If you are in receipt of Income Support, Income based Jobseekers Allowance, Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999. Employment and Support Allowance (income-related), Guarantee

element of State Pension Credit or Child Tax Credit (without Working Tax Credit) with an annual income below £16,190 a year.

Although the KS1 children are currently entitled to free meals under the new Government Scheme, should any KS1 children be eligible under the above criteria, we would ask that you also please speak to your School regarding the completion of a Pupil Premium Eligibility form, if you have not previously completed one, as again, additional funding is also received by the school for those children eligible. Any forms that have recently been returned to your school, have been forwarded onto the School Meals Team.

It may be that you do not wish to take up any eligibility you may have for free meals, but we would encourage you to apply, because each child registered brings in additional funding to the School. If you think you are entitled to free school meals, whether your children are in KS1 or KS2, please let your school know, so that we can arrange to let you have the relevant claim form/s. Please be aware that no-one in the class, apart from the class teacher will be aware your child is having free school meals, so your children will not be made to feel different, if you claim.

Federation Staff Vacancies

We have the following vacancies available. Should you be interested in any of these positions, please speak to either Jayne or the admin team for further information:-

1. Lunchtime Supervisor for Lynton School for 5 hours per week (12.00-13.00hrs.)
2. Catering Assistant for Parracombe School for 6.25 hours per week. For further details of this post please contact Stephan at Devon Norse (Catering Company) on 07789 032965.

Spare Clothes

We would be pleased to receive any clothes which your child/ren may have grown out of for the KS1 children. These can then be used as spare clothes, for when any accidents occur, when the children are working/playing with water, etc.

Head Lice

Please can we ask all parents/carers to check daily for head lice and treat straight away to ensure that any outbreaks are stopped immediately?

Betty, Wendy, Jacqui and Mel