



West Exmoor Federation

'Rooted and Growing – Together we Love Learning'

27.5.16

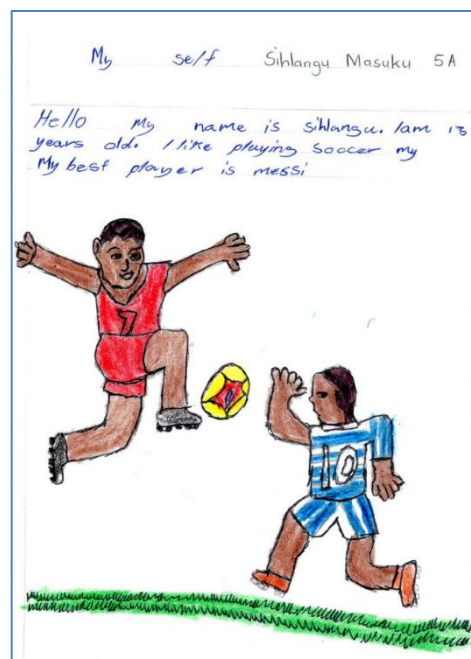
Dear Parents/Carers

Goodness me, what a busy half-term it has been! We have certainly been blessed with beautiful weather for our science week and, as the reports show below, the children have had a thoroughly enjoyable time exploring and learning about contrasting environments and the way in which plants and animals adapt to live within a variety of habitats. Hopefully the grand finale to our week today with our Revels Church Service at Christ Church Parracombe, Maypole and Line Dancing and our 'Eggstravaganza' will round the week off with a real buzz.

UPDATE FROM SIHLANGU

As you know, we sponsor a child in Swaziland through the charity Challenge Ministries Swaziland. We have just received this update on Sihlangu, which I thought you might like to see:

Sihlangu has worked well. He takes responsibility for his work and has become more active in participating in class activities. Sihlangu works well with his teachers and peers in class. His reading skills have improved but there is still room for improvement in his word building skills. He struggles in formal tests but his work during the term is consistent. Sihlangu has obtained very low grades in all his subjects in the formal tests and the teachers encourage him to be more diligent this new school year. There is hope that he will do better as his confidence grows. With a little more effort in his work and behaviour in class, the teachers hope to see Sihlangu develop in his overall performance in school.



WATER BOTTLE CHALLENGE

In the last week or two your child should have brought home a water bottle as part of the Water Bottle Challenge. Swaziland has declared a national disaster as a severe drought enters its second year. The challenge for our children is to take a free bottle of water (kindly donated by Tesco), drink it and then fill the empty bottle with loose change. This challenge is being organised by Challenge Ministries Swaziland and every £5 raised will provide ten days of bottle drinking water for one person, four 5ltr containers to harvest rain water and relief to a nation in crisis. If your family would like to take part in this challenge, bottles should be returned to school by Friday 1st July.

CHURCH SCHOOLS SERVICE – ST MARY'S, BIDEFORD

Earlier this week I took Izzy, Lily and Polina to St Mary's, Bideford, to represent the federation at the North Devon Church Schools Annual Service. The service was attended by a number of schools from across North Devon and focused upon the theme of team work and how this helps us within our schools and community. The girls were a real credit to themselves, their families and the federation. Lily even did a reading, despite being extremely nervous – well done Lily!

DEVON COUNTY SHOW

It was an absolute delight to take the Y6 children to the Devon County Show last week. Their behaviour was impeccable and they showed enormous enthusiasm for the many exhibits and events that we visited. The BBC tent was a particular favourite as they were able to have a go at reading the news and the weather. They also had the opportunity to sit behind the real judges desk from Strictly Come Dancing. In the afternoon we took part in a STEM workshop where the children made motor operated dustpan brushes!!



Finally, I hope that you all have a wonderful half-term break. The children have certainly worked extremely hard this half-term and I know that they are all ready for a break – fingers crossed that the weather remains reasonable and that we can all enjoy some time relaxing outside.

Best Wishes,

Jayne Peacock
Executive Headteacher

In collective worship we have been continuing to think about how the school curriculum provides a 'window' for worship. We have been looking at the world of natural science and geography, reflecting upon the awe and wonder that our world provides us with. We have been praying for the victims and families of the Egyptian air disaster and for those suffering from drought across the world.

Class news – Streams

Streams have been getting stuck into our 'Oh I do like to be beside the seaside' topic. As part of our Forest School sessions the children designed and created boats to travel down a stream, all be it in the pouring rain! In numeracy we have been exploring division through sharing, especially pirates treasure. The children have been writing their own stories in the style of Julia Donaldson's 'Sharing a Shell'. It has been amazing to see the progress the children have made since this year, we can see lots of budding young authors in Lynton.

SATS

Well done to the Year 2 children for completing their KS1 SATS this week. They should be extremely proud of how they approached these assessments with enthusiasm and confidence.

Mr Mackenzie

Class news – Rivers

Our visit to Tesco, Ilfracombe, was successful. We had the opportunity to look at where some of their fresh fruit and vegetables originated, as well as trying out some of the more unusual fruit that some of the children hadn't tasted before. Your shopping lists may have to change! This supported our science and looking at healthy eating.

We were also looking to see which Fair Trade products Tesco stocked and found out that they no longer stocked any! That gives us a **real** purpose for writing our persuasive letters and Tesco will be hearing from us very soon (hopefully we'll get a real response too). Who knows? We might change the minds of the members of the Tesco management team!!

In the afternoon, we enjoyed an orienteering session (again, promoting healthy living) and the children were duly exhausted on our return. We found obscure objects following clues in photographs. The weather was perfect and a good day was enjoyed by all.

As well as persuasive letters, the children are using our TASC wheel to plan our displays in the classroom all about Fair Trade and some of the countries the products are imported from. We will be focusing on writing and producing posters, leaflets and other ideas the children have come up with themselves. Last week's homework was to research facts about Fair Trade and we would be grateful if you could continue to

find out facts and information over the next couple of weeks that will support their work in class.

A big thank you to Mrs Robinson too for coming in to talk about the shop she runs at Lee Abbey and to share her expertise with the class.



Mrs Roper and Mrs Hamer

Class news – Oceans

We won!! Our year 6 went to play rounders at Ilfracombe Academy against Coombe Martin, Woolacombe and Ilfracombe primary schools and we won. As a result, we are competing in June against primary schools from Barnstaple as we will be representing the schools from our learning community. Having been close to winning in many of our out of school competitions for the last two years, this is a great achievement that we are very proud of and we are hoping that this is the start of a real boost for our sporting activities. We are starting (weather permitting) to run a kilometre per day as we have worked out that 10 laps of our playground equals 1K; this is not a race, just a way for us to break-up the school day with activity.

It's a busy end to the half-term. Friday saw our trip to the Devon County Show and this week we are exploring our surroundings with visits to Woolacombe and Watersmeet. We are surveying the environments and discovering how the animals and plant-life around us has adapted to thrive. All of these trips and those to come are focussed on giving the children relevant and purposeful life-skills and I am sure that the programme of events in the last part of yr5/6 primary school will be as successful as it has been in previous years.

We have also been organising our play parts and have started play practise and prop production; "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" is now in full flow and promises to be brilliant. In literacy we are continuing with the play's theme and writing our own additional chapter to the story. This sequence is concentrating on our use of descriptive techniques. In maths we are extending our use of multiplication and division, exploring methods and practical applications, as we focus on developing our garden and planning for it to become an area that is used more by all.

How you can help at home:

Literacy – Our use of tense is improving but we need to continue to focus on it and handwriting. If you require handwriting sheets please ask me to send some, my preference at this age is to create a poetry anthology in which the children copy out poetry and decorate the page. Your child has been sent home with these exercise books for this.

Reading – When reading with children, ask them their opinions or what they think the character's opinions of an event are. Challenge them to explain or give proof to back-up their opinions through the text. Proving inferred meaning is a key skill that is tested.

Maths – We need to practice our number bonds to 10, 20 and extending this to 100 along with a big push on times tables.

Sincerely,
Sarah Adams

Class news – Young Buds

The children have enjoyed the last few weeks learning so much, culminating in a fantastic Science week which has given them the chance to apply all the skills they have been learning during our Seaside Topic. As part of their floating and sinking learning the children were challenged to design and make a raft out of various materials that wouldn't sink. On Tuesday, we went to Combe Martin beach and tested the rafts. None of them sank and the children had a great time.



We also went rock pooling whilst we were there. The children found all sorts of creatures such as barnacles, sea anemones, periwinkles and limpets. I think it is safe to say that the class thoroughly enjoyed exploring the rock pools to see what they could discover!

We were then lucky enough to spend a wonderful day at Croyde with Streams class from Lynton. Thanks to Mr. Mackenzie for organising such a fun filled day. The children took part in a treasure hunt and found lots of sparkling jewels. They also did some beach art and enjoyed a paddle in the sea, which inevitably led to some of them getting very wet with all the excitement! It was a perfect celebration to the end of our theme learning and also a justly earned reward for all the children's hard work. Special mention must go to the Year 2's who finished their SATs on Monday, they all worked so hard, were incredibly positive and generally made us very proud! We hope you all have a wonderful half term and the sun shines.



Mrs Smith and Mrs Pile.

Class news – Oaks

Firstly, congratulations to Year 6 who completed their SATs last week, you all should be really proud of your achievements, I know we all are!

Secondly, huge congratulations to the Year 6 rounders team who won the tournament played at Ilfracombe

last week and have qualified for the next round, held at Pilton School on Tuesday 14th June. Your skills and sportsmanship were excellent and noticed by all. I had the privilege of taking 16 children from Year 5 and 6 to a Kwik Cricket skills day held at Ilfracombe Rugby Club. All children played exceptionally and learnt new techniques and skills. Some of those children also took part in the North Devon Kwik Cricket festival in Instow later in the week.



Oaks class have planned their carnival costumes and production is under way, a date for the carnival parade will be announced after half term.

Please encourage your children to read and practise their spellings and times tables at home on a regular basis as this will support their learning in school.

Many thanks, Miss Hill.

In Year 3/4, the children have been busy writing their Greek Myths. All sorts of terrifying beasts and magical objects have been created! In maths the children have been working hard making connections with their problem solving, focusing on fractions.

We had a wonderful time during our visit to Tesco. The children discovered many different fruit and vegetables that they were able to taste. Pomegranate and apricot were popular! In the afternoon we enjoyed an orienteering activity around Ilfracombe. Thankfully, the weather was on our side!



Lisa Hamer

Little Berries News



We have Butterflies! Our focus this week is on Understanding the World which has seen us looking at our butterflies closely; their transformation from our caterpillars to Chrysalis and now to butterflies. We have

also used our focus on changes over time to look at the Spring flowers at our school, collecting some and making our own Spring sun catchers for our Little Berries tree.

Last week saw us focussing on Maths. The children have enjoyed grouping different things in different ways; we went on a nature hunt to collect natural found things, grouped them into what they were, big and small items as well as measuring and ordering them in height/length order. The children have really enjoyed our shapes song which shows them that shapes are all around us; can they see any when they are out and about with you?

Next week is our last week until half term and we will be finishing our week with our visit to The Queens theatre to watch The Gruffalos child. If you are meeting us there, please meet in the foyer and we will be seen to our seats as a whole group.

With the weather being very intermittent could we please remind you to send the children in with sun cream already applied and then a bottle sent in with their name clearly marked. Also, a reminder for at least one change of clothes due to water (and mud!) play, as well as suitable clothing such as sun hats.

Many thanks

Your Little Berries team

Governor News

A small group of Governors recently visited Ilfracombe Academy for a tour and a chat with the Head-teacher. Jan and Sue Stokes, Vicky Squire (Lynton), Deb Orton (Parracombe) and Rev. Clive Thomas visited on the afternoon of May 24th. They came away impressed by the learning environment and the positive attitudes of all staff and students they encountered, despite the Academy being in the middle of a building explosion to create a new school planned to open next year.

Amongst other topics, they discussed the curriculum provision, the Church inspired care philosophy, transport issues and transition. The Head-teacher was very forthcoming about how they welcome potential new parents and children to visit the Academy at any time. She said if any potential parent had a particular concern she would welcome a discussion with them and a visit timed to see any particular issue, such as lunchtimes or lesson changeovers.

Any potential new parent wishing to discuss this visit further is welcome to approach any of the Governors who visited, or to make contact with them through the school reception.

Jan Stokes, Chair of Governors.

Admin

Vacant positions

Mealtime Assistant Required at Lynton Primary School as soon as possible. Hours 1.5 per day. Pay £7.20 per hour. If interested please contact Betty in the school office.

Parracombe Primary School – CLEANER Required

Devon Norse have a vacancy for a Cleaner at Parracombe Primary School. You will be responsible for carrying out general cleaning duties including mopping, vacuuming, dusting etc to ensure that the School is maintained to the highest standard. You will be contracted to work 9 hours per week, Monday to Friday, for 41 weeks per year, working term time plus 1 week at Easter and 2 weeks in the summer. Full training and uniform will be provided. This position is subject to an enhanced DBS disclosure, cost of which will be met by the employer.

Working times are 1 hr 48 mins per day – usually evenings but flexible cleaning times can be arranged.

Monthly Pay: – £245.16

For an informal chat regarding this vacancy please contact Ross Swinton on 07825 532445 or to request an application form please phone 01392 351160

TRIPS/ACTIVITIES

During the summer term there are many activities and trips happening across the federation, so there will be letters coming home frequently that require permission slips etc. Please check with your child, if they have received any letters and return the slips to school asap.

Wendy, Bett, Jacqui and Mel

Dates for your diary

30.05.16	Half term, back to school on Monday 6 th June
07.06.16	Y7 Junior Lifeguard Day @ Putsborough
16.06.16	Life skills event- YR 6 @ Barnstaple Rugby club
20.06.16	Y5/6 Beach Soccer Taster Day
22&27.06.16	Y6 Bikeability
28-29.06.16	Life Education Bus
04.07.16	Federation Sports Day @ Kentisbury
05.07.16	Ilfracombe Academy Induction Day for Y6
06.07.16	Y5/6 Trip to Essex Dance
07.07.16	Swimming programme begins
14.07.16	Summer Production – Charlie & the Chocolate Factory (tbc)
21.07.16	Leavers Service/Last Day of Summer Term

Community

Friends of Lynton Library

The Friends of Lynton Library DVD hire – Lynton Library now has a selection of DVD's for free hire. A £2 deposit secures the hire which will be returned to you once the DVD is brought back. Loan time is 3 weeks. This great service has been made possible by all those who have donated DVD's over the past few months. Donations are still needed and can be dropped to the library during opening hours or send to Lynton School. Thank you again to all who have supported this endeavour.

St Mary's Parachute Jump!

Friends of St Mary's Church, Lynton are holding a fund raising day, Monday 30th May including a Teddy Bears parachute jump.

Lynton & Lynmouth Bowls Club

The Lynton & Lynmouth Bowls Club will be holding a fun, 'Have a Go' session to introduce both young and old to the sport. It will be held at the club on 4th June from 2.30pm – 4pm and you just need to turn up; everything you need will be provided. The session will be followed by tea/coffee and cake!

Welcome to Lynton Cinema Film Club

The club hosts a film or two a month based on members preferred choices from the avant garde to popular classics.

Membership is open to anyone wishing to join for a fee of £10 per annum, plus a £3 charge per viewing of each film the members choose to attend.

Non members will be able to attend at a fee of £5 per showing, but preference for seating shall be given to members first

Each film will be selected from a pool of films chosen by members based on the following criteria:

1. A film you have missed and would love to see on a big screen.
2. A film you have seen, but should be seen on a big screen to do it justice.
3. A film you have seen and is so fantastic you want everyone to see it.

We hope to show a diverse range of films at weekends as a matinee showing with the occasional late night horror or Sci-Fi specials. Dependant on funds our long term plans are to provide a Saturday morning club for parents and toddlers, special showings of silent films with live soundtracks and links with local film festivals and events.

To join please contact: Lynton Cinema Film Club, C/O John Arbon Textiles, 19 Queen Street, Lynton, Devon, EX35 6AA or email mill@jarbon.com requesting a membership form.

Our next presentation is a classic Ealing comedy called "Whisky Galore". One of the funniest Ealing comedies made starring Basil Radford, Joan Greenwood and a young Gordon Jackson. Locals on a small Scottish Island get one over on the officialdom smuggling their beloved tippie!