



# West Exmoor Federation

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

30.09.16

Dear Parents/Carers

Wow, what an exciting day the children have had today. It was a true privilege and honour to welcome Stephanie Millward to Lynton this afternoon, a real-life superhero! Stephanie is one of Britain's most experienced para-swimmers, winning five medals during the London 2012 Paralympics and a further five medals in the Rio Games this year, including two gold medals in the 100m backstroke and 4x100m medley relay. Stephanie, who was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis at the age of 17, talked to the children about her experience as a paralympian and took time to answer their many and varied questions. The children were then given the opportunity to hold and wear one of her medals from Rio and to give Tom, the Paralympics Mascot, a hug. It really was an incredible opportunity for our children and one that I am sure they will never forget. Stephanie was truly inspirational, encouraging the children to hang onto their dreams, believe in themselves and work hard to achieve the impossible. Who knows, maybe she will have inspired one of them to strive towards competing in a future Olympics. As adults, I think we all found the afternoon quite an emotional experience and I'd like to thank Vikki Brown for making Stephanie's visit possible and, of course, Stephanie and her family for giving up their valuable time to come and visit us; we all feel truly blessed.



## ATTENDANCE

Thank you to everyone for ensuring that our attendance record has got off to a good start this year. Many of the children have a 100% attendance record and we would like to encourage as many children as possible to maintain this. We are introducing a new attendance award system with all children achieving 100% attendance at the end of the autumn term receiving a bronze wristband. Silver and gold wrist bands will be awarded at the end of the spring and summer term respectively for those children who continue to achieve 100% attendance. However, those children who don't manage to achieve a bronze award at the end of this term will have the opportunity to work towards it again next term if they manage to achieve 100% attendance during the spring term. At the end of the academic year, any child with attendance of 98% or above will be entered into a prize draw to celebrate their achievement.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

We have put together a calendar of events for this term to enable you to plan ahead as much as possible. Inevitably there will always be additional events added into the diary as we go through the term but we hope that you will find this addition to our communication useful.

## BORN TO BE AWESOME

All of our children are awesome and we really want to celebrate this within school. Some of our children are able within maths or art; others within PE or writing; some take part in numerous activities outside of school within which they excel – without exception, every child has an amazing talent of which they should be proud. What we would like to do is create a display in each school celebrating the many amazing talents that our children have. In order to create this, we would love to have photographs of your children doing amazing things outside of school or colour copies of certificates that they have received for their achievements outside of school (we can make these copies for you). We can then add to this with things that happen in school, but primarily we would like this to reflect the whole child and their interests outside of school. Please do help us to celebrate your children by letting us know just how wonderful they are by sending in photographs and certificates. Thank you.

## WATER BOTTLES

Can I please ask that children only have water in their water bottles? Squash or juice may form part of a lunch box but should not be consumed throughout the day in the classroom. Thank you for your co-operation regarding this matter.

Best Wishes,



Jayne Peacock  
Executive Head teacher

*In collective worship we have been thinking about Creation and New Beginnings. We have been giving thanks for all the wonderful things within our world and talking about how we can preserve them for the future. We have also been thinking about and praying for those who are less fortunate than ourselves and those who are displaced by war and conflict.*

### **Class news – Streams**

Streams have been having a wonderful time learning about dinosaurs. We have been writing our own dinosaur stories about Boris and Ned, the class dinosaurs and learning about what the earth was like during the time of the dinosaurs.

Over the next 2 weeks we will be writing our own dinosaur poems and using the book 'Dinosaur Roar' to help us. We will explore rhyming words and different types of poems. In maths we will be continuing to develop our understanding of number facts. This will begin with learning our number bonds to 10 and linking these to other number facts such as adding multiples of 10 to make 100. For example  $3 + 7 = 10$  can be used to help solve  $30 + 70$ . Once the children have a good grasp of number facts we will use them to solve addition and subtraction problems using 1 and 2 digit numbers.

In science, we have been learning about habitats. We will now move onto discussing life cycles and how animals change as they age. We have already starting looking at how humans develop, which led to many interesting questions and conversations. Our science topic is linked to our current RE unit which is creation. We will be learning and discussing different creation stories and the idea that god is the creator of life.

Thank you so much for your support with the new 'Class Dojo' app. The feedback has been very positive and we will continue to explore the benefits of the app. Again, if you have any feedback please come and speak to Me.

Mr Mackenzie

### **Class news – Rivers**

As you may be aware, Miss Martin has been absent from school this week. She came into school on Monday but was clearly very poorly. This week the children in her class have been taught by Miss Adams and Mrs Roper and this will continue next week as it ensures continuity for the children. All being well, Miss Martin will

be back with us by the beginning of the following week (10<sup>th</sup> October). We are all wishing her a speedy recovery and look forward to welcoming her back to school soon.

### **Class news – Oceans and Oaks**

Lulworth Cove was exhausting but excellent! We explored the whole area; Lulworth Cove, Durdle Door, Monkey World and the dinosaur museum in Dorchester. We found out how coves and arches form, went fossil hunting and explored the land formations, finding out where might be the best places to look for fossils. We worked together as a team to make sure our hostel was spick and span and we also worked independently to make our own packed lunches and organise our own bags.



Back in the classroom, literacy is moving onto information texts and we are using this sequence to write non-sequential paragraphs. Our final piece will be an information text on dinosaurs but we will be pushing our writing stamina and producing fact-files about dinosaurs and explanations about fossils from now until half term. In maths we are continuing to explore and explain place value. This week we are writing, representing and ordering a variety of numbers, comparing them to each other as we go.

How you can help at home:

Literacy – We are promoting the asking of questions to extend our writing. Asking your child which object they are referring to or where the object is will promote their descriptive vocabulary. In class we are building paragraphs by answering who, what, when, where, how and why.

Reading – Before we cover the key skill of working out what is inferred by a text, we need to explore “language for effect”. At this point of the year, conversations about which bits of language you like and deeper conversations about why you like it, not only improve vocabulary but also moves towards understanding inference.

Maths – We need to practice our number bonds to 10, 20 and extending this to 100 along with a big push on times tables. To extend further you can explore number bonds to 11, 22 etc. These are harder as they require more than one process to calculate efficiently (the knowledge of the number bond and the calculation to the additional amount).

Choir – We are learning the following songs for this term: Rule the world – Take that; All of me – John Legend; Carol of Bells – Libero.

Sincerely,  
Sarah Adams and Sophie Hill

### **Class news – Young Buds**

Firstly, we would like to say a big thank you to all of our parents and carers for the support and encouragement you are giving your children to read at home. Some of the children are already whizzing towards their 25 reward sticker which is a fantastic start to the year. Reading with your child at home really does make all the difference to their reading development so keep up the good work Young Buds!

Over the next two weeks, we will be focussing on number bonds within maths. The children will be revisiting addition and subtraction and learning number bonds facts with various numbers.

In literacy, Young Buds are continuing to develop their sentence structures with the use of our key text 'Dinosaur Roar'. As well as focussing on their cursive handwriting skills, the children are working on punctuation, making sentences more interesting by changing words and are practising applying their phonics knowledge into their writing. Our next key text will be a non-fiction book and the children will work on producing their own non-chronological reports about dinosaurs. You could help at home by sharing some non-fiction books with your child and talking about the differences between non-fiction and fiction texts.

We'd like to finish with another big thank you for the amazing home learning that has already been coming into school. Your children have shown great enthusiasm for the things they have been making and love to show us and the rest of the class what they have achieved at home. We love to see what the children have made at home so please do keep it coming!

As always, we thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Smith and Mrs Pile.

### **Class news – Oaks**

In literacy we have started writing our own non-fiction texts containing information about dinosaurs we have invented. Can we convince other classes our dinosaurs are real? In maths we are investigating number and the number system. We are representing, partitioning and ordering three-digit and four-digit numbers. The children are continuing to progress through our mathmagician awards. As always, encouraging your child to learn their times tables will help them enormously with this.

Many Thanks,  
Lisa Hamer

### **Little Berries News**

Following on with the theme of 'Walking with Dinosaurs' our Little Berries have continued with their journeys of exploration. On finding an egg they have explored all of the possibilities of what could have laid the egg; was it a land animal, one from under the sea, why wasn't it hatching, how could they look after it? After observing it for several days and nothing happening, they decided to try to put it in water and then watched and waited as it began to hatch! The children have enjoyed colour mixing this week when making their own eggs and dinosaur masks and we have all enjoyed making our very own volcano which we will be exploring next week with some science experiments!

### **LITTLE BERRIES BINGO!**

We will be holding a Bingo evening at The Old Station Inn, Blackmoor Gate on Friday 14th October at 7pm, (eyes down at 7.15pm) to raise much needed funds for Little Berries Pre-School. If you have anything you could donate as a draw prize, we would be most grateful to receive it - please bring in any donations to your school office. All adults and children are welcome, please come along and support us!

Many thanks  
Your Little Berries team

### **Admin News**

#### **Flu Vaccinations**

Year 1, 2 and 3 flu vaccinations are to take place on the 17th October. Unfortunately the deadline has passed for the return of the forms and they have been collected, if you would still like your child to have the vaccination, speak to us and we will see if there is anything we can do.

#### **Kentisbury Harvest Festival**

Please could any Harvest festival donations for Kentisbury be brought into school as soon as possible, Rev. Rosie will be visiting us on Monday 10th October to talk to the children about Harvest before we attend the festival that week and the children will be putting the donations together as part of this talk with Rev. Rosie. Wendy, Vikki, Jacqui and Mel

### **Lynton PTFA**

We will be holding an Auction of Promises at the Cottage Inn on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2016. If anyone would like to donate a 'promise' or an item for the auction we would be very grateful. A promise could be a good deed like a car wash, dog walking, window cleaning, house cleaning, gardening or anything that would be helpful to someone. If you can donate an item instead of a promise this would still be very much appreciated. Please come and see me with any donations.

Many thanks

Sharla Berry – Chair of Lynton PTFA

### **Dates for your diary**

04.10.16	Year 3 & 4 Tag rugby at Ilfracombe Rugby Club
07.10.16	Harvest Festival – St Mary's Church, Lynton at 10.30am
14.10.16	Harvest Festival – Christ Church, Parracombe at 10.30am
14.10.16	Bingo Evening – The Old Station Inn at 7pm (see information above)
17.10.16	Flu Vaccinations for Y1, 2 & 3

### **COMMUNITY**