



West Exmoor Federation

'Rooted and Growing – Together we Love Learning'

02.12.2016

Dear Parents/Carers

CHRISTINGLE SERVICES

Next week the children will all be making Christingles in preparation for our Christingle Services at St Mary's, Lynton on Thursday 8th December at 2.30pm and at Christ Church, Parracombe on Friday 9th December at 4pm. Please do come along and join us if you are able. The Christingle Service is always magical and very much marks the start of the big countdown to Christmas!

RUGBY TOTS

Our children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have thoroughly enjoyed Rugby Tots this term. Their skills have improved greatly and it is lovely to see even our youngest of children beginning to think about 'tactics' when playing games. With this in mind, we have decided to extend the Rugby Tots programme for another term and will now be holding our celebratory session just before the Easter holiday. Further details will follow in due course.



CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

On the last day of term, we are inviting the children to wear non-uniform and, if possible, to wear a Christmas themed jumper. We ask that the children bring in a minimum donation of £1 to wear non-uniform to raise funds for our sponsored child, Shilangu. We have recently heard that Shilangu participated in the Bulembu Inter-House Athletics Competition and came first in the 100m, 200m and 4x100m sprint races – he is clearly a talented athlete and it lovely to think that we are able to contribute to his life in such a positive way.



SKYPE CONFERENCE WITH RT HON JOHN BERCOW MP

On Monday it was a great privilege for our Lynton Key Stage 2 children and our Year 5 and 6 children from Parracombe and Kentisbury to interview the Rt Hon John Bercow MP, Speaker of the House of Commons. The children asked him an amazing array of questions including whether he'd had to tell off any Prime Ministers; what qualities he felt the Speaker of the House of Commons needed to have and whether or not he felt that he had these qualities; what achievements he was proudest of within his life; and what he felt was the most important parliamentary debate that he had taken part. Mr Bercow was extremely generous with his time and gave thoughtful and, at times, amusing, answers to the children's questions and we are very grateful to him taking time out of his busy schedule to engage in a live Q&A with our children. The children's behaviour during nearly an hour long skype conference was

impeccable and they certainly did North Devon proud! Thank you to Sarah Adams for facilitating such an incredible opportunity for our children.

EARLY ARRIVALS

We have noticed that some children are arriving at school extremely early. Children should not be left unattended at school until 8.30am at the very earliest; prior to 8.30am teachers are not able to supervise children or ensure their safety as they are preparing for the day ahead. We do offer breakfast clubs at Lynton and Kentisbury from 8am for any parents/carers who need to drop their children off earlier; for further information, please speak to Vikki at Lynton or Mel at Kentisbury.

Best Wishes,



Jayne Peacock, Executive Headteacher

In collective worship we have been thinking about Salvation and the Kingdom of God. We have also been thinking about and praying for those who lost their lives in the Columbian plane crash; those who are less fortunate than ourselves, especially as we move towards Christmas; and those who are lonely and poorly.

Class news – Streams

Nativity

The children have been working hard on our production of 'Whoops a Daisy Angel'. We are really looking forward to performing it at our Christmas service on Thursday 15th December at 10:00am and 6:00pm.

Curriculum

In Maths we will be learning about 3d shapes within the context of presents. In literacy we will be writing our own Christmas stories using the recent advert created by Waitrose as a stimulus. We will be in full Christmas mode, exploring the stories and meanings of Christmas in RE and PSHE.

Mr Mackenzie

Class news – Rivers

In literacy we have started a new text – Stig of the Dump. We will be using the text as a starting point for our narrative writing. You can help your child in literacy by making sure you listen to them read and ask them relevant questions regarding their understanding.

In maths we are focusing on multiplication. One of the most useful activities for the children to do is to learn their times tables. We will then be moving onto division and word problems involving both multiplication and division.

Our topic sessions are really extending the children's knowledge and understanding of life in the Stone Age and will be continuing this theme until the end of term. In art we have been learning how to blend paint and we have made some effective paintings of Stone Henge.

Many thanks

Miss Martin

Class news – Oceans



This week started with something amazing! Our federation's Key Stage 2, started Monday's learning by interviewing the speaker of the House of Commons, in a skype conversation to the House of Commons. We had previously spent some time developing quality questions to ask Mr. Speaker and this planning and practice paid off during our interview. Mr. Speaker over ran his scheduled time with us by 20 minutes, as he said he was very impressed with the children's, who were as ever incredibly polite and confident when presenting to Mr. Speaker, quality of discussion and debate. After our interview we all decided that we had opened a very big door of opportunity for our learning. If the speaker of the House of Commons could spare 45 minutes to talk with us, then surely other experts and inspirational people could spare us some time too. We have all decided that there is no harm in asking. We have started to develop a wish list of people that we would like to interview and we intend to write letters to them, asking if we could do a Skype interview with them, during our English lessons in January.

We all enjoyed Light-up Lynton and the ever professional pupils of West Exmoor Federation decided to fill-in the 15 minutes running up to Santa's arrival with an impromptu carol concert – thank you and well done to all of our singers. I wonder how we can develop our lantern parade next year? Oh and on another musical note the choir will be spreading Christmas good cheer to the residents of Garson House next week and at Late night shopping, alongside the senior community choir the “Lyntones,” we hope to see you by the Valley of Rocks at



18:00 and perhaps a little later by the Hospice shop. A big thank you also to our new neighbours at St. Vincent's House, who have donated a full drum kit and Gracie Walden who has donated her $\frac{3}{4}$ electric guitar and amp to our emerging rock band. A committed group of budding musicians is emerging. There are regular break-time practice sessions, with our drumming, guitar playing and keyboard playing all showing great improvement. We are on the look-out for a bass guitar, amps and microphones.

In lessons we are writing our chapters to the book “Stig of the Dump”. Even though we have not finished them quite yet, I can honestly say that the standard of writing in year 5 and 6 is amazing but what is more amazing, is the commitment and effort each child is making to discuss, understand and improve their work. I am very proud of their effort this term and hope that they all have a wonderful and well earned break over the Christmas holidays. When they return, we will be starting our new theme “Temples, Tombs and Treasure” and using the books “Danny the champion of the world” by Roald Dahl and “Over Sea, Under Stone” by Susan Cooper. We will continue to explore maths through real life contexts, as we work towards our end of year tests.

Sincerely,
Sarah Adams

Class news – Young Buds

First of all a huge thank you to Shelley Kift (Bailey and Travis's mum) who handmade 24 Christmas cakes and brought them in on Tuesday morning to decorate with the children. Young Buds absolutely loved the whole morning and were so excited to decorate the cakes and boxes in their own personal style, and of course they cannot wait to eat them! Having friends and family in to share their talents with us really does enhance the children's learning so much. With this in mind please don't forget our special 'Bring a Granny/Grandpa' to school day next Tuesday (8th). If a relative is planning to attend and they have any photographs of when they were younger to share with the children, especially if they are Christmas themed, this would be wonderful. Despite how unfortunate we have been with the weather the children have been having great fun in Forest School making dinosaur eggs, fossils and using teamwork and problem solving skills to build dens. As we have had to cancel and cut short a couple of sessions due to the weather Mrs. Watts has promised us a few extra sessions in the Spring Term which is very kind of her. Next week in Literacy we will be writing letters to Father Christmas and posting them off, and in Maths we will be focusing on 2d and 3d shapes and having some fun in our new role play area getting presents ready for the festive season. Finally, we have had to talk to the children lots in the last few weeks about respecting resources in school as sadly this is not always happening and as a result we have nearly run out of many basic supplies such as pens, glue sticks, white board pens etc. due to lids

being left off or being used inappropriately. Please could you support us at home by encouraging your child to tidy up after themselves and to respect the things they are playing with or using.

Many thanks,
Nicola Smith and Sally Pile.

Class news – Oaks

In literacy this week we have started our narrative unit, based on the book 'Stig of the Dump', after watching the film children have been captivated by the storyline – even acting some scenes out on the playground during break times. Children will be writing their own short story replacing the main character with another character, exploring the question – what would you do if you found a Stig in your garden? So far the response and questions have been amazing, we look forward to the production of some outstanding writing.

In maths, year 5 and 6 have been exploring different methods for multiplication and have just started learning a range of methods for division. Division has proved to be trickier but children are taking on the challenge and deepening their understanding every day. It is important for children to keep practicing their times tables and division facts as it will be easier to use more formal methods.

We have almost learnt how to play 'Jingle Bells' on the recorder, please support your child at home with their learning. Can they play it without using the sheet of music?

Just a reminder recorders need to be in school every day and PE kits in school every Tuesday and Friday, however due to unpredictable weather PE kit should be in school daily.

Many Thanks,
Miss Hill.

Little Berries News

The Little Berries have been very busy and are now getting in to the Christmas spirit.

We have started our Christmas countdown with our very own advent. Each day the children will count down advent with our Gingerbread man and consider an element of Christmas. We have been using our scissor skills to make paper chains to decorate Little Berries, cutting out our wish list for Father Christmas and playing with our miniature snow scene. We have spent the last few days exploring the cold weather, ice and frost and are looking forward to the next two weeks of more Christmas fun.

A reminder that the Baby and Toddler group runs on a Thursday 1-3pm in Little Berries.

Many thanks,
Your Little Berries team

Admin News

Change to the Christingle Service Dates

Hopefully you will have seen the communication regarding the change in dates for the Christingle Services for both Lynton and Kentisbury/Parracombe. **Lynton's service is on 8th December** and not the 7th as stated on the Calendar of Events. The **Kentisbury and Parracombe service is on the 9th December** not the 8th. **Please can any Lynton parents not attending the service collect their children from St Mary's Church at 3.30pm (unless they attend Arts and Crafts club which will be on as usual).**

Polite Reminder - Parracombe School

It has been brought to our attention that a few parents/carers are driving too fast in the vicinity of the school. We would therefore like to politely remind you, for the safety of our children, to drive very slowly around the school when dropping off/picking up children.

With many thanks,
Wendy, Vikki, Jacqui and Mel

Lynton PTFA

We will be holding our annual Christmas Disco at School on the 9th of December 2016 from 4.30pm to 6.30pm. The dress code is anything Christmas or party themed so a Christmas jumper, party outfit or anything sparkly. Entry is £2 per child and hot food will be provided.

Tickets for our Luxury Christmas Hamper are still available in reception at £1 per strip. We will draw the winner on the night of the nativity. There are some fantastic items in the hamper including vouchers for cocktails, cooked breakfasts and flowers, bottles of wine, whiskey and other tipples, choccies, biscuits, sweets, bath sets and much more.

Thank you for your support

Sharla Berry – Chair of Lynton PTFA

Kentisbury & Parracombe PTFA

We will be running a children's Christmas party on the last day of term, for all Kentisbury and Parracombe children at Kentisbury Village Hall, 1.30-3pm. We are asking if children could please bring in a small contribution towards their party tea – a packet of biscuits, cakes, mince pies or other treat for them to share after we have played some festive games and had a visit from a special guest! Parracombe children will be brought over to Kentisbury by minibus and those who are usually collected from Parracombe at the end of the day will return there by 3.15pm. If you would prefer to collect your child directly from the party at 3.15pm, please let the school office know.

We will also be raffling a Christmas Hamper this year to raise some much needed funds - If you are able to donate something towards this we would be most grateful. Please bring any donations into school between now and 13th December.

Thanks for your support.

Kitchen News

Wednesday 14th December – Menu for Our Federation Christmas Lunch

We hope as many children as possible will join us for Christmas dinner on the 14th December. As usual we are doing Turkey with all the trimmings. The costs for this are the same as a regular school dinner. Please see the menu below for full details.



West Exmoor Federation

Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 14th December 2016

Menu

ROAST TURKEY WITH STUFFING BALLS, ROAST POTATOES, PIG IN BLANKET, CARROTS, SWEDE AND GRAVY

* OR *

QUORN ROAST (VEGETARIAN OPTION)

 FOLLOWED BY 


ICE CREAM WITH A HOMEMADE FESTIVE SAUCE

* OR *

YOGHURT

****All served with fresh orange juice and a Christmas cracker****

Merry Christmas



Tuesday 13th December – There will be a late lunch at 1.30pm following the federation trip to see Aladdin at the Queen's Theatre, with a slight tweak to the menu. It will be: Pork Sausages with potato wedges or pasta or Cheese & Tomato Pizza for the vegetarian option followed by a biscuit.

Spring 2017 Menu

There is a new menu for the Spring Term, I have kept the popular items and have changed the ones that haven't been as popular. We will send the new menu at the end of term.

Many thanks

Jayne Hoskins – Kitchen Manager

Dates for your diary

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| 08.12.16 | Lynton Christingle Service, St Mary's Church at 2.30pm (don't forget to collect your children from St Mary's church at 3.30pm if you are not attending the service) |
| 09.12.16 | Parracombe & Kentisbury Christingle Service, Christ Church 4pm |
| 13.12.16 | Pantomime Visit @ Queens Theatre |
| 14.12.16 | Christmas Lunch |
| 14.12.16 | Parracombe and Kentisbury Nativity, St Thomas 10am, Christ Church 5pm |
| 15.12.16 | Lynton Nativity at St Mary's Church 10am & 6pm |
| 16.12.16 | Last Day of Term – Christmas Jumper Day for Shilangu |

COMMUNITY

Code Club at Barnstaple Library

Would you like to learn how to make computer games, animations and websites?
Then Code Club is for you.

For children aged 9 - 11
Wednesdays 4pm - 5pm

Booking essential. For more information or to sign up please contact the library.

01271 318782

barnstaple.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk

1st Lyn Scout Group

You may or may not be aware that we intend to open a Scout Troop in the New Year and this cannot be achieved without signing up new adult volunteers. We are not asking you to necessarily fulfil these roles yourselves but we are asking for your help filling them. You may know someone who could be perfect for one of the roles, they could be; a relative, a friend, a neighbour, a work colleague, another parent or maybe just someone you know who is inclined to help with community projects.

We have several spaces to fill across all the sections - Beavers (6-8yrs), Cubs (8-10yrs) and Scouts (10-14yrs) - and all ages and abilities will be considered.

Please spread the word and either give out our details or get in touch with us. I think we all agree that scouting is something that the kids in the Lyn Valley area need and it would be such a shame if the group were to close due to adult support after a successful launch year.

gsl1stlyn@gmail.com

01598752013

Thank you.

Christmas Fayre at Lynmouth Pavilion

Sunday
11th Dec
10am-4pm

Street Market

Arts & Crafts Stalls

Elf Workshop 10am-12pm

Xmas Choir 11am & 2pm

Meet Santa from 2pm
Pre-booking only

Competition Results
& Raffle Draw 4pm

Face Painting
Donations to Children's Hospice

Lunch Specials
Served all day



THE PAVILION
Dining Room

FREE EVENT



Win a Hamper
(25p entry)
with

marsdens
Devon Cottages

**Limited places to meet Santa.
Bookings essential please call to book 01598 753484**

Elf Workshop is open to all Children.
Make xmas crafts to enter in our competition to be drawn at 4pm