



# West Exmoor Federation

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

10.02.2017

Dear Parents/Carers

## Celebration Parties

Thank you so much to everyone who came along to our Ofsted Celebrations earlier this week. The children had a wonderful time and it was the perfect opportunity for the Governors and I to thank the children and staff for their continued hard work and dedication. After a most enjoyable buffet lunch (thank you to Ronnie and Dasha for their help with this) Captain Coconut entertained us all with his amazing bubble show. The children were then presented with their new sports hoodies which caused much excitement. They look fantastic and will certainly keep them warm during PE and make them stand out from the crowd on school trips. I would like to thank everyone who worked so hard to make our celebrations such a great success – what a wonderful way to end the half term!



## Snacks and Packed Lunches

In recent weeks we have noticed that some of our children have been bringing in chocolate snacks for playtime and that some lunch boxes are containing rather a lot of sweet, sugary treats or items high in saturated fat. We would really appreciate your support in enabling all of our children to enjoy a healthy, balanced diet on a daily basis. The Change for Life Website offers some really good suggestions for healthy snack alternatives and gives some quick, easy and cheap ideas for lunch boxes. Please visit [www.nhs.uk/change4life-beta/be-food-smart](http://www.nhs.uk/change4life-beta/be-food-smart) for further information.

### **World Book Day – Change of Date**

Due to Year 3 and 4 taking part in Forest School on the planned date for World Book Day we will now be holding it one day later. We will now be celebrating it on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March. On this day there will be a number of book related activities for the children to enjoy and we actively encourage them to come to school dressed as their favourite book character.

### **Scholastic Book Fayre**

Thank you to everyone who supported our Scholastic Book Fayre. The children really enjoyed browsing the book shelves and selecting not just books for themselves but for their classroom too. Thanks to your support it has been one of our most successful book fayres ever and we have been able to replenish our classroom reading books with £682.20 of new books.

Finally, I hope that you all have an enjoyable half term break and I very much look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February.

Best Wishes,



Jayne Peacock  
Executive Headteacher

*Our theme this term for Collective Worship is Love which is reflected in our federation ethos, CARIS. We have continued to explore St Paul's letter to the Corinthians and, in particular, have considered how to stay strong and true to ourselves, even when doing the right thing is tricky. We have been thinking about all those who are less fortunate than ourselves, especially Shilangu, and praying that one day there may be peace in the world.*

### **Class News – Streams**

We will be continuing on our brilliant adventure into the world of fairytales after half term. The children will continue to make their fairytale pop-up books in Literacy and DT. In maths, we will be looking at finding patterns and revising number facts to 10, 20 and 100. The children will be aiming to solve missing number problems such as  $? + 6 = 10$  moving into more complex problems such as  $54 + ? = 100$ .

We are very excited about our trip to RHS Rosemoor. The children have had a fantastic time investigating plants through our 'cress hair for trolls'. We will also be learning about the history of animation and creating our own. With the rise in CGI animation, many children are unaware of the process involved with animation. As part of this, will be looking at the life of Walt Disney and how he made an impact on the animated cinema.

Rugby Tots will be continuing on Monday morning after half term as normal.

Thank you to Pat Taylor, Kelly Peacock and Naomi Gubb-Fradgley who have been able to help at school over the past 2 weeks. Your support has been invaluable and the children have loved having you around.

Mr Mackenzie

### **Class News – Rivers**

After half term, we will be starting our topic on persuasive writing and the children will be writing adverts to persuade people to visit their pop up museums. As always, you can help your child in English by making sure you listen to them read and ask them relevant questions regarding their understanding. I will be continuing to focus on encouraging the children to read every night after half term.

In maths, we will be starting our topic on measurement. One of the most useful ways to help your child is to encourage them to practice telling the time. It is also useful for them to practice handling money in shops and working out the change.

Next half term, our theme will continue to be 'Temples, Tombs and Treasures' and we will be focusing on the Mayan Culture and Rainforests. We will also be writing the Easter Story in preparation for our Easter Service at the end of term.

Many thanks  
Miss Martin

### **Class News – Oceans**

We've been exploring our new range of KS2 books. They include some books that we've wanted to read for ages and other books that we didn't know about. This year's texts range from teaching us about the evacuees of World War II to quality stories from our favourite authors. It's all part of our continuing focus on reading for pleasure. Yr 6 have also been given revision books for maths and English so that they can dip into them on weekends. They are intended to be a support and a resource that they can use to go over areas that they feel they want to do a little extra work in. If they come across areas that they are finding tricky, they have been told to tell me about them so that we can unpick any errors or misconceptions.

When we return from half-term we will be making pancakes as we start looking at measures in different real-life contexts. I think we are all looking forward to our half-term break, as this has been a period of coughs and colds for many of us. However, we are still really enjoying our Mayan theme and are currently in the process of making Mayan masks. I must say a really big thank you to Christine, Emma and Evie who have been volunteering in upper key stage 2 lending their expertise in sewing, French and helping the children practice not only their reading but their deeper understanding of language and texts. In English we are writing science related biographies, researching the life of Sir Isaac Newton. Our half-term project is to continue with our pop-up museum exhibition. This can be produced in a medium of your child's choice – a model, a poster, a power point, a piece of written work – but it should be interactive and informative.

I look forward to meeting with you at parents evening and thank you again for your support and help.

Sincerely,

Ms. Adams

### **Class News – Young Buds**

Well it's certainly been an eventful half term, especially considering the levels of illness experienced by children and staff. We thank you all for your support to try and keep these horrid bugs at bay by keeping your children off school when necessary and also for your understanding with staff absence. Hopefully the half term break will give everyone the chance to recuperate and we will all come back raring to go!

We'd all like to say a huge thank you to the Governing Body for organising such a lovely party for the children on Wednesday afternoon, it's safe to say they all thoroughly enjoyed the show by 'Captain Coconut' and were very proud to receive their Federation hoodies, which looked incredibly smart.

This week we enjoyed a fantastic forest school morning making our 'troll traps' which links to our work on the 'Three Billy Goats Gruff'. The children came up with many ingenious ways to trap their trolls and are looking forward to writing some instructions on how to build them in their literacy work after half term. So, if you are doing any cooking and following a recipe, or making something with instructions please share these with your children and talk about what they notice about layout, content etc.

We will be continuing with money in maths after the holiday, so if you are out and about with your child and there is an opportunity for them to use money for themselves and to have a go at working out the change that would be fantastic.

We have a trip to Rosemoor to look forward to, where the class will have some workshops about plants and the opportunity to explore the wonderful grounds there.

As always, we thank you for your continued support. Remember to keep practising those camera words (especially important for Reception children who have only just learnt them) and read a few times if possible. We wish you all a wonderful half term,

Mrs Smith and Mrs Pile.

### **Class News – Oaks**

The children have been eagerly awaiting the post each day to see if they have a reply from their chosen role model. We were all incredibly excited when letters arrived with a Hogwarts stamp on the envelope!

We have now moved onto writing newspaper reports. Any opportunities you have at home to share newspaper articles with your child, paying particular attention to layout and speech, will help enormously.

In numeracy, we have been focusing on written formal methods for addition, subtraction, division and multiplication. We are continuing to enjoy singing our times tables.

I hope that you have a wonderful half term.

Many thanks,

Lisa Hamer

The children enjoyed themselves at the Ofsted celebration party this week, it was a wonderful afternoon where they children were rewarded for all their hard work over the past few years. Captain Coconut entertained us with his amazing bubble extravaganzas!

In maths, year 5 and 6 have been focusing on mental and written calculations, investigating the most efficient methods; they have learnt a range of strategies and how to apply them to different contexts. After half term we will be moving onto 'reasoning with measures' this will allow children to use their calculation knowledge by applying it to a range of measures. You can help at home by practicing measure conversions, e.g. 100cm is the same as 1metre.

In literacy, after we sent our letters to inspirational role models we have been incredibly lucky to receive some replies from; David Attenborough, Tim Peake, Nintendo and J.K Rowling – pop into school to read the replies. Over the past few weeks' children have been researching, planning and writing a biography of an explorer/adventurer of their choice. They have enjoyed learning new facts whilst using a range of sentences constructions. They will improve, edit and write up their biographies after half term. You can help at home by encouraging your child to read a range of texts, practicing their spellings with them and discussing their learning in school with them.



Finally, congratulations to the federation netball team, who have made it to the North Devon Finals, which will be held at Bideford College on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February – we wish them all the best!

Have an enjoyable half term.

Many thanks, Miss Hill.

### **Little Berries News**

We will be spending our time after the half time focusing on the theme of Post offices. We will use this to concentrate on communication and language linked to size and position. The children will be making their own envelope city and we will be making our own cards and visiting a post box where we will be posting them to see if they arrive at our homes.

We wish you all a lovely half term and look forward to seeing you when we return on Monday 20th February.

Your Little Berries team.

### **Admin News**

#### **Vacancy - Lynton Primary School – Relief Catering Support**

We are still looking for a small number of local people to join a 'supply bank' to provide short-notice cover in the kitchen in the event of either Jayne or Vicky being absent. If you would be interested in joining our supply bank, please contact Jayne Hoskins via Lynton School on 01598 753309.

#### **Payments for School Dinners**

Please can we remind parents that all school dinners should be paid for on the day they are taken or in advance, this is a requirement of Devon County Council. Any payment should be put in an envelope and marked with your child's name and the amount enclosed, this prevents any confusion as to who has paid and how much. Any cheques should be made payable to Devon County Council.

#### **Polite Reminder – Lynton School**

It has been brought to our attention that some 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. We would also like to remind you that you should park in the Bottom Meadow Car Park displaying a park smart badge. The gate to the car park is open in the mornings and can also be open for you to leave the playground following collecting your children after school at 3.15pm. If you require a replacement park smart badge, please see Vikki in the office.

With many thanks,  
Wendy, Vikki, Jacqui and Mel



### **Dates for your diary**

13.02.2017	Half Term
23.02.2017	Forest School begins for Years 3/4
27.02.2017	Parent Consultation Evening - Lynton
03.03.2017	World Book Day – Come dressed as your favourite book character
06.03.2017	Parent Consultation Evening – Parracombe & Kentisbury (at Kentisbury)
21.03.2017	Y6 G&T Basketball
24.03.2017	Red Nose Day – Fund Raising
28.03.2017	Tag Ruby Qualifiers
31.03.2017	Federation Easter Service @ St Mary's, Lynton
31.03.2017	End of Term

## **COMMUNITY**

### **Lynton Library**

Half-Term Fun. Free drop-in craft session. Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February between 10.30am – 12.30pm

We could all do with catching some sun at the moment, so come along to the library and make a fabulous sun-catcher. Suitable for all ages (with maybe a little bit of parental help) and no need to book, just turn up whenever you like.

### **FA Skills, Kinsley School, Bideford**

During the February half term the FA Skills team in Devon are running both football sessions for BOYS and GIRLS in SCHOOL YEAR 3-6 for just £5 a day.

The FA Skills holiday football coaching sessions are perfect for children who want to develop their football skills, meet new people, be active and have some fun during the holidays.

All sessions will be taking place at Kingsley School, Bideford , EX39 3LY on the following date and time:

Tuesday 14th February  
Kingsley School, Bideford  
Astroturf  
BOYS and GIRLS in SCHOOL YEARS 3-6  
10am-3pm  
£5  
Please bring a packed lunch and pay upon arrival.

To book a space please email [Kevin.Weir@thefa.com](mailto:Kevin.Weir@thefa.com) or call 07943843129



### Bideford– February Half Term Courses 2017

Area	Venue	Date	Time	Ages	Facility/ Surface	Cost
Bideford	Kingsley School, EX39 3LY	Tuesday 14th February	10am- 3pm	Boys and girls in SCHOOL Year 3,4,5,6	Astroturf Sports Hall	£5

Book early to avoid disappointment

Kevin.Weir@TheFA.Com 07943843129

