



West Exmoor Federation

'Rooted and Growing – Together we Love Learning'

27.02.2017

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that you had an enjoyable half-term break and that your children managed to recharge their batteries just a little. As always, the next few weeks are looking busy with much exciting learning planned for our children. Should you wish to discuss any aspect of school life with me, please do not hesitate to do so. I can always be contacted via email (jayne.peacock@westexmoorfederation.org.uk) and via Mel, Jacqui or Vikki in the school offices. I will also be available at both Lynton and Kentisbury for Parent Consultation Evening if you wish to speak with me.

ROSEMOOR

It was an absolute pleasure to accompany Streams and Young Buds to Rosemoor last week. Despite the rather dismal weather the children had a wonderful day exploring how plants grow from seeds. It was lovely to see all of the children so engaged in their learning and confidently answering some of the quite complex questions that the Rosemoor education team were asking them. It was also lovely to see all of the children being so supportive of one another when we had a little free time in the play area. The behaviour of the children was impeccable throughout the day and this did not go unnoticed by the Rosemoor staff and visitors to Rosemoor alike. I was extremely proud of the children – they were a real credit to you and the federation. Thank you Streams and Youngs Buds for sharing your day with me.

NETBALL

Many congratulations our netball team who played courageously at the North Devon Finals last week in Bideford. Despite playing against some of the largest schools within North Devon the team played extremely well, holding their own and demonstrating excellent sportsmanship throughout. All of the children should be very proud of their achievement.

WORLD BOOK DAY

As you know, we will be celebrating World Book Day this Friday. We are encouraging all of the children (and adults) to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. Each class will be taking part in some enjoyable book related activities throughout the day whilst we celebrate the wonderful world of books.

COUNTRY AND COASTAL SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP

As you may be aware, we have recently been working with a number of other small schools within the North Devon area. This is an informal group that allows staff, governors and children to share expertise and experiences with other like-minded small schools. The group currently comprises of the West Exmoor Federation, the West Berry Federation, Georgeham, Shirwell, Kingsacre and Marwood. On a half-termly basis Heads and Governors meet to discuss common areas of interest and once a term our teachers meet to share good practice, with Year 2 and Y6 teachers also meeting to moderate the quality of writing across the schools. In the coming months we are hoping to organise some activities for our children to take part in, especially those in Year 6, as part of their preparation for transition to secondary school. Being part of this informal group is extremely exciting and, following our recent Ofsted success, we are well positioned to share best practice and enable other schools to benefit from our expertise; for example, how we use marking to maximise the response from our children in order to maximise their progress. I will keep you informed about the projects that we are involved in as we continue to strive for excellence.

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, we have been thinking about loyalty and faithfulness. We have also been praying for those who are poorly, those living within war-torn countries and those less fortunate than ourselves.

Class News – Streams

We had a fantastic, although wet, trip to RHS Rosemoor last week. It was fantastic to see the children so engaged and enthusiastic when working with the staff at Rosemoor. They made their own 'soil soup', exploring what soil is composed of. Emily 'Apple tree' did a fantastic job acting out how an apple blossom turns into an apple. The children are now looking after the gift we received from Rosemoor, our very own Viola!

In literacy, we will be continuing to write instructions. The children have been writing about their trip to Rosemoor so we will be back onto writing instructions for 'catching a troll' this week. We have finished our work on money and measuring and will be moving onto 'general arithmetic'. This will focus on addition and subtraction. You can help at home by counting up in 2's, 5's and 10's. Starting from different numbers would be a good challenge, for example, 3, 13, 23, 33 ... In DT, we will begin our exploration of animation by making thaumatropes, which are the early animation tools using 2 images. We are looking forward to seeing you all at parents evening.



Mr Mackenzie, Mrs Berry and Mrs Berry Bowden

Class News – Rivers

I hope you had a relaxing half term.

This week, 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 am still focusing on encouraging the children to read every night.

In maths, we have started our topic on measurement. We have been focusing in particular this week on perimeter and we will be moving onto area this week. Also, it would be useful for them to practice handling money in shops and working out the change as we will be moving onto money later in the term.

Many thanks
Miss Martin

Class News – Young Buds

The children enjoyed a fantastic day at RHS Rosemoor last week learning all about 'How Plants Grow', we took part in workshops and the children enthusiastically showed off all they had learned in our topic so far. We were even lucky enough to be given some plants to take home and plant in the school garden.



Also last week we enjoyed making and evaluating our own healthy porridge as part of D&T, this week we look forward to making pop up books. We have now finished our work on money within Maths and are moving on to general arithmetic this week with a focus on addition and subtraction. In Literacy we will be continuing our work on writing instructions. Please can we request that you continue to practise camera words at home and let us know as soon as you need anymore.

Many thanks,
Mrs Smith and Mrs Pile.

Little Berries News

We would like to give a warm welcome to Nadine who is our newest member of the Little Berries team. Nadine will be supporting us on Mondays and Thursdays in the setting.

We will be starting this term by focussing on the area of communication and language. We will be looking at the post office and postal system and discussing the process of writing a letter through to receiving a letter at home. We will be creating and designing our own postcards to send home to our loved ones and will be sending them through the post, so keep your eyes peeled for yours.

We will be celebrating Shrove Tuesday on the 28th February, where we will be making pancakes with the Little Berries. We will look at the importance of hygiene and washing our hands to run alongside this.

We are continuing to look at size this term, whether things are bigger and smaller and categorising things into small, medium and large.

We have introduced a new song that we will be teaching our Little Berries helping them to count from 1 to 20. Why not ask your children to sing it to you?

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.

With many thanks,
Wendy, Vikki, Jacqui and Mel

Dates for your diary

27.02.2017	Parent Consultation Evening – Lynton
02.03.2017	Forest School begins for Years 3/4
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