



# Parracombe Church of England Primary School Newsletter (Part of the West Exmoor Federation)

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2008 Term: Autumn Newsletter Number: 2

## Dear Parents

Firstly I'd like to correct a date that I gave you all for a non-pupil day in the previous newsletter. I had written that the non-pupil day was going to be on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September when it is actually on the 24<sup>th</sup> of October! Apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused!

## Welcome

I'd like to welcome Jacqui Skelton-Norrish to the team. As the schools new administrator Jacqui will be in the office Monday, Wednesday and Friday if you have any queries regarding dinner money, trips etc..

Also joining our reception group this term are Kyle and Brendan Passingham and Rosie Brown.

I hope they enjoy their time at Parracombe Primary School and we are very pleased to have them with us.

## Topics

The children have settled in well and have been working very hard. The Infants have been learning about 'Ourselves' and the Juniors 'Celebrations'.

Every week the children have an assembly to celebrate each others achievements. Well Done to Morgan Prosser, Sam Down, Lea Earl, Verity-May Passingham, Amelia Hall, Kristian Winn, Megan Cuncell and Sam Leworthy for receiving a certificate rewarding them for their hard work and fantastic attitude towards their learning and school.

## Big Draw

There will be a 'Big Draw' organised by Drawn to Devon at Parracombe School on Saturday 11th October between 11am & 4pm. It is open to children, brothers and sisters, parents/carers, friends, family, etc. The day will result in a 3D Rainbow being created that will be exhibited around Devon. Teresa Cuncell has more details if you would like them. If children are unable to attend the day, then they can still take part by bringing into school any

photographs that have been taken in Devon. Collection boxes will be set up in each school as a BIG bank of pictures is needed!!

## Friends of Parracombe

The Duck Race was a great success last Sunday at The Hunters Inn. Just under 400 small yellow ducks were released into the river Heddon to be caught further downstream by Charlie Winn. Congratulations to Ben Roberts whose duck won the race! A big THANK YOU to everyone who was involved.

I'd also like to thank those 'Friends of Parracombe' who kindly cleared some of the vegetation from around the junior classroom and tidied the beds ready for the children who are in the Gardening Club to use!

## Harvest Festival

The children enjoyed the Harvest Festival very much and between them collected 3 large boxes of grocery items.

On Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> the Year 6 children visited The Manor Residential Home, Lynmouth and Garson House, Lynton to distribute these. They chatted to the residents, sang songs and enjoyed a glass of juice and a biscuit.

## Uganda

Lynton School has had links with a school in Uganda for a number of years. Parracombe and Kentisbury schools are now going to be linked with it too. We will be mailing to the school in Uganda on 26<sup>th</sup> September and then we'll await some correspondence back!

## Gifted and Talented

At the moment, we are updating the Federation's Gifted and Talented register based on results of tests, teacher assessments, observations or information provided by external specialists, performance during extra curricular activities and information provided by parents re children's achievement outside of school. If you think your child could be gifted and/or

talented please let us know. A leaflet for parents/carers detailing how you can help your child if you think they are 'gifted and/or talented' can be obtained from me if you would like a copy.

## Martial Arts

We have a new PE expert working with us from Ilfracombe College; her name is Carmel Bal and she has taken over from Nathan Gosling. She has sent us information telling us that there will be a Martial Arts exhibition this Sunday (21st Sept) at North Devon Leisure Centre from 2pm - 5pm. Entry is free and she encourages you to take your children along to go along.

## Head Lice

Unfortunately several children have reported having head lice. Please could parents regularly inspect and comb their children's hair. If we all take action maybe we can eradicate the problem.

## Peer Mediators Programme

We are introducing a programme for year 6 children across the Federation to facilitate solutions to playground disputes. The children will have three sessions of training plus one further session for those who want to be peer mediators at their school. The session will be run by Niki Morris-Fuge and she will be supported by PCSOs Karen and Grace. The first session is on 2<sup>nd</sup> October at Lynton.

## Gymnastics

Due to the success of Gymnastics Club and the skill and enthusiasm the children have shown I have organised for the infants to have Gymnastics training at Gazelles School of Gymnastics. Every Tuesday morning the infants will have qualified coaches teaching them key skills in a modern well equipped gymnasium.

Kind Regards,

Jody Davie

Head of Teaching and Learning

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