



Parracombe Church of England Primary School Newsletter

(Part of the West Exmoor Federation)

Date: 18.1.2010 Term: Spring

Newsletter Number: 1

Dear Parents,

Welcome Back

Happy New Year to you all. Hopefully that's the last we see of the snow and ice and we can all get back to normal. I'd firstly like to welcome Annie House to the FS/KS1 class and I hope she has an enjoyable time with us!

This term the theme the children in both FS/KS1 and KS2 will be exploring is Great Britain. Already some of the children have shared interesting facts, brought in information and objects. All the children are excited at the thought of learning more about Great Britain and will hopefully share some of this with you at home!

Also to let you know the we have produced learning packs for the children that can be emailed out to you if we have more snow so the children do not miss out on too much learning time.

Athletics Tournament

On Thursday, Charlie, Lewis, Georgie and Sam D went to Ilfracombe College with other members of the federation to take part in an athletics tournament against other schools in the learning community. I am delighted to announce that the Federation came 4th. Well done to all those who took part.

Resources

Could I ask you all to collect and save cereal sized boxes for the children in FS and KS1 to use in their creative development.

Swimming Gala

In February there will be a learning community swimming gala. In preparation for this on Wednesday we will be holding speed trials across the federation so we can select a team to go to the gala. Many children in KS2 have expressed an interest to go to the speed trial and have taken a letter home. Good luck everyone!

Clubs

A reminder that Art and Craft Club will take place on Friday afternoon's instead

of Wednesday's. The club usually begins at 3:45pm and finishes at 4:45pm.

Guitar Club too has changed day and will be held lunchtimes on Thursday's (please remember your guitars).

Big Green Day

This Thursday some of the children from across the Federation will be joining together at the Pinkery Centre. As part of the Green Ambassadors Project, children will be encouraged to explore their environment and help conserve Exmoor's beautiful countryside. Activities will include environmental art, wood carving, falconry displays and survival techniques. Let's hope the weather holds off!

Consultation on Admission Arrangements and Educational Transport Policy

The annual admission arrangements consultation in Devon will be live online from 21 December 2009 to 1 March 2010 at www.devon.gov.uk/admissionarrangements. This is the opportunity for all schools, parents, neighbouring local authorities, community groups, dioceses and Members and officers of Devon County Council to review the proposed arrangements. Comments and suggestions for amendment are invited for the attention of Andrew Brent. The consultation will include all aspects of admissions including Planned Admissions Numbers, the requirement for a revised Fair Access Protocol and for in-year co-ordinated admissions and the designated areas for those establishments with a designated area. All children entering the Reception class of a primary or infant school will be offered a place for September 2011.

Ferry Naming Competition

The children have suggested that we enter a competition organised by Severn Link. Some of you may already know that the shores of North Devon and South Wales will soon be no more than a 50 minute journey apart. Severn Link would like school's to help officially name

their first two FastCat ferries. The competition is free to enter and offers an opportunity for our school to learn more about the shared mythology and heritage between the two regions, create a long-standing community link with a school on the other side of the Bristol Channel and see our chosen name (hopefully), unveiled at the grand launch ceremony in March 2010.

The children had to select from three categories and have chosen to create a name exploring the theme Landscapes and Geographical Points of Interest. For more information or ideas of ways to help you child please have a look at their website www.severnlink.com.

Macbeth

As you are aware from the letter which went out explaining what theme learning the children are doing in Key Stage 2 this term the children are studying Shakespeare. So on Monday 25th January, year 6 are going to see a production of Macbeth.

Free Laptops

Finally, I have been asked to inform any families with a child/children in years 3 - 9 having free school meals they may be eligible for a free laptop and internet access. The Government offer is limited so if you are entitled please ring 0333 200 1004 asap for an application form. For more information have a look at one of the links below.

<http://www.moneysupermarket.com/c/news/free-laptops-for-some-are-you-one/0008077/>

<http://www.homeaccess.org.uk/Information-for-parents/>

Kind Regards,

Jody Davie

Head of Teaching and Learning

Lynton CE Primary School, Market Street, Lynton, North Devon, EX35 6AF

01598 753309, admin@lynton-primary.devon.sch.uk, **Head of Teaching & Learning – Miss Vicky Cawley**

Kentisbury Primary School, Kentisbury Ford, Barnstaple, North Devon, EX31 4NG

01271 883263, admin@kentisbury.devon.sch.uk, **Federation Deputyhead– Mrs Clare Cooke**

Parracombe CE Primary School, Parracombe, Barnstaple, North Devon, EX31 4QJ

01598 763338, admin@parracombe-primary.devon.sch.uk, **Head of Teaching and Learning– Mrs Jody Davie**