

# West Exmoor Federation

*‘Rooted and Growing – Together we Love Learning’*

*Autumn Term 2018 – Newsletter 5 – 30<sup>th</sup> November 2018*



## Quick Reminders

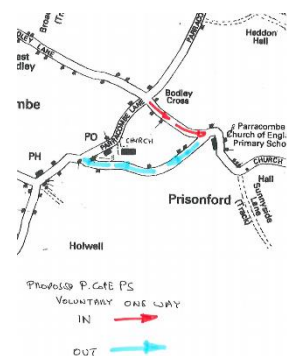
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|---------------------------|--|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> December  | Lynton Children singing at late Night Shopping, meet at 5.30pm                         |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> December  | Parracombe and Kentisbury Christingle Service, Parracombe Church, 4.30pm – all welcome |
| 12 <sup>th</sup> December | Kentisbury Home Learning Assembly  |
| 13 <sup>th</sup> December | Lynton Home Learning Assembly  |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> December | Parracombe Home Learning Assembly  |

## Mrs Peacock

Dear Parents/Carers

It has been another couple busy weeks across the federation and, despite the murmurings of Christmas beginning to take hold, the children have continued to be incredibly focused upon their learning. I am extremely proud of all our children and the energy and determination that they put into tackling new and tricky areas of learning. Throughout the federation we have been working for some time now on building our children's perseverance and resilience, and encouraging them to really push themselves. We are constantly reinforcing that being stuck is good, as this is when we do our best learning and I really do sense that the determination of my staff to pursue this is finally bearing fruit. Whenever I walk into a classroom the children can't wait to tell me how hard their brains are having to work and to share with me examples of how they have overcome learning challenges. Well done children (and staff) – you really are wonderful!

## VOLUNTARY ONE-WAY SYSTEM AT PARRACOMBE



We are continuing to experience difficulties with the movement of traffic in and out of Parracombe at the start and the end of the school day. This is causing frustration for parents/carers, staff and local residents alike. Last week, Jan Stokes and myself met with members of the Parracombe Parish Council and Parracombe and Parracombe Community Land Trust. We have agreed to trial a voluntary one-way system between the hours of 8.15am – 9.00am and 3.00pm – 3.45pm. During these times we kindly ask that drivers access the school via Bodley Cross and leave the school via Church Lane. The PPC are speaking with local residents to request that passing places are left clear during these times to assist with traffic flow, and to also request that they too implement the voluntary one-way system. In time, signage will be placed at appropriate points as an aid-memoire, but in the meantime could I please urge all parents/carers to try and get into the habit of following this one-way system. I would also like to remind parents/carers that if you need to park to wait for your

child, or to come into school, you should do so in the Village Hall Car Park, so as not to block the roads. Thank you in anticipation of your co-operation.

## ONLINE SAFETY

I continue to be extremely concerned about the on-line activities of some of our children. With Christmas approaching and the likelihood that many of our children will be receiving electronic, internet enabled gifts, I have attached the most recent SCOMIS newsletter for parents to the end of this newsletter. Please do take time to read it and take decisive action where necessary. We may like to think that in North Devon our children are safe from predatory behaviour but they are not and we all have a duty to protect them and educate them in how to safely and responsibly use the internet.

## PARKING AT LYNTON

Increasingly a number of parents/carers are parking in front of the school at Lynton. This is not necessary and is putting our children's lives in danger. If you bring your child to school by car, please park in Bottom Meadow Car Park and access the school via the rear playground. Permits for parking free-of-charge in the car park at the start and end of the school day are available from Vikki in the office. Please can we all work together to keep our children safe. Thank you.

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## ARRIVAL TIME AT SCHOOL

It is lovely to see that so many children are arriving at school punctually in the morning – well done. However, a small number of children are arriving at school prior to 8.30am. If your child needs to come to school before this time, could you please book them in at one of our Breakfast Clubs. Other than within Breakfast Club, we cannot supervise children before 8.30am as staff are setting up for the school day. Thank for your consideration and cooperation regarding this matter.

With Best Wishes,

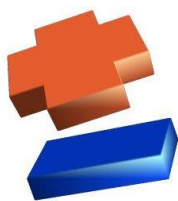


Jayne Peacock, Executive Headteacher

**In collective worship we have been thinking about the arrival of Advent. We have been exploring how we can use the period of Advent to think about become courageous advocates, eg, 'being the change that you want to see'. We have talked about making the world a kinder place and how we can help to protect it for generations to come.**

## Reception, Year 1 & 2 – Streams & Young Buds

It has been another busy two weeks for Steams and Young Buds.



In Maths, the children have been focusing on addition and subtraction. This has also meant looking at the relationship between number fact families such as  $10+2=12$  and how this is the same as  $2+10=12$ ,  $12=2+10$  and  $12=10+2$ . This can be the same with subtraction.

Please help at home by considering addition and subtraction opportunities and what is this then the 'same as'.

In English, we have continued our focus on verbs. The children have been practically exploring lots of 'doing' words, such as jumping, skipping, drinking, eating, looking etc. They have also applied this to the book Stickman, when considering what he does in the book. The children are now exploring past tense verbs and the ending 'ed' whilst reading 'The tiger who came to tea' in preparation for writing their own recount.

Preparation is fully underway for the nativities. Please support your child by helping them to learn their lines and we look forward to welcoming you to the performances. Kentisbury and Lynton children will soon be spending time in the church to practise their nativities. We will be walking there, so please ensure your child comes in to school with a coat and sensible shoes every day as we will decide to go on an ad hoc basis depending on the weather.

We would like to thank those parents/carers who come in and help by listening to the children read. If you would like to do this, then please contact your class teacher.



## Year 3 & 4 - Rivers & Oaks

### Reading

In English, the children have started their narrative writing sequence, one that we are all enjoying. It is a chance for your children to explore and use their imaginations. Reading a range of books will allow your children to enter on to a variety of different imaginative journeys and greatly benefiting their literacy skills. Just a polite reminder that it is the school's expectation that children should be reading at least 3 times a week outside of school. In Oaks, the more you read at home, the more raffle tickets you receive at school. It is not a requirement that children should read to an adult, they are welcome to read on their own, we just ask for a parent/carer's initial/comment to agree. We ask that the home reading logs come into school daily to allow us to also comment if we have read with them.

### Times tables

As some of you may be aware, the government have proposed that by 2019/2020, children in year 4 will be required to sit a statutory timetables test, assessing their recall of timetables up to  $12 \times 12$ . In preparation for this, could we begin/continue to practise the timetables with your children outside of school.

### Mathletics

Each week, we may set children a Mathletics tasks. This task needs to be completed before your child/ren can access the full range on the Mathletics site. This is an opportunity for your children to improve and deepen their maths understanding and fluency, whilst earning points and earning certificates. If your children are unable to access this at home, we do offer

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time during the school week for such tasks to be completed. We aim to set children tasks that are well suited to the sequence they are currently on in lessons. Over the past couple of weeks, the children in Oaks and Rivers have been exploring addition and subtraction using a range of methods.

## **Year 5 & 6 - Oceans & Forests**

### English

Within English this term we have been focussing on a narrative topic. We have been looking at building up our own suspense/adventure stories based on a Pie Corbett text called Kidnapped. The children have been learning the skills of writing a short story, which includes a flashback, whilst using vocabulary for effect.

### Maths

Since half term we have been learning about and consolidating our understanding of addition, subtraction and multiplication and in the coming weeks will be moving onto division. It is essential that the children master these skills in order to support their learning across all areas of the curriculum and all areas of maths. It is also vitally important that we continue to build on our times table knowledge and fluency. Any support at given at home with this will be greatly appreciated. The children now also have access to Mathletics which can be completed at home or in school.

### Reading

Within guided reading we are continuing to look at the text of Beowulf. The children have been learning to read with expression, intonation and a change of tone. They have been trying to get into the mind-set of the characters whilst reading aloud to their peers. We have also completed some Kennings poems about the characters of Beowulf and Grendel. Sports Hall Athletics – Ilfracombe (please see the report by Rosie and Elliot from Forests).

## **Sports News**

### Sports hall athletics - Forests and Oceans



Mr O'Sullivan (head of Ilfracombe academy P.E) came to Lynton primary school to find out who the top 6 girls and 6 boys were. We did athletics and who ever got the best score would go to Ilfracombe academy sports hall and got to represent the federation against other primary schools.

When we got there we sat down on benches until every school was there. Then we did the 2 lap relays girls then the boys and the boys did speed bounce, standing long jump and chest push. Then the girls did the

same but relays first. It was really fun!!!

We were competing against Combe Martin, Ilfracombe juniors, Woolacombe, West Berry and us. We thought it was a great experience and everyone enjoyed it. It was quite nice seeing different schools. We thought it was amazing and we didn't want to leave. We had a wonderful time!!

We came 3rd out of 5 schools, Woolacombe came first, Ilfracombe came second West Berry came 4th and Combe Martin came last. The top 2 went to the next round and sadly we were 1 out, but we still enjoyed it.



Written by [Rosie](#) and [Elliot!!!](#)

## **Admin**

### Parracombe and Kentisbury Christingle Service

Parracombe Church will be having their Christingle Service on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 4.30pm. All Parracombe and Kentisbury children are invited to attend.

### Minibus Cleaning

Would any parents be interested in cleaning our federation minibuses on a casual basis, either half termly or when required? If you would like to be added to a list of those willing to help, please speak to one of the admin team.

Many thanks,  
Mel, Wendy, Jacqui and Vikki

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## Governors News

The West Exmoor Federation is looking for a Co Opted Governor to join our existing board of governors. Governors perform the most important voluntary role in education and a full and diverse governing body can be a source of enormous strength to a school. Volunteering as a governor is a great way to contribute to your local community, meet new people and improve the lives of local children. You will develop transferable skills and learn more about the education system whilst putting existing skills and experience to good use.

Governing bodies are responsible for the strategic management of a school and will make decisions about a wide range of issues. The core responsibilities involved are:

Ensuring accountability, acting as a 'critical friend' to the Head Teacher, Monitoring and evaluating the school's progress, Budgetary allocation and control Planning for the long term future of the school, Setting the school's aims and values and Appointing senior members of staff including the Head Teacher.

For more information about this very worthwhile role and an informal chat please contact Jacqui Skelton-Norrish (Clerk) 01598 763338)

## Kitchen News

We will be having our Christmas Dinner on Wednesday 19th December this year. Please see the menu below for full details. The cost is the same as a regular school dinner (£2.30 for Key Stage Two children) and should be paid to the admin team as usual.

Also, on the day following day (**Thursday 20th December**) there will be a change to the menu. Children will have the option of Fish and Chips or Quorn Sausage. **On Panto day, Friday 21st December, children will need to bring their own packed lunches as we are expecting to be late back for lunch.** Please let the admin team know if you would like a school packed lunch on this day asap.

Many thanks,  
Jayne Hoskins, Kitchen Manager



# West Exmoor Federation



## Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 19th December 2018

### 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

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

**Merry Christmas**

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## Diary Dates

1 <sup>st</sup> December	Lynton Children singing at late Night Shopping, meet at 5.30pm
6 <sup>th</sup> December	Parracombe and Kentisbury Chringgle Service, Parracombe Church, 4.30pm
12 <sup>th</sup> December	Kentisbury Home Learning Assembly
13 <sup>th</sup> December	Lynton Home Learning Assembly
14 <sup>th</sup> December	Parracombe Home Learning Assembly
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Parracombe and Kentisbury Nativity and Carol Service, St Thomas 10.30am, Christ Church 5.30pm
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch
20 <sup>th</sup> December	Lynton Nativity and Carol Service, St Mary's Church 10.30am and 5.30pm
21 <sup>st</sup> December	Peter Pan Pantomime Visit, Queens Theatre, Barnstaple – All children need packed lunch
21 <sup>st</sup> December	End of Term

## Community

From the Rectory

Look out for the Great Christmas Treasure Hunt .....coming to a street near you!

As December begins there are lots of ways of counting down to Christmas. We will be reminded of the number of shopping days left, various magazines include calendars with ideas of what to do each day to make the 25<sup>th</sup> December a “stress free” celebration and now there are holiday calendars with chocolate for children, and all sort of beauty products, or luxury gifts for grown-ups. All of these have an origin in the Advent calendar which is used as a reminder of what we are actually counting down to.

Advent calendars invite us on a journey to Christmas and often they tell a story of the journeys of all the people involved in the first Christmas. Mary and Joseph took a long time to get from their home in Nazareth to Bethlehem where there was no room for them in the inn, wise men following a star (itself moving light years away!) will have set out perhaps months before they discovered the new King was not in the palace with Herod in Jerusalem and set out again for an unfamiliar suburb. Angels crossed into time from the eternity of heaven to bring the message of the Saviour's birth. Even the shepherds had a bit of walk to find the babe in the manger. All these people set out, not quite knowing what was going to happen next, they set out wondering, hoping and questioning and trusting.

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As we celebrate Christmas each year, we know what they found. They arrived at the manger, and discovered that God had come to us as one of us, so that we could get to know and love God as God knows and loves us. God's journey to us and with us, to show us love.

And that is the life long journey that we are invited into, not just every Christmas, but every day of our lives – and like all the nativity characters we don't know always know what is going happen next but we have plenty of our own wondering, hoping, questioning and trusting, but like them we are invited to discover Jesus, God's love in the manger, in our own particular way.

Across Lynton, in the shops and businesses of the town, the journeying nativity characters have been placed so that we can see them in our everyday life, and with each of them will be a letter. Can you find all the letters and spell out the Christmas message they have to share with us? Come and find the message and its treasure at the URC Carol Service on 23<sup>rd</sup> December and the Crib Service at St Mary's at 4pm at on Christmas Eve. God Bless!

Samantha

Revd Samantha Stayte, The Rectory, 20 Lee Road, Lynton. EX35 6BP. Tel. 01598 752289.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Lyn Scout Group

The 1st Lyn Scout Group will be holding a Children's Christmas Craft and Board Game Day, taking place on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at Lynton Primary School. The cost will be £15 per child with the day running from 10am until 4pm and all proceeds will go to the 1<sup>st</sup> Lyn Scout Group. Over 5's only, please bring a packed lunch a drink and a board game. Booking is essential and can be done at the school reception with a £5 non-refundable deposit being required at the time of booking.

The Scout Group will be back from our winter break on Wednesday 16th January, if your child would like to join us for the new year please contact the Group Scout Leader, Laura Whitfield, at [gs1stlyn@gmail.com](mailto:gs1stlyn@gmail.com) or phoning 01598 752013.



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Parracombe Village Hall Window Wonderland!

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup> 5PM-9PM**

Join us to celebrate finally owning our village hall!

**Windows** (and other items) will be decked up on a festive theme. We've had plenty of volunteers for this but join in if you can. We will be producing a route for walkers to see our amazing decorations.

**Carol Singing** will take place at the Fox and Goose at 6pm, Bill's House at 6.30 pm (gather in the car park entrance to the park) and Parracombe Village Hall at 7 pm. Everyone welcome.

**Bar and teas available at the hall**

**Buy last minute gifts at our stocking filler stalls**

**Competition: Make your own Christmas Window.** (Painting, drawing or collage, just make sure it is mounted on cardboard so it can be hung up for judging. Prizes for adults and children.)

Bring your Christmas stamps (torn from cards you've already had delivered.)

Bring plastic bottle tops (Any flexible top can be sent to charity)

Bring a small food bank donation if you can

**MAKE DECORATIONS, MAKE A VILLAGE CHRISTMAS CARD, MAKE A WISH, MAKE IT A FABULOUS START TO THE FESTIVE SEASON!**



**SUPER CHARGED SCIENCE**  
children's electronic workshop

at Barnstaple Library  
15th December 2018  
choose from: 10-12 or 1-3  
£15 per child (drop off)

explore circuits, insulators & conductors  
silly fun with static &  
make your own christmas themed  
buzzwire game to take home

Booking essential contact 07847006048 or  
[sciencedipity@outlook.com](mailto:sciencedipity@outlook.com) or book directly via the website:  
[www.sciencedipity.co.uk/saturday-science-club/](http://www.sciencedipity.co.uk/saturday-science-club/)

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## Welcome to the Parents and Carers section of the Scomis Online Safety Newsletter

Christmas is just around the corner!

Will you be ready?

If you are buying your child a new mobile phone, games console, tablet PC set up the device before you wrap it!

How?

The following websites provide advice and guidance on installing:

- Parental controls
- Safety settings

UK Safer Internet Centre – Parent's guide to technology includes:

- Smartphones
- Gaming Devices
- Tablets
- Smart TV

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/parents-guide-technology>



Review Internet Matters checklist which provides simple tips to set up devices

<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/guidance/e-safety-checklist-getting-your-kids-tech-devices-set-up-safe/>

Don't forget! **Talk about staying safe online**

Be aware of key issues!

How?

Visit the following websites to find out:

NSPCC – Share Aware includes video, tips on how to start a conversation and much more:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/share-aware/>

Parentzone – Guides for parents includes social media, parental controls for Netflix, Peer pressure, PEGI Ratings and much more:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/advice/parent-guides>

Talk to a professional at the NSPCC's helpline on 0808 800 5002 and Childline (0800 1111)

Will you be buying an internet connected toy?

Don't forget Internet connected toys also present risks and challenges!

- Ask questions about the toy in the shop **before** you buy:
- What information does the toy collect?
- Where is the information collected stored?
- Will the toy take pictures and/or store recordings of the child?
- Does the toy require location services to work?
- Can location services be switched off?
- Does the toy require a password?
- Who can interact with the toy?
- Are parental controls available?
- How are parental controls accessed?

Review CNBC's article:

*Toys and apps often track your kids and collect information about them!*

<https://www.cnbc.com/2018/11/23/connected-toys-privacy-risks.html>

NSPCC's 8 Tips for keeping your family safe include: **Read the Manual!**



<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/technology-toys-and-the-internet/>

**STOP PRESS! Yubo – previously Yellow!**



- Advertised as a dating app for teenagers
- Does not verify ages upon sign-up.

'Yubo is a social app to meet new friends and have fun with them.'

**DISCORD**



- Free chat service designed for gamers
- Does not verify ages upon sign-up.

Find out more:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/advice/parent-guides>