

West Exmoor Federation



'Educating with love, for life in all its fullness' Autumn Term 2019 – Newsletter 3 – 18th October 2019

Quick Reminders

<u>Deadline for year 6 Secondary School Applications – 31st October.</u> If you haven't already applied for your child's secondary school place, the easiest way to apply is online by visiting <u>www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline</u> if you don't wish to or can't apply online, you can contact admissions customer service centre on 0345 155 1019 or we can provide you with a copy of the application form.

Mrs Peacock

Dear Parents/Carers

JOSHUA SEIGAL – APPLEDORE BOOK FESTIVAL







Last week we were thrilled to welcome the internationally acclaimed poet, Joshua Seigal, to the federation. Over the course of the day he visited all of our schools, performing some of his poetry from Yuck and Yum, I Bet I Can Make You Laugh; I Don't Like Poetry and Little Lemur Laughing. He also shared with us some of

his more recent poetry which is yet to be published and ran a short poetry workshop, enabling all of our children to write their very own Joshua Seigal inspired poem. It was a fantastic experience and it was wonderful to see the children so enthralled and engaged by poetry; Joshua was so full of passion and enthusiasm for poetry that it couldn't help but rub off them. Who knows, perhaps he will have inspired a budding poet of the future!

HARVEST FESTIALS

Thank you to everyone who joined us at our recent Harvest Festivals at Christ Church and St Mary's. The children expressed their thanks through a range of song, drama, poetry and prayer and it was clear at both services that they had given great consideration to meaning of Harvest. Thank you also to everyone who contributed to our collection of non-perishable foods; your generous donations will be distributed to local families in need and the North Devon Food Bank.

TEACHING ASSISTANT VACANCY

Kentisbury Primary School is looking to recruit a teaching assistant to work 11.30am – 3.30pm, five days a week, term time only. Potentially, we would also require the successful candidate to run an after-school club between 3.30pm and 4.30pm, two evenings a week. The position will be within Key Stage 1 and will also provide daily lunchtime supervision. We are looking for someone who is empathetic and kind and able to remain calm in a busy working environment. The successful candidate will be enthusiastic and have a flexible approach; be a strong team player with a positive and helpful attitude; be proficient in English and Maths and passionate about supporting children in their learning; have high expectations and skills in positive behaviour management; have the ability to work under their own initiative and be committed to ensuring the physical, social and emotional well-being of our children through positive and active lunchtimes. If you would like to be considered for this position, please apply in writing, including a full CV and two referees, to myself, c/o Kentisbury Primary School, Kentisbury, Barnstaple, EX31 4NG. Applications may also be sent to: admin@westexmoorfederation.org.uk. If short-listed, you will be invited to spend some time in the classroom and take part in a short interview. As you know, the West Exmoor Federation is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. The role requires a DBS disclosure. Closing Date: Monday 11th November, 2019

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



Once again, we will be participating in Operation Christmas Child. If you would like to make up a complete shoe-box, or donate items to be included in collective shoe-boxes, please bring them into school by Friday 8th November. **Due to more stringent customs regulations, Shoe Boxes can no longer contain toothpaste or sweets.** Suggested items include:

TOYS - Include items that children will immediately embrace such as dolls or stuffed toys (with CE label), toy trucks, harmonica, yo-yo, skipping rope, ball, small puzzles etc.

Curiosity ~ Achievement ~ Respect ~ Inspiration ~ Support

SCHOOL SUPPLIES - Pens, pencils & sharpeners, crayons or felt pens, stamps & ink pad sets, writing pads or notebooks & paper, solar calculators, colouring & picture books etc.

HYGIENE ITEMS - Toothbrush, bars of wrapped soap, comb or hairbrush, flannel.

OTHER ITEMS - Hat, cap, gloves or scarf, sunglasses, hair accessories, jewellery set, wind up torch, slinky spring, matchbox cars.

DO NOT INCLUDE - Used or damaged items; clothing other than as listed above; war related items such as toy guns, play soldiers or knives; chocolate, sweets or other food items; seeds; aerosols; toothpaste, lotions or liquids of any type including bubbles; medicines; hand-made or knitted stuffed toys; playing cards of the 4-suit variety; anything of a political, racial or religious nature; sharp objects; glass containers or fragile items; books with mainly words.

MAGICAL GINGERBREAD TOWN - HEDDON VALLEY

After half term we will be taking part in a community event to build a magical gingerbread town in the Heddon Valley. Within school we will be making gingerbread trees, people and houses, showcasing the North Devon and Exmoor landscape. The Gingerbread Town will be on display in a Christmas Tipi within the Heddon Valley from 21st December. If, as a family, you would like to make your own Gingerbread House to contribute to the display, you are welcome to do so. It will need to be brought into school by Friday 13th December so that it can be taken to the Heddon Valley in time for the installation of the 'town' over the weekend (or you can take it to the Heddon Valley yourself between 10.30am & 3.00pm on 14th/15th December). Contributions should be clearly labelled with your name and contact details, as the National Trust will be judging the entries for: 1) most beautifully deocorated house; 2) most accurate replica of a public building/landmark; 3) most unique construction; 4) best under 12s entry. Prizes will be awarded for the best in each category.

Finally, I hope that you have a lovely half-term break and look forward to welcoming our children back to school on Monday 4th November.

Best Wishes

Jayne Peacock

Executive Headteacher

In collective worship this half-term, we are asking the Big Question, 'Who am I?'. We have been linking this to our CARIS value of curiosity and using 'Jesus the Good Shepherd' as our Big Story.

Admin

Donations for Forest School

With the cold, damp weather now upon us, we would be extremely grateful for any donations of logs for our fire in the Forest School yurt. Anything you could donate would be greatly appreciated. Please could you take donations to your school office and they will be collected for forest school.

Government Advice on Brexit:

The Local Authority have forwarded advice for schools, on how to prepare for Brexit. This includes information relating to the EU Settlement Scheme, whereby any parents, carers or staff who are EU, EEA or Swiss citizens, will need to apply to the EU Settlement Scheme to continue living in the UK after 2020. Should this affect you, the guidance relating to who needs to apply, can be found at https://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families

Kind regards,

Wendy, Jacqui, Mel and Vikki

Kitchen News

New Menu

You will have hopefully received a copy of the new menu starting next half term. Jacket Potatoes will still be available each day. Please ignore the packed lunch options. We do offer packed lunches for school trips which are either ham, cheese or tuna sandwich, meat or cheese pasty or a vegan sausage roll, any school trips will have the options on the permission slip.

If you have any questions about the new menu, please do not hesitate to contact me at Lynton School.

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Many thanks Jackie (Kitchen Manager)



Governor News

In subsequent newsletters the governors would like to introduce themselves to you all. Please feel free to discuss matters with governors, in an approachable manner if you feel that is suitable.

Jan Stokes - Chair of Governors & Local Authority Governor



My wife and I moved to Lynton in 2012 to be closer to our family, especially the youngest son, wife and grandaughter, now added to by her brother! I joined the Governing Body of West Exmoor Federation in April 2013 and was elected Chair in January 2014. However, our relationship with the area is not new, as my wife's family (Parents, sister and niece and nephews and offspring) have been here for over 25 years, so I am not the stranger I might appear to be!

My background is in education. I am a graduate PE specialist and taught in Cheshire, and Sheffield in 3 schools, becoming a Head of Department in all. In 1987 I was appointed as Adviser for Outdoor Education to Leicestershire Local Authority, and in 1991 became Principal PE Adviser in the same Authority. Two years later I became an Ofsted Inspector, and worked as a School Improvement Officer to schools in Leicestershire until 2006.

I then left to work as an independent consultant, working, to begin with in the Midlands. I was then contacted by a major training company to deliver staff training courses across England and Wales. This led to me working with the American Independent Schools. I then went on to work as a consultant to the Independent schools in Dubai, and for 2 years worked with the Government and Churches of Malta to re-organise their Primary transfer system. I also worked as a consultant and course assessor for Association for PE (AfPE), and remain one of the members of the Institute of Expert Witnesses.

Now, nominally retired I maintain my love of sport by being an active member of Lynton and Lynmouth Bowling Club, where I compete regularly, and contribute as a qualified Coach, as well as remaining active for AfPE. My passion continues through my work as Chair of Governors to WEF, and as a contributor to a wider group of Primary schools working together across North Devon. I want the Federation to continue to improve and move forward. I have an obvious interest in that my grandchildren, and nephew attend Lynton, but I wish this for all children in all of the schools of the

Federation. I am particularly pleased that all three schools gained an Ofsted grade of "Good" in their respective inspections in 2016, and I am sure that we will all work hard to gain a higher accolade next time around.

For the last three years I have been a member of the Devon Schools Independent Appeals Panel working to resolve disputes over school places and excluded children. I have also in this time organised a North Devon Primary Schools Bowling competition for yrs5/6 at Lynton and Lynmouth Bowling Club.

I hope that I am approachable to all about their feelings and concerns about the Federation, and will endeavour to do my best for all the children in all of the schools, to ensure they receive the best possible education they can.

I can always be contacted via any school office or via

jan.stokes@westexmoorfederation.org.uk

Diary Dates

26th November	Federation Fire Talks
9th December	Lynton Home Learning Assembly 9am - 10am.
11th December	Parracombe Home Learning Assembly 9am - 10am.
13th December	Kentisbury Home Learning Assembly 9am - 10am.
17th December	Lynton Nativity and Carol Service, St Mary's church, 10.30am and 5.30pm
18th December	Kentisbury and Parracombe Nativity and Carol Service, St Thomas' church, 10.30am and 5.30pm
19th December	Federation Pantomime visit to Queens Theatre, Snow White

Community

From the Rectory

As I write this in the middle of October, I write in the knowledge that by the time the letter is read, another stage of our country's Brexit process will have taken place – we will have moved through the 31st October one way or another – but as I write I do not know what that will mean. What the 1st November signifies in our international economic and political relationships remains, at the time of writing, a mystery, but I know that those of you reading will have various views, and will be personally affected in different ways by what it has brought. Those whose livelihoods are caught up in the uncertainly and are dependent on good decisions are very much in my prayers at this time.

In the traditional western Christian calendar 1st November signifies the celebration of All Saints (the Lyn Valley churches will keep the feast on the nearest Sunday – 3rd November). This is a feast that celebrates all that is best in human beings. We remember those who have gone before us in faith, whose lives have reflected the love of God with great clarity – as one definition puts it they are the "the people the light shine through". Looking back over the centuries and across the world, we remember people who have lived through uncertain times, who have disagreed with those in positions of power, who have stood up for justice and have served the poorest and weakest around them, often becoming poor and vulnerable on their behalf. We remember those who have fixed their trust on a hope beyond the whims of human history – on the promise of God's love for God's creation through all things. We remember ordinary people, like ourselves, who were inspired to be the most loving, kindest, most courageous, holiest versions of themselves in all that they did and in all the ways they reached out to those around them. We celebrate them as those who, in following Jesus (God's love for us in person) became like him. They show us just what it is possible for us to be like too.

As we journey on past the 1st November may the saints help us to respond to whatever circumstance we find ourselves in by following their examples of love, kindness and concern for one another. May we aspire with them to meet disagreement with purpose and grace and to make the well-being of those around us our main concern. May their lives inspire us to see the best in others, and offer others the best of ourselves in our life together in this place.

God bless,

Samantha

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

Barnstaple Library FabLab Sessions

October At FabLab Barnstaple Library

Book via http://fablabdevon.org/childrens-workshops/

21st October 10am – 11am Autumnal Squeezy Torch Kit £5.50 Ages 6-12

Come put together a squeezy torch kit, which you can then cover with some embroidered felt. The kids will be able to complete the simple kit and learn about the embroidery machine at the FabLab. These torches will be perfect for the children to use during a trick or treat evening. Booking onto this event will close 1 week before to allow for material ordering.

21st October 11:30am – 12:30pm Glow in the Dark 3D Printed Ghosts £5.50 Ages 6-13

Use some 3D design software to create a spooky ghost that will be printed on our 3D printers using a special Glow in the Dark material. You could even design your ghost to hang up or go onto a keyring. Models will need to be collected after the workshop (On the following days).

21st October 2pm – 3:30pm Spooky Keyrings £7.50 Ages 8-16

Design a spooky keyring. You could take inspiration from your favourite scary movie or anything you can imagine. You could even draw something on the day to turn it into a scary keepsake. Your design with then be laser engraved and cut. Please note that any designs that are not finished during the session can be collected after.

23rd October 10am – 11am 3D Printed Black Cat £5.50 Ages 6+

3D printing is like magic and creates a 3D object almost out of thin air. Therefore, it's the perfect thing to have a go at for the month of October. In this workshop you will learn how to create a 3D cat and personalise your design before it is printed. Models can be collected later in the week.

23rd October 11:30am – 12:30am Spooky Vinyl Stickers £5.50 Ages 4+

Choose some creepy crawlies or spooky animals to make into stickers. You could do a set of Jack-O-Lanterns or some cats and bats. Each person will get 5 stickers so choose wisely.

24th October 1:30pm – 3pm Vinyl Treat or Treat Tote Bags £7.50 Ages 6-14

Ever wanted to make your own tote bag or do you have the urge to create your own Halloween trick or treat sack? Well this workshop may be of interest to you. Go home with a useful addition to the October season.

29th October 3:45pm – 4:30pm Author Reading by Shanda McCloskey of her Children's Book Doll-E 1.0

Free Event, Eventbrite Booking Necessary and All ages welcome (recommended for children aged 3-8). This Live screening of the amazing Author Shanda McCloskey is a special event for the Month of October. Shanda will read out her brilliant STEM-friendly tale of a girl and the doll she upgrades to be her new friend, before walking the audience through a step by step of they can draw Doll-E. If that's not enough excitement, the FabLab will set up some Makey Makeys that people can play with at the end and see how they can use similar technology as Charlotte from Doll-E 1.0.

TENNIS CAMPS – Devon Tennis Academy

TINY TOTS CAMP | 3 - 5 yrs old | 10 - 11am JUNIOR CAMP | 5 - 14 yrs old | 10am - 1pm

HALF-TERM DATES

Monday 21st October - Friday 25th October 2019

VENUE

Barnstaple: Park Lane Tennis Club, Rock Park, Barnstaple EX32 9AH

CAMP PRICES

Tiny Tots Camp: £6 per day* Junior Camp: £20 per day* Bring a friend or sibling

*For every full day purchased on our Junior Camp, bring a friend or sibling for free to either the Tiny Tots or Junior Camp!

bookings@devonshiretennisacademy.com



Football Opportunities



