



West Exmoor Federation

'Educating with love, for life in all its fullness'

Autumn Term 2021 – Newsletter 2 – 26th November 2021



Quick Reminders

Please return Lynton Photo orders by Monday 29th November 2021

Complete Flu consent online by 1st December <https://schoolimms.virgincare.co.uk/flu/2021/devon>

Mrs Peacock

Dear Parents/Carers,

REMEMBRANCE SERVICE AT WOODY BAY

I was exceptionally proud of our Key Stage Two children at our annual Service of Remembrance at Woody Bay Train Station on Armistice Day. This service is always very poignant with the engine Axe providing our children with a very tangible link to the Western Front during World War One. This was the 15th year that we have marked Remembrance Day at Woody Bay and all who attend never fail to be moved by this very special service. The children read some beautiful poems that they had written themselves, as well as two well known World War 2 poems. After the laying of poppies in the Remembrance Garden, to conclude the service, they also shared some prayers that they had written. After the service the children enjoyed a ride on the train, pulled by Axe - an opportunity to reflect upon the importance of Remembrance. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Lynton and Barnstaple Railway for once again inviting us to be part of such a special moment.



KEY STAGE ONE OPERA VISIT

Last week, Key Stage One enjoyed a fabulous performance of 'Back into the World' by the English Touring Opera. The opera was commissioned to respond to the many challenges that children have faced during the past 18 months: missing friends, increased anxiety, disruptions to learning, challenges understanding emotions and isolation. Through the story of Lexi, our children were taken on an interactive, participatory adventure; exploring friendship, sharing, teamwork and diversity, and discovering the natural world. Through Lexi's adventures, our children explored how working together through music can save the day and turn the nasty noise into something beautiful. It really was a memorable experience and I very much hope that it has opened their eyes to the wonderful world of opera.



NATIVITIES

We are very much hoping that we will be able to hold our traditional Carol Services and Nativities in church this year. In order to ensure we are as covid secure as possible, we will be requesting that all attendees provide evidence of a negative lfd test on arrival at the church and wear a mask throughout the service. The services are planned to take place as follows:

Kentisbury & Parracombe - Tuesday 14th December

St Thomas', Kentisbury @ 10.30am

Christ Church, Parracombe @ 5.30pm

Lynton - Wednesday 15th December

St Mary's @ 10.30am and 5.30pm

Curiosity ~ Achievement ~ Respect ~ Inspiration ~ Support

We will closely monitor covid rates, both within school and the locality, and make a final decision during the week beginning 5th December as to whether or not we feel it is prudent to continue with the services. In the event of them being cancelled, the children will still perform their nativity and we will make arrangements for it to be recorded and shared with you.

HOME LEARNING

Thank you so much to those parents who continue to support their children with learning at home. Taking into account the many pressures put upon families by learning at home during lockdown, we have tried to streamline home learning this year. We will not be running our usual termly thematic home learning, but instead children will be set a small amount of weekly home learning. This is likely to include a Mathematics and Literacy Planet activity and a theme related activity which may extend over more than one week. Additionally, all children should read and/or be read to on a daily basis. If you are finding that home learning is not manageable, or is causing upset at home, please do speak to your child's class teacher.

THE SECRET BOOK QUEST

Libraries Unlimited have just launched 'The Secret Book Quest'. It is an exciting new reading challenge for primary aged children and is being run by all of our local libraries. Children join Pip, Zena and Libro the cat on a unique reading adventure through 10 themed worlds, reading books of their own choice and collecting stickers as they go to decipher a code and win a special prize. There is a certificate half way through (25 books) and another when the challenge is completed (50 books), along with a finisher's prize. To sign up, simply visit your local library and speak to a member of staff. Children will receive their very own Secret Book Quest journal and the first sticker for their collection.



UNIFORM

Whenever possible, could I please ask that all children come to school wearing the appropriate school uniform or PE kit. Uniform should consist of grey or black trousers/shorts/skirts/pinafores with a white, gold or green poloshirt/shirt/blouse and a green sweatshirt or fleece. PE Kit should consist of black shorts/joggers, a white t-shirt and our gold hoody. Footwear should be sensible and suitable for daily physical activity, even on days when children do not have a PE lesson and, ideally, it should be black.

PLATINUM JUBILEE

We are in the early stages of thinking about how we might mark the Platinum Jubilee next year. Normally the Friday before our May Half Term is set aside for Parracombe Revels. Next year, we are thinking that this would be a suitable date for our Jubilee celebrations. We would like to bring the whole federation together and make the day as memorable as possible for our children, their families and the wider community. Initial ideas include a Church Service followed by a family picnic and an 'It's-a-Knock-Out' Style event before an early evening BBQ and, at the moment, we are thinking that Holman Park would probably be the most suitable venue. However, these ideas are by no means set in stone and we would welcome any other suggestions. If you would like to be part of a federation working party to assist in planning the day and making sure that it is a day to remember, please do let me know.

With Best Wishes,

Jayne Peacock
Executive Headteacher

Raindrops, Streams & Saplings

Children in KS1 have had a fabulous first couple of weeks back after half term. Last week streams, and Kentisbury Year 1 and 2s, had the fortunate opportunity to visit the English Touring Opera. It was a fabulous experience and the children thoroughly loved every minute.

Streams and Rivers were able to take their learning outside on a trip to Lynmouth. They used their geographical skills to identify key human and physical features of their surrounding environment. They also developed their historical

skills by asking questions about the Louisa Lifeboat that launched in 1899 in one of North Devon's most prolific sea rescues. Over the next couple of weeks the children will be continuing to develop their understanding of the passage of time.

The children have continued to learn about addition and subtraction, focusing on effective strategies and using their prior understanding to solve mathematical problems. They have also been using the text, 'Sayeeda, the Pirate Princess' for their current narrative sequence. This week, the children within Streams have started to write their own version of this story, whereas Saplings have been using the narrative to help them write a recount of their upcoming trip. In science, the children have begun exploring everyday materials and their daily uses. We have also been reflecting on 'Anti-Bullying Week' and have discussed what bullying is, the different forms of bullying and how it can make people feel.

We have been amazed by how much reading at home you are all doing KS1! Well done! Keep it up!

We are very much looking forward to the next few weeks and the run up to Christmas. Nativity practice has begun!

KS1 team.

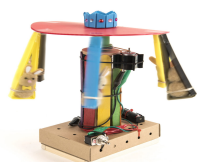
Young Buds, Rivers and Oaks

This week in Lower Key Stage Two, we have started writing up our two page spread all about the story of electricity. This non fiction report will feature different aspects of our electricity theme from past historical figures such as Michael Faraday to our own research in hydro electricity! The children are really excited to start writing, so look out for pictures of the display when they're finished! We are also beginning our work in Design and Technology. Here we are working with nets to build 3D shapes. Amazingly, we still have plenty more planned for this term before we break up. Well done to the children for all their hard work so far!



Oceans and Forests

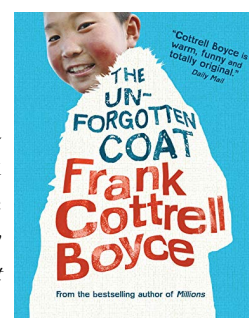
Year 5/6 have been loving our curriculum focus on Space. As part of our science focus this half term we have been exploring forces. The children have been learning to hypothesise and plan their own experiments such as how a fulcrum can be used to move a large weight.



Over the coming weeks we shall be creating a 3d model of the Mars Rover using CAD software and our 3d printer. We will also be making a programmable fairground ride. We are really excited to see the learning that the children gain from these amazing, practical activities.



We have been reading a wonderful text called 'The Unforgotten Coat' which tells the story of a young girl in Liverpool who befriends two boys who recently arrived from Mongolia. The book explores themes that are very relevant to recent news stories and really develops the idea that we have so much to gain from friendships with people from other cultures. *Two refugee brothers from Mongolia are determined to fit in with their Liverpool schoolmates, but bring so much of Mongolia to Bootle that their new friend and guide, Julie.*





Finally, we can't wait for our sleepover on 3rd December. Thank you for your patience and support when the initial date was cancelled. You'll be glad to hear that Miss Constant is on mend and will be attending the sleepover. We wouldn't want to do it without her! Don't forget to keep getting sponsors, every penny counts. Miss Constant has been very busy arranging the launch which will take place after the Christmas holiday.

Forest School News



We are having a busy time at Forest School working with 3 different age groups. Streams (Y2) finished their block of sessions by making pizzas in our new outdoor kitchen.



With Rivers (Y3) we have been learning about maps and map reading. The children have created their own maps, hidden treasure and given the grid reference for their peers to find the treasure.



Saplings (YR) have just started their block of sessions and have prepared their own veg patch and made a sign for it. Whilst Little Berries have enjoyed a trip to Arlington, where they made twig Rudolphins!

Little Berries News



Little Berries have been exploring and discussing Autumn this term. The children have made some wonderful crafts to take home, including pumpkin sun catchers and firework rockets. The children also painted a wonderful Remembrance Day banner.



Over the next few weeks we are focussing on who keeps us safe and how we can keep ourselves safe.

Kitchen News

Christmas Dinner

We will be having our Christmas Dinner on Wednesday 15th December this year. This is a lovely event and we encourage as many children as possible to take part. The meal is lovely and there is always a wonderful atmosphere. Please see the menu below.



West Exmoor Federation



Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 15th December 2021

Menu

ROAST TURKEY WITH STUFFING, ROAST POTATOES, PIG IN BLANKET, SPROUTS, PARSNIPS, CARROTS & GRAVY

* OR *

QUORN ROAST (VEGETARIAN/VEGAN OPTION)

 FOLLOWED BY 

ICE CREAM AND A GINGERBREAD HOUSE

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

Merry Christmas



(Free for KS1
or £2.30 for
KS2)

PTFA News

Would you like to join our PTFA?



We have two PTFA's (one for Lynton and one for Kentisbury and Parracombe). Both PTFA's have been quiet over the past few months due to Covid but we would love to get things going again and are actively looking for new members.

If you are interested in helping out to raise money for your child's school or have some free time to help with events, please speak to Vikki in the Office or Mrs Smallman at Lynton, and for Kentisbury and Parracombe, speak to Mel.

Lynton PTFA will also be holding their AGM very shortly and would love to see you. Details to follow soon

Diary Dates

3rd December	Year 5/6 Sponsored Sleepover
6th December	Flu Immunisations
6th December	Parracombe Christingle Service 2.30pm - 3.30pm
10th December	Christmas Jumper Day
14th December	Kentisbury & Parracombe Nativity (See details above)
15th December	Christmas Dinner Day
15th December	Lynton Nativity (St Mary's Church 10.30am & 5.30pm)
16th December	Cinderella Panto Visit @ Queens Theatre (Don't forget a packed lunch)
17th December	End of Term
5th January	Children return to school

Community

Lyn Childrens Party

The LVN Lyn Children's Party are looking for new members to join the committee. As with so many volunteer groups, most of our committee members now have new priorities following on from the pandemic. We need a Chairperson and Treasurer, plus members who would like to have an input in the planning and running of the party, plus any fundraising activities that are required. We are also looking for volunteers for the actual party.

Next year's party should be going ahead on **Saturday 8th January** and the new team will be needed to help make this happen. So please do contact us if you can help in any way to ensure this amazing tradition continues for years to come. Please email Laura in the first instance at laurawhitfield100@gmail.com

