



West Exmoor Federation

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

Summer Term 2022 – Newsletter 6 – 6th May 2022



Quick Reminders

30th May Next instalment of £50 due for Lee Valley Residential Visit

Mrs Peacock

Dear Parents/Carers

WELCOME BACK

How lovely it was to welcome our children back to school last week. They all certainly seemed rested and refreshed after the Easter break, helped, no doubt, by the beautiful weather that we were blessed with. The bank holiday weekend has also helped to ease the children back into what is going to be a very long, busy but enjoyable term. Please take a look at the Diary Dates towards the end of the newsletter which will give you advance warning of some of the trips and events planned. Further information regarding specific events will be sent out in due course. Already our Reception and Key Stage 1 children have enjoyed a fabulous day of scientific learning at Rosemoor. I was lucky enough to join the Kentisbury children and I was incredibly impressed by the engagement and enthusiasm that they demonstrated throughout the day, not to mention their impeccable behaviour. This did not go unnoticed by the education team at Rosemoor, or members of the public, who repeatedly commented on how wonderful our children were. I was exceptionally proud of them - they were wonderful ambassadors for the federation and a real credit to themselves and their families.



PARENT/CARER QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you so much to those parents/carers who took the time to complete our recent questionnaire. Your positive feedback and suggestions on ways in which we could be even better are very much appreciated. I am currently putting together a summary of your responses which I will share with you in due course. However, a common thread on what we could do even better related to parents/carers being better informed about the specific areas of learning being covered within the classroom. Although this is detailed on our website, and weekly DoJo messages showcase some of the learning that your children have been undertaking in class, we have also included within this newsletter a brief summary of what each class/phase will be covering this half term. Because we block the children's learning within foundation subjects, you will note that science, design technology and computing are not being covered this half term. After the half term break we will include another curriculum overview within the newsletter which will outline what is being covered in these areas. A great deal of time and care has been put into designing our curriculum to ensure not only breadth and balance of coverage, but also to provide our children with the opportunity to revisit and consolidate prior learning whilst also gaining new knowledge and skills; this enables our children to learn more and remember more as they make connections within, across and between the units of learning that are covered, both in the short and longer term. For example, this half term the children in Y5/6 are learning about Benin within history. This will enable them to compare and contrast Benin with the Ancient Civilisation of Egypt, which they learned about in Y3/4, as well as use their learning as a stimulus for their art and design unit this term. In Year 3/4, the children will be using the knowledge gained in geography with regards to maps to support their exploration of orienteering within PE. In Key Stage 1, our children benefited from a trip to Rosemoor to revisit their learning about plants from last term with the practical nature of the day hopefully cementing their learning into their long term memory. If you have any questions about what your child is currently learning, please do speak with your child's class teacher - I know that they would be

Curiosity ~ Achievement ~ Respect ~ Inspiration ~ Support

more than happy to discuss the curriculum overview with you.

READING WITH YOUR CHILD

The DfE have just published the following Top Ten Tips for Parents to support children with their reading. There is nothing new in the advice offered, but it is certainly a good reminder of the importance of reading to and with our children on a daily basis. If time constraints mean that you are unable to do anything else with your child, please do try and read with them each day - it really does make a difference, not just to their reading ability but to their understanding of vocabulary, imagination, writing and general understanding of the world within which we live.

1. Encourage your child to read

Reading helps your child's wellbeing, develops imagination and has educational benefits too. Just a few minutes a day can have a big impact on children of all ages.

2. Read aloud regularly

Try to read to your child every day. It's a special time to snuggle up and enjoy a story. Stories matter and children love re-reading them and poring over the pictures. Try adding funny voices to bring characters to life.

3. Encourage reading choice

Give children lots of opportunities to read different things in their own time - it doesn't just have to be books. There's fiction, non-fiction, poetry, comics, magazines, recipes and much more. Try leaving interesting reading material in different places around the home and see who picks it up.

4. Read together

Choose a favourite time to read together as a family and enjoy it. This might be everyone reading the same book together, reading different things at the same time, or getting your children to read to each other. This time spent reading together can be relaxing for all.

5. Create a comfortable environment

Make a calm, comfortable place for your family to relax and read independently - or together.

6. Make use of your local library

Libraries in England are open so visit them when you're able to and explore all sorts of reading ideas. Local libraries also offer brilliant online materials, including audiobooks and ebooks to borrow. See [Libraries Connected](#) for more digital library services and resources.

7. Talk about books

This is a great way to make connections, develop understanding and make reading even more enjoyable. Start by discussing the front cover and talking about what it reveals and suggests the book could be about. Then talk about what you've been reading and share ideas. You could discuss something that happened that surprised you, or something new that you found out. You could talk about how the book makes you feel and whether it reminds you of anything.

8. Bring reading to life

You could try cooking a recipe you've read together. Would you recommend it to a friend? Alternatively, play a game where you pretend to be the characters in a book, or discuss an interesting article you've read.

9. Make reading active

Play games that involve making connections between pictures, objects and words, such as reading about an object and finding similar things in your home. You could organise treasure hunts related to what you're reading. Try creating your child's very own book by using photos from your day and adding captions.

10. Engage your child in reading in a way that suits them

You know your child best and you'll know the best times for your child to read. If they have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) then short, creative activities may be the way to get them most interested. If English is an additional language, encourage reading in a child's first language, as well as in English. What matters most is that they enjoy it.

SAFEGUARDING

Vodafone have just published their 2022 Digital Parenting Guide. We have ordered copies for all of the children to bring home but, in the meantime, you can view the publication by visiting [Vodafone - 2022 Digital Parenting Guide](#)

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

In Collective Worship this half term, we will be exploring our CARIS value of 'Inspiration'. The children will be thinking about who and what inspires them and how they inspire others. We will also be thinking about how important it is to 'let our light shine before others', celebrating the many talents that we have and considering how we can put our gifts to their best use. Our courageous advocate this half term will be Carlos Acosta, a Cuban ballet dancer who danced his way out of poverty, performing for some of the greatest companies in the world including the Bolshoi, Paris Opera and Royal Ballet. Throughout his life he has broken many stereo-types and glass ceilings and has

passionately supported other disadvantaged young dancers. To complement our learning about Carlos Acosta, we will also be exploring Cuban music through the Buena Vista Social Club.

With Best Wishes,



Jayne Peacock
Executive Headteacher

Raindrops, Streams, Saplings & Young Buds

This half term the children will focussing upon the following areas, within their learning:

Maths:

Raindrops, Saplings and Streams - Shape, space and measure.

Young Buds - Addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, focusing on fluency.

English:

KS1 and Year 3 - Non-fiction, Explanation text based on Queen Elizabeth & Queen Victoria and then a recount on Rosemoor.

EYFS - Recount of Rosemoor trip and then a focus on sequencing a narrative.

History:

Queen Elizabeth II & Queen Victoria

Geography:

Maps - The UK and the 4 capital cities and recapping human & physical features when learning about the Thames, London and comparing to a local river where we live.

Art & Design:

Shape & Form.

RE:

KS1 - What is the good news Jesus brings? What makes some places sacred to believers?

Year 3 - What do Hindu's believe God is like?

Italian (Year 3 only):

Little Red Riding Hood

PSHRE:

Being my Best and Living in the Wider World.

Rivers and Oaks

This half term the children will be focusing upon the following areas within their learning:

Maths	Fractions, decimals and money
English	Writing an alternative chapter ending Using the present perfect verb form Punctuating direct speech
Geography	Mapping
History	Stone Age to Iron Age
Art & Design	Shape, Form and Space: Landscape photography and Stone Age clay bowls
RE	What do Hindus believe God is like?
Italian	Little Red Riding Hood
PSHRE	Being my best

Oceans and Forests

This half term the children will be focusing upon the following areas within their learning:

Maths	Measurements, converting units, area and perimeter
English	Diary of a gladiator
Geography	Climates, Biomes & Vegetation Belts
History	Benin, Romans
Art & Design	Shape form and space - clay sculpture and photography
RE	What is the good news Jesus brings? Why do Hindus want to be good?
Italian	Little Red Riding Hood
PSHRE	Being my Best and Living in the Wider World

Sports News



North Devon Schools Show Jumping - 2021

We now realise that the results of last year's show jumping were not included in the newsletter at the time and so we would like to congratulate the team of Mia Harris, Blake Goodman and Jack Payne. They all rode well and we are pleased to say that they finished the season with an excellent result, by winning the league. Jack was 6th overall individually. All three were presented with pony rugs and sashes and rosettes. Well done to you all - keep up the good work.

North Devon Schools Show Jumping - 2022

Well done to this year's Federation teams consisting of Mia Harris, Blake Goodman, Jack Payne, Lily Wyatt Kemp and Clover Grimwood, who have got off to a good start in the first two show jumping competitions of the season, being placed 3rd at the first competition. Well done also to Jack for being the individual winner at both competitions.



Admin News

Contact Details Please can we remind you to inform us when you move house or update your phone number. This is important to enable us to be able to contact you in case of emergency.

Lynton PTFA

Lynton PTFA are busy planning lots of exciting events to raise money for the redevelopment of our school garden area. The first event in our calendar will be a school disco on **Friday 20th May**, full details will be sent home shortly.

We are holding our next committee meeting on **Wednesday 11th May at 6pm at Lynton School** where we will be finalising the disco and discussing other ideas and events. We would love to see you there.

We would also like to take this opportunity to invite you to Bingo at Blackmoor Gate on **Friday 10th June**, they have very kindly agreed for proceeds from the evening to be donated to Lynton PTFA. We will send further details out in due course but add the date to your diary, booking needs to be made online via <https://www.oldstationhouseinn.com/book-your-table> (please ensure you put Bingo in the comments box so they place you in the right area). It is always a fantastic event and a fun evening. **We would be extremely grateful for any raffle prize donations you can give. Please could you send any donations into the office as soon as possible.**

Finally, we would like to say a huge thank you to Emily for her time spent as our PTFA Committee Secretary over the last few years. Emily has decided to step down due to work and family commitments but will still help the committee when she can. We would like to welcome Katherine who has kindly volunteered to be our new committee secretary.

Diary Dates

9th May - 12th May	Yr 6 SATs Week	16th June	Yr5/6 Trip to Mamma Mia, Bristol
13th May	Yr 6 Friendship Day, Ilfracombe Academy	17th June	KS2 Trip to Music Mix, Killerton House
17th May	Sports for Champion Athlete Visiting	24th June	Y6 Junior Lifeguard Day
24th May	Kentisbury & Parracombe Groups and Leavers Photos	28th June	Reserve Sports Days
25th May	Lynton Groups and Leavers Photos	4th July	Summer Production Week
26th May	KS2 Gangsta Granny Trip	11th July	Swimming Programme Begins
7th June	Lynton Y5/6 Trip to Lundy	14th July	Y5/6 Essex Dance Workshop, Ilfracombe
9th June	Parracombe Y5/6 Trip to Lundy	20th/21st July	Y6 Leavers' Camp & Trip to Crealey
13th June	MED Theatre Y3/4 Workshops	25th July	Leavers' Services
14th June	Whole Federation Sports Day at Holman Park, Lynton	26th July	Last Day of Term

PLOUGH YOUTH THEATRE
every Saturday - term time:
Play Story (3-5 Years)
 10.15am - 11.15am
£40 / £30 Supporters
Infants (6-7 Years)
 11.30am - 12.30pm
£40 / £30 Supporters
Juniors (8-12 Years)
 1.00pm - 3.00pm
Seniors (13-18 Years)
 10.15am - 12.15pm
£75 / £60 Supporters

FREE TASTER SESSION!

EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE!

PLOUGH YOUTH SCRIPT WRITERS
 For 8-18 years. Learn the art of script writing. You will also be able to take part in a competition, the winners of which will get their scripts read in a showcase performance!
Thursdays 4.30pm - 5.30pm (term time) from 3rd March 2022. £40 per term

NEW - Play Story Plus!
 For 3-5 years. Bringing the world of books and story telling to life with props, costume, arts and crafts.
10am-12pm Wednesdays (term time) from 2nd March 2022. £60 per term.

Coming in April 2022
Plough Youth Contemporary Dance
 For 12-18 years. £40 per term.

the plough
 YOUTH THEATRE

Please contact Samantha
 samantha@theploughartscentre.org.uk
 www.theploughartscentre.org.uk



Is your child a budding thespian? If so, you may be interested in the sessions currently being run by the Plough Youth Theatre in Great Torrington.

If your child is entitled to benefits related Free School Meals (not Universal Free School Meals available to all children in KS1), the Plough Youth Theatre have funding available to cover the cost of fees.

If your child is not currently receiving benefits related Free School Meals, they may be eligible if you receive any of the following benefits:

Income Support
 Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
 Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
 Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
 Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)

Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

For further information, please visit [DCC Free School Meals](#)

ACCOUNTING
 AWARD IN EDUCATION
 BEAUTY THERAPY & SPORTS MASSAGE
 BRICKLAYING
 CARPENTRY
 COUNSELLING
 DOG GROOMING
 EARLY YEARS
 ELECTRICAL & PLUMBING
 ESOL
 FUNCTIONAL SKILLS
 GCSE ENGLISH, MATHS, BIOLOGY, SCIENCE
 HAIRDRESSING & BARBERING
 PAINTING & DECORATING

ADULT OPEN EVENT
 TUESDAY 10 MAY | 5:00-7:00pm
 LIFESTYLE CENTRE, PETROC
 OLD STICKLEPATH HILL, BARNSTAPLE

If you've ever dreamt of changing your career, starting your own business, or learning a new skill, then Petroc's extensive range of flexible and affordable adult part-time courses could make those dreams a reality.

Join us for our Adult Open Event, discover our courses and talk to our lecturers. Our friendly Advice & Guidance Team will be on hand to offer support on everything from funding options, to how to apply.

Whatever your interests, qualifications, or future goals, Petroc can help you go further in life!

Register today at adult-open-event.eventbrite.co.uk

PETROC

Public Health Devon warns of Lyme disease this tick season

It's tick season, and with our woodlands and favourite countryside paths becoming thicker with vegetation, the chances of us getting ticks at this time of year is greater, warn Public Health Devon.

"Ticks thrive in warmer weather and in lush vegetation," says Steve Brown, Director of Public Health Devon. "And with warmer weather and people taking to the outdoors for recreation, woodlands and overgrown paths are likely to have ticks living among them."

There are around 1,500 cases of Lyme disease each year in England and Wales, commonly spread by ticks. And case levels here in Devon are routinely higher than England's average.

Early symptoms include a 'bullseye' rash around the site of the bite, and flu-like reactions such as fatigue, fever, chills or muscle aches.

Prevention and being prepared to respond quickly is the best form of protection, including:

- * walking on defined paths
- * covering up as much as possible
- * wearing light coloured clothing so that ticks are easier to spot
- * wearing an insect repellent that can deter ticks from climbing onto skin
- * carrying out regular checks after outdoor activity, as spotting them early allows you to act promptly

For more advice about how to properly remove a tick, and what to do if the removal's unsuccessful, read the full story on the news page of

our website. <https://www.devon.gov.uk/news/public-health-devon-warn-of-lyme-disease-this-tick-season/>

MED Theatre's NEW
Tarka Drama Clubs
for creative creatures

16th MAY **TASTER SESSION** **FREE**

Curious about Tarka clubs?
Join MED Theatre on Monday nights for fun activities and games
as we use our local history, mythology and ecology to inspire
story-telling and story-making!
Starts after June half-term but don't miss the taster session!

Drama - Creative writing - Movement
Film making - Music - Poetry

Kits 5-7yrs 4-4.45pm
Otters 8-12yrs 5-6pm
Tarka Young Company 13-19yrs 6.15-7.15pm

Braunton Academy Isaac Hall

To book a space contact
fernlindsay@medtheatre.co.uk or
call 01647 441356

MED Theatre
Inspired by Dartmoor
Registered Charity no. 119382
info@medtheatre.co.uk - 01647 441356