

NEWTON ST. CYRES PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER



24th NOVEMBER 2017



FROM MR JOLLIFFE
EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER

FROM MR JOLLIFFE

This week the new school at Newton St Cyres has taken another step forward with the arrival of the wooden frame sections for the classrooms. The hall structure is already in place and the 17 prefabricated wooden frame sections will be craned into place in the next few days. Unfortunately the day that Elliott's had planned for this to happen was Wednesday, which was the only windy day we have had for ages and so it was not possible to complete the installation then. Once the frame sections are in place then the building will really start taking shape and we look forward to being able to visit it soon.

Earlier this week an Action Team met to discuss developing the way that we set and feedback on home learning. I have written a section on this later in the newsletter so please do have a look at it and let me know any thoughts you may have on how we can improve this area of our work.



FROM MR. AKHURST
HEAD OF SCHOOL

The weeks seem to be flying by at the moment as we head towards Christmas. On Monday the Newton St. Cyres football team travelled to St. Peter's for their next round of matches in the Exeter Primary Football League. The team they were up against a well drilled side and quickly scored the first goal. Despite never giving up, they eventually lost the game 3-0. Well done to all the boys who took part and thank you to the parents who supported.

Preparations for the Christmas nativity 'It's a Party' are underway and I'm delighted to say that tickets are now available from the office. We're hosting the nativity over 2 days - Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th December and as always, it's set to be a great occasion.

The year 6 children have begun their maths revision this week as we look ahead to their SATS in the summer term. They are all showing a fabulous attitude to their learning and I look forward to this continuing.

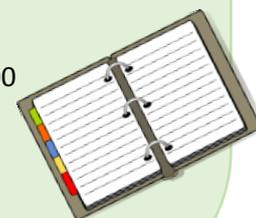
The afternoon Oshi's dad is joining us for celebration assembly to talk to the children about Hanukkah. He is also very kindly bringing in some traditional doughnuts which are eaten during Hanukkah. I'm sure this will be a fascinating assembly which the children will thoroughly enjoy! Have a wonderful weekend,

Best Wishes

James Akhurst

CALENDAR DATES

Tuesday 28th November- Year 3 & 4 Federation Disco at Thorverton 5:30-7:00 *Don't forget your ticket!*
 Wednesday 29th November – Area Swimming Gala
 Friday 1st December 2017 – Nativity Rehearsal - Pre-School Class 1 and Class 2
 Friday 1st December 2017 – Class 4 Assembly - 2.45-3.20pm Parents welcome
 Monday 4th December 2017 – 1st Nativity Performance -2.00-3.00 Parents welcome.KS1 & Nippers
 Tuesday 5th December 2017 – 2nd Nativity Performance -2.00-3.00 Parents welcome.KS1 & Nippers
 Thursday 7th December 2017 – Christingle 2.00-3.15 KS2 at the church – Parents welcome
 Friday 8th December 2017 - Class 3 Assembly - 2.45-3.20pm Parents welcome
 Tuesday 12th December – Drumming Assembly 9:30-10:30
 Tuesday 12th December – Christmas Parties & Disco Pre-School and KS1 Party - KS2 Disco 1.15-3.00pm
 Wednesday 13th December – Christmas Lunch – Whole School
 Thursday 14th December – Christmas Fair - Whole School 1.30-3.20pm. Parents welcome 2.30pm for café.
 TBC - choir to sing at Langford nursing home
 TBC – Carol Singing at Tesco - Class 4 and School Choir
 Friday 15th December 2017 - Federation Christmas Carol Service – Crediton Parish Church 11.00
 Friday, 15th December Last day of autumn term
 Thursday 4th January 2018 – Start of Spring Term - Children return to school today
TERM DATES - <http://www.exevalleyfederation.co.uk/term-dates.ashx>



CLICK ON THE LINK- [DATES FOR THIS ACADEMIC YEAR 2017/2018 - Newton St Cyres Primary School](#)

CLUBS

Monday	Tag Rugby	Mr. Hookway/Mr. Akhurst	3.20-4.30pm	Years 3,4,5 and 6
Monday	Homework	Mrs. Wilkinson	3.20-4.30pm	KS1 and KS2
Tuesday	Football	Mr. Hamiduallah/ Mr James	3.20-4.30pm	Years 3,4,5 and 6
Tuesday	Drama	Miss Scott-Hake	12.45-1.15	R, 1 and 2
Thursday	Craft	Mrs. Theedom	3.20-4.30pm	KS1 & KS2
Thursday	Dance	Mrs Tempest	12.45-1.15	KS1
Friday	Recorder	Mrs. Dunn	12.50-1.15	Years 2 and 3

BIRTHDAYS

Wishing the following children, a tremendous birthday...**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

Frasier and Dylan



NEW SCHOOL UPDATE

The new school is progressing well despite high winds causing a very minor delay with the module installation. Below are some up to date pictures taken by Mr. Jolliffe.



HOME LEARNING REVIEW

On Tuesday this week a team of teachers and TAs met with the leadership team to review the way that we manage home learning across the federation. We know that this is a sensitive issue because families like to undertake home learning in different ways and at different times so we wanted to create a system that was flexible but at the same time consistent. This term the teachers at Newton St Cyres have been trialling a 'pick and mix' approach to home learning which has been very well received by parents and children. In many ways it is very similar to the existing way of working in the four schools but gives children more choice of activities that enhance their learning in English, maths and learning projects.

At the meeting we agreed that we would extend the trial to the other schools next term and review how it has worked before Easter. This will give everyone an opportunity to explore this way of working and see how they get on with it. The teachers from all 4 schools are meeting next week to plan next term's learning projects so they will be able to write the new home learning information then, giving parents and children ideas about how to develop the learning that takes place in school.

Of course reading with your child or making sure that they are reading to themselves, remains a very important part of home learning and we would encourage every family to see this as a priority. We will also continue to focus on learning multiplication tables and spellings each week and teachers will continue to give children word lists to learn.

Home learning is a valuable way for parents to support their children's learning but it should never become a source of conflict either. The feedback from the trial that we did at Newton St Cyres suggested that the new format for home learning increased choice; please do let me or your child's teacher or Head of School how they get on with this next term. [Mr Jolliffe, Executive Headteacher]

FEDERATION CHRISTMAS CAROL SERVICE

For the first time we will be holding a Federation Christmas Carol Service with children from all four schools taking part in lots of different ways. The Carol Service will be held at Crediton Parish Church [the largest venue we could find nearby] on Friday 15th December 2017 at 11.00am. All parents and friends of the schools are welcome to join us so please put this date in your diaries. More details nearer the time.

CHRISTMAS PANTOMIMES

You may have heard from your children that the schools are not putting on their own pantomime this Christmas. Although this has been a great event it has also taken up a significant amount of learning time at a key time of the year as rehearsals have started in November and escalated towards Christmas. Last year we also found that the children were extremely tired and weary with all the Christmas events that were going on as well as the pantomimes, which is why we decided not to put on pantomimes this year but instead to focus on nativity plays and carol services. We will also have the Federation Carol Service at Crediton Church on the 15th December, which will involve all the children. In the summer we will be putting on plays or performances so that every child gets the chance to be involved in acting, singing or producing the plays which will give us a great finale to the end of the school year.

Will You Read Me a Story?



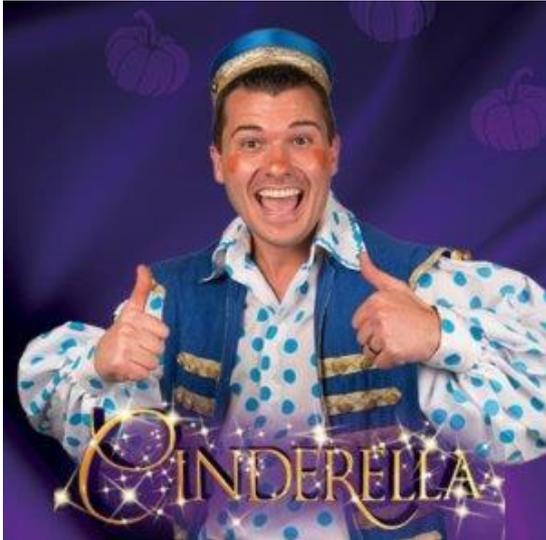
This morning Mr. Blackman came to visit class 1 and pre-school as part of our topic ‘Will you read me a story?’ He shared songs and stories and really enjoyed seeing our role-play library area that we made.

FANS

Friends Association of Newton St Cyres School

Following a Facebook vote it seems that week night evening meetings suit more of the current willing FANS volunteers than Friday mornings. In light of this it makes sense to try it and hold the special general meeting on a weeknight evening. The meeting will now be Monday 11th December at Trevince, Sweetham (my house) at 8pm. If you need directions please catch me in the playground, message FANS on Facebook or email FANS@exevalleyfederation.org.uk. The main focus of the meeting will be to discuss the future of FANS and a possible amendment to the constitution. We will also have to look to planning any upcoming events.

Thanks, Suzanne



Our own pupils - Ruby, Jessica & Nicole will be performing in Cinderella at Exmouth Pavilion this Christmas.

If you are looking for a great family Panto to watch this Christmas they would really love to have your support, they are performing on the following dates.

24th December - 12pm

28th December - 12pm

31st December - 12pm

6th January - 2pm

NEWTON NIPPERS REPORT

This week we have been reading "Jack and the Beanstalk"

The children enjoyed dressing up as the different characters in the story and re-enacted the key events.

We imagined a magic beanstalk had grown in our garden, and the children shared their ideas about what they would like to find at the top. We had some very imaginative ideas such as a lion eating chocolate and a big bear feeding the birds.

We have a science experiment in progress at the moment, the children have planted beans in different media of their choice. We are watching with great interest to see if any of them spring a shoot.

Today we went to class one to join them for a visit from a librarian from Exeter Library. We listened to some stories and took part in a singing session.

Next week we will be practicing our nativity. The nativity will take place on Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th December at Newton St Cyres Church at 2pm

Preschool children will need an animal costume of some sort relevant for a nativity.

Please can you let a member of staff know if your child will be attending the nativity ASAP.

Now that the weather is turning cold and wet, please can you make sure your child brings a warm, waterproof coat to school.

I hope you have a wonderful weekend

Shelley Choudhury- Foundation stage senior practitioner





A big Thank You to everyone who donated raffle prizes, and to all the parents and teaching staff who attended the bingo on Monday evening.

A total of £156.00 was raised.
Many thanks for your continued support.

FANS



NEWTON ST CYRES
PARISH HALL



NEW YEAR'S EVE



with

THE BARNSTORMERS

Sunday 31st December 2017

7.30 for 8.00 pm 'til 00.15

£15 per person

Includes Supper with Dessert (please specify when booking if a Vegetarian option is required)

Raffle & Licensed Bar

*Advance Tickets required, from Nicola Baker (851985)
Stuart Dowle (851536) or Village Shop*

Proceeds to Hall Improvement Fund