



Newton St. Cyres Primary School Newsletter

16th December 2016

EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER - MR JOLLIFFE

AUTUMN TERM 2 WEEK 14 2016/2017

FROM MR. JOLLIFFE

Today is my 350th day working with the Exe Valley Federation and the time seems to have flown by! I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the children, staff, governors and parents of the children in the three schools and getting to know each family over the course of the last year. Yesterday's Federation Christmas Assembly was a particular highlight for me as the children got together at Cheriton Fitzpaine to share their production songs and sing carols and hear the Christmas story. It was great to see such well-behaved children singing together and taking part in the songs and readings.

My wife and family join in wishing you a very Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year and I look forward to seeing everyone back at school at the start of January for another exciting year!

STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY

Tuesday 3rd January is a Staff Development Day and all the teachers and support staff will be meeting at Thorverton school for joint professional development. Over the last year we have been working on introducing Talk for Writing across the Federation and this will be the final day's training for us on this important initiative. School begins again for children on Wednesday 4th January 2017.

FROM MR. AKHURST

What a festive week we have had in school this week. On Tuesday, we held our Christmas lunch and all the children tucked into a delicious feast cooked by Sue and Jo in the kitchen. The year 6s were the waiters and waitresses and they did a brilliant job in organising the children before tucking into their own meals in the ICT suite served my Mr. Jolliffe, Mrs. Theodom and Mr. Akhurst.

On Wednesday, we had our class parties which were a huge success. Pre-School, class 1 and class 2 had a special surprise as two elves came to visit and they delivered presents to all the children. Class 3 and 4 had a disco on the hall and demonstrated some of their dancing and singing abilities. A big thank you to everyone who donated food and drinks and to FANS for their contributions of gifts and the disco.

On Thursday, we all went to Cheriton Fitzpaine Primary School for an end of term assembly. It was great for the children to mix with their peers across the three schools. Each school shared something they had done this term before some year 6 children read some Christmas poems. We also sang some carols before heading back to school. In the afternoon, the children finished off the rest of the party food whilst enjoying some Christmas activities. We also said goodbye (temporarily) to Miss Scott-Hake and Mrs Parkes as they are both off on maternity leave. The children presented them with flowers and cards to say thank you for all their hard work and to wish them well with their new arrivals. We look forward to hearing some exciting news in the next few weeks

Finally, it leaves me to wish you all a wonderful Christmas and a happy and healthy start to 2017. I look forward to seeing you all in the new year for another exciting term at Newton St. Cyres.

James Akhurst

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

TERM DATES

The **spring term begins for children on Wednesday 4th January 2017** and ends on Friday 31st March. Half term is from Monday 13th to Friday 17th February and Monday 20th February is a Staff Development Day so children return to school on Tuesday 21st February 2017.

Crediton Youth Orchestra

Are you aged between 7 and 14? Do you play a musical instrument? Can you read music? Do you enjoy playing all styles and genres of music? Then join this brand new orchestra for young people.

Wednesdays 4.15 to 5.15pm term time

At QE music department, Western Road Campus, St Martins Lane, Crediton EX17 3LU

To fill in an enrolment form go to: Creditonyouthorchestra.co.uk or ask at your school reception or Crediton Community Bookshop.

First rehearsal on January 11th 2017.

See you there!

Safeguarding training for volunteers

We take our responsibilities for keeping children safe very seriously and as part of this work, it is important that everyone who has regular contact with children in our schools, in whatever capacity, understands the principles of safeguarding and what to do if you have concerns about a child's welfare. If you come into school frequently [three times a month or more] or intensively [for a whole day at a time] then you need to attend the training courses that are being held over the next few months at one of the school venues. The courses will be on:

Monday 23rd January at 1.30pm at Cheriton

Wednesday 1st February at 9.30am at Newton

Thursday 9th February at 7.30pm at Thorverton

The course will last for 2 hours and will include discussion and activities as well as a training element and will be led by Mr Jolliffe, who is the Designated Safeguarding Lead for the Federation. If you would like to attend, please let Mrs Steele know at Cheriton Fitzpaine [admin@cheriton-fitzpaine-primary.devon.sch.uk] or via any of the school offices.

BIRTHDAYS

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

Hannah, James, Nathan, Reuben and Daniel





Save the Children

Today we joined in the fun with 'Save The Children' by wearing a festive jumper for the day. Thank you for all your donations we will be sending off the £70 collected. <http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/>



PRESCHOOL REPORT

We have had such a busy week to end our term; there was the Christmas dinner on Tuesday, our Christmas Party on Wednesday, and we have also fitted in adding the finishing touches to our Christmas cards and calenders your children have brought home this week. They really did have fun with the 'selfie photos', showing what confident individuals they are all becoming. We would all like to thank you very much for the wonderful gifts and cards we have received over the last few days-they really are much appreciated and very kind of you.

We all hope you have a fantastic time over the Christmas Holidays, and look forward to seeing you all back in the new year-so from us all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



REMINDER - Parents of children due to be starting school in Sept 2017 can apply online. The application process for primary and junior places opened on 15 November 2016 and will close on 15 January 2017.

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place>

Michelle Gidley - Pre-school Leader