



Pupil of the Week Awards

	Betty Bee	Wilbur Woodpecker	Olive Owl	Samuel Squirrel
Kingfishers	Rupert	Millie	Elsa	~
Jackdaws	~	Rosie & Olivia	Alma	Fraizer
Ospreys	Ethan	Harry	Sophia	Oscar H

MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER, Mrs Alison Mackey

The new term is well underway across our Federation schools, and I would like to take a moment to introduce myself as the new Executive Headteacher of the Devon Moors Federation.

I have been part of the Federation for the past eight years, and I am delighted to be stepping into this role. Over the last few weeks, I have visited all of our schools and it's been a joy to see the buzz in classrooms as children settle in, get to know their new teachers, and explore exciting new topics and learning opportunities.

We are fortunate to have such a wonderful mix of schools and so much expertise to share. By working closely together, I am confident we can build on our strengths and create even more opportunities for our children to thrive.

I look forward to the year ahead and the developments we have planned for the schools. Thank you for your continued support.

HARVEST

We are delighted to be able to hold a harvest celebration in The Beacon Baptist Church again this year. This will start at 2pm on Friday 17th October; refreshments (kindly provided by the church team) will be available from 1.30pm. There will be a short assembly with each class performing something for you.

After the assembly we would like to invite you all to come over to school so that your children can share their work with you ahead of the parents' evenings which will be in the week after half term (3rd-7th November)

SNACKS – JACKDAWS AND OSPREYS

We have a number of children in these classes complaining that they are hungry mid-morning. It is quite a long time between breakfast and lunch (at least 4 hours) so we do encourage healthy snacks at playtime. Each classroom has a basket for playtime snacks which can be fruit, vegetables, bread sticks, rice cakes, cheese, crackers...etc. Cereal bars are allowed but please avoid those covered in chocolate as some children confuse them with chocolate bars such as kit-kats!

UNIFORM

It is lovely to see the children looking smart in all their new uniforms. Just a reminder that only simple stud earrings are permitted in school – no other jewellery is allowed. Hair below shoulder length must be tied up in school and simple clips used if hair is getting in children's faces. Please no large hair decorations such as bows and claw grips as these are fashion accessories and not suitable for the school environment.

## CLASS NEWS

### PIPITS

Pipits class have settled in well after the holidays and the reception children are now all attending full time. They have been very excited to listen to different retellings of the Three little pigs story. This has inspired lots of role play and home building with bricks, sticks and straw. They all love saying "I will huff and I'll puff and I'll blow your house down!"

Our 'big question' this half term, "Is everybody's home the same?" has inspired lots of talk. We went for a walk around the village to look for different types of houses. Some of the children were thrilled to show us the outside of their homes. Maps have been our focus this week and the children have made maps of their journey to school. They have also liked to explore the area on google maps looking at their homes using street view.



### KINGFISHERS

In Kingfisher class, we have been reading 'Wanted: The Perfect Pet,' which is a story about a boy called Henry who really wants a dog. The children have been learning about using commas in a list and have also been thinking about what their perfect pet would be. Next week they will be describing their perfect pet with adjectives.

In Science, we have been learning about materials and carrying out experiments to test which materials are best for different purposes. We tested materials to see which one would be best for the three little pigs to build their house from. We wanted to know if the materials were strong, waterproof and whether they could be blown over by the Big Bad Wolf. Not surprisingly, rock was the best (not paper!). We also wrapped Humpty Dumpty up in different materials and he 'had a great fall'....off the table!! His shell cracked with paper, tissue and hand towel but it did not crack when wrapped in thick, fur fabric or felt.

In maths, we have been improving our understanding of numbers to 20. We have ordered numbers and compared them with the greater than (>), less than (<) and equals to (=) symbols.

## JACKDAWS

### A Snapshot of our Learning

Jackdaws have had a great start back and have been working hard. In English, we have been exploring Flotsam, a wonderful picture driven book about a boy who finds an underwater camera washed up on a beach. We've looked in depth at certain parts of the story and have been writing a narrative for our chosen images. In Maths, we have been learning about place value. We have been exploring the value of digits in whole numbers as well as rounding to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. In Science, we have started our Animals Including Humans topic. We have been learning about the digestive system and teeth. This week, we have started an experiment testing to see which drink would be worst for our teeth. We put some hard boiled eggs in cola, lemonade, milk and water and we shall see the results next week! The most decayed egg shell will tell us which drink is the worst for our tooth enamel.

### Reading Books

The children have all now been allocated colour banded school reading books. Our book change day is on Fridays, although we of course accommodate an early change if needed. These books must be brought into school every day as adults may be asking your child to read them. Please ensure that these books are read at home too, daily if possible. If your child is on 'Turquoise' band, we have a limited number of these available, so they may also be bringing similar level books home from our class 'phase 4 and 5' box which Mrs. Brogan very kindly donated to us last year.

Any questions, please do come and see us after school, our door is always open.

Many thanks, Mr. Dalton and Mrs. Shaw

## OSPREYS

The children are buzzing about our topic based on WW2. They are extremely interested and asking lots of questions. We have mainly been focusing on modern day Germany and the lead up to WW2 including the rise of Adolf Hitler. We are currently looking at a trip to The Tank Museum to support this topic. In line with our history topic, we are reading Goodnight Mr Tom and using this text to support writing. Once again, children are highly motivated and through this story, we are learning so much about evacuation and what it was like on the home front. Many children in the class have watched the film recently.

In maths, we have been working on reading, writing, ordering and comparing numbers, including numbers up to 10,000,000. Once again, there is a real buzz in maths lessons and children have grown in confidence with these large numbers. We are also regularly practising number bonds up to 20 (and beyond). It is important that these facts are learnt so that children can quickly recall them without having to work them out (eg 6 + 7, 8 + 5, 16 - 4, 14 - 9 etc); any extra practice at home would be FANTASTIC.

Science work is based on the topic around the topic of adaptation, natural selection and evolution. We have enjoyed thinking about how animals and plants that are best suited to their environments will be the ones most likely to survive and pass on their characteristics. We enjoyed putting this into practice by making moths from newspaper and camouflaging them in the forest school area.

### Diary Dates ..... October

Wed 1 <sup>st</sup>	Year 1 Parents Phonics Meeting – Kingfisher class 3.40pm (children welcome)
Thurs 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ospreys Outdoor Learning (after lunch)
Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup>	Ospreys Outdoor Learning (after lunch)
Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup>	Ospreys Outdoor Learning (after lunch)
Fri 17 <sup>th</sup>	Harvest Celebration – 2pm The Beacon, refreshments available from 1.30pm After, parents are invited to school for the children to share their work

**Our forthcoming events and diary dates are on our website listed in the *News & Events* section.**

More specific details can be viewed online by clicking on the relevant event, this will then display the letter content or additional information

[Diary Dates website link](#) 