



Autumn Term Newsletter No.12 (6.12.19)

On Monday and Tuesday, Year 4 entertained the school and family with their Stone Age assembly that celebrated their exciting curriculum this term. Thank you to the staff who helped the children achieve this. They made it look effortless but there will have been a lot of behind the scenes / after hours work to enable this opportunity. Have a look in the [History Blog](#) to read about the Year 3 and Year 4 Stone Age projects.

Then on Tuesday afternoon, Christmas seemed to suddenly land out of no where with Key Stage 1's magical Nativity at the Princess Theatre. Approximately 500-600 people turned up to watch the show which felt very professional on the big stage with big songs and some unique solo dance choreography. There were many Christmas smiles and some special Torbay snow to finish the performance. A huge thanks to Mrs Turner and her team of staff and parent volunteers who brought this all together in a remarkably quick time at a busy time of year.

We rounded off the week with our Christmas Jumper Day which raised £199.35 for *Save the Children*, a worthy charity that does good work in the UK and across the world. We shared this work with the children in Friday's assembly. At lunchtime we enjoyed the traditional Christmas lunch cooked by the amazing ladies in the kitchen. Then at the end of today our fantastic PTA put on their annual Christmas Fair—a big thanks to Ella and her team!

As we approach the end of the autumn term, teachers are busy finalising assessments and reviewing the progress of those in their class as well as reviewing the progress we are making in each subject area. On Wednesday after school teachers worked with their colleagues from St Marychurch, Babbacombe and Torre to moderate each other's writing assessments. Within school, teachers have been working in subject clusters—Arts, Humanities and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) to review our curriculum work: to see what's working well, to plan for next steps and to get our heads around improved assessments in these subjects.

For some years the National Curriculum across the country has been implemented in a fairly narrow manner because judgements about a school's performance have all been about outcomes in Writing, Reading and Maths. The agenda is changing now. From September 2019, Ofsted is inspecting the full range of how we implement the full curriculum. We'll still be judged on outcomes for Writing, Reading and Maths but inspections will be all about the full curriculum. Hence all schools are working hard to develop a broad and balanced curriculum that engages all pupils. It's a move in the right direction but it brings about challenges for schools on how to best implement this. We're making good progress at St Margaret's and I'll be sharing more with you soon.

Loving Maths

Well done to all the pupils who have been enjoying the challenge of the maths puzzles. It's fantastic to see so many of you loving maths at home! This week we have Code Breaker and Square Triangles to try which you can find under 'Home Activities Dec 2019' in the [Maths Blog!](#) Bring your solutions to Miss Wooldridge in Hazel Class on Friday break time.

Token Collection for Collins Big Cat Reading Programme

If you are a reader of The Sun or know someone who is, we'd really like your help. We're aiming to collect 3500 tokens which are printed in The Sun every day starting from Saturday 23.11.19 and running until Saturday 18.1.20. If we reach our target we have a chance to claim a whole school reading scheme from Collins called *The Big Cat Reading Programme*. This would really help boost our reading collection so if you think you can help please do collect those tokens and send them in.

Polite Prompt for Polite Parking Please

Please can I again ask for your help with parking around school. Local residents regularly write to me with concerns about their drives being blocked and access for emergency vehicles being restricted. It must be very frustrating for them. Please can I appeal to you again for your consideration about this. Thank you.

Miss Palfrey and the Reading Ambassadors' Weekly Book Choices



Suitable for older readers: *The Snow Sister* by Emma Carroll

Suitable for younger readers: *Meerkat at Christmas* by Emily Gravett



Weekly Attendance Award

Congratulations again to **Rowan** Class for winning the School Attendance Award with **99%** attendance. School target: 96% The whole school achieved **94.2% last week**



Stars of the Week

Beech	Noah shows fantastic enthusiasm in everything he does. He gets stuck into every challenge! He embraced the opportunity to be our shining star at the Theatre and rose to the occasion - a true superstar!
Pine	Frankie was an amazing dancing camel in our key stage one Christmas production. He took great responsibility for himself making sure he was in the correct place at the correct time and led the other dancers. You have great performance skills Frankie. Well done.
Oak	Kaylee- for fantastic effort and perseverance when reading her lines in the Nativity. Well done Kaylee!
Apple	Marshall - a fantastic effort with his sentence structures. Super sorting and self checking!
Birch	Barnaby - For really immersing yourself into our Stone Age topic this term and producing a fantastic stone age setting for your homework!
Rowan	Linus - for always giving 100% in everything you do and writing a fantastic time travel story set in the Stone Age!
Cherry	Thomas for showing determination to improve his behaviour choices, which as a result has made a really positive impact on his learning and the quality of the work he produces. Well done and keep it up!
Maple	Zain for showing responsibility and determination to improve his work ethic in all subjects which has had a massive impact on the quality of work he has been producing.
Willow	Cody has been a star all week! Great writing, fabulous Maths and a great performance for the school football team too! Star!
Holly	Amelia always tries her best at everything she does. Her learning is always produced to a very high standard. Well done. Keep it up!
Hazel	Charlie - for excellent progress in maths. You've put huge effort into contributing and participating more in lessons and is showing a fantastic understanding of fractions as a result. Well done Charlie! You always do your best!
Hawthorn	Bella- for her superb effort and enthusiasm in maths and writing this week!

Diary Dates

Tue 3.12.19	KS1 Nativity at the Princess Theatre—2.00pm (siblings of a child in the show are welcome to attend if collected from school—please notify the office)
Fri 6.12.19	Christmas school dinner day—yum! Plus, <i>Wear a Christmas Jumper Day</i> —in aid of <i>Save the Children</i> —suggested donation of £1 PTA Christmas Fair after school
Mon 9.12.19	3.10pm in the school hall—PTA Mega Christmas Draw
Tue 17.12.19	6.00pm KS2 Carol Concert at Upton Vale Baptist Church
Tue 7.1.20	First day back for the children after the Christmas break

KINDNESS

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

ASPIRATION