

Summer Term Newsletter No.9 (28.6.19)

We've been thinking about our aspirations this week after being inspired in Monday's assembly by children's achievements. Alfie Wilton ran 2.5 miles and raised nearly £600 for a children's hospice. 30 of our pupils completed the final mile of the Torbay half marathon last weekend after logging 12 miles at school; all in the good cause of raising money for children who are less fortunate than them. We learnt how Ellie Glover in Year 4 became an amazing writer because of her practice at home and school, and her extensive reading of stories to get ideas. We heard how the Stibbs brothers, Jameson and Reuben, are talented badminton players selected for Devon because of their skills and hard work in training.

These achievements helped inspire others at our Sports Days this week. We've seen a whole range of children challenging themselves and having a go in sports that aren't always in their comfort zone. We've also noticed some fantastic athletes.

On Wednesday afternoon, Reception children took part in their Sports Day mini-beast team challenges and their first school running race. The highlights were the mums and dads races which saw close-run photo finishes, stumbles, a lost trainer and buckets of aspiration. Thanks to the Reception staff for organising all the fun. On Thursday we had a full day of KS2 sports with sprints, long distance runs, relay, team events and finishing with the popular tug of war. Well done to Raleigh Reds who achieved a narrow victory after a full day of competition. The full scores and some stunning photos for KS2 are on our [Sports Blog](#). This afternoon we enjoyed another sunny event as the Key Stage 1 children enjoyed their Sports Day. I'd like to say a huge thanks to MC Mayling for organising the KS1 and KS2 days. They were a big success and very well-enjoyed.

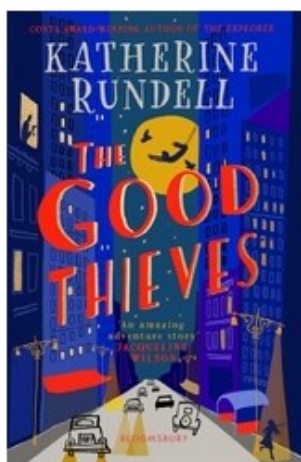
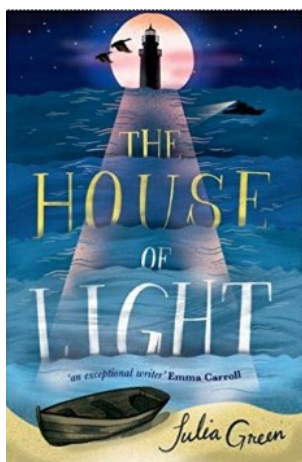
Bridget Duff, our Senior Administrator, continues to be a beacon of aspiration to us all. Today she is top of the world as she celebrates 20 years of work at St Margaret's Academy. We're very lucky to have her and the office team working hard for everybody behind the scenes.

All staff have been involved in different training this week. Our wonderful Meal Time Assistants, who work on the front line each day, have been developing their skills in behaviour management and understanding of food allergies. Mr Rogers and Mrs Rice have been training our Teaching Assistants on the use of Cuisenaire rods. If you've never come across these before, they are a fantastic practical maths resource that help all abilities with their understanding of mathematical concepts. They support fundamental knowledge of early Maths ideas as well as helping with more complex areas. Check out this website if you are interested in using them at home to help your child: <http://www.cuisenaire.co.uk/>. On Thursday, we welcomed Gill Hague to our teachers' staff meeting. Gill is a specialist teacher and advisor for pupils with special educational needs. She helped us with ideas to support the teaching of reading and spellings in particular.

Orchard News. Many thanks to Chris Thomas, one of our MTAs and the local lollipop man. Mr Thomas is helping us develop our composting that fits in with our longer term plans to use the Orchard in a more eco-sustainable manner. This week he has been busy with the fruit composting and has organised for us to get more advanced all-food waste composters from Torre Primary School. Have a look at our Eco Blog to see Pine Class [picking strawberries](#) in the summer sunshine.

Polite reminder about parking! During the KS2 Sports Day on Wednesday we received two calls from different local residents who reported that their drives were blocked and they were unable to get out. They also raised concerns about safety as the pavements had cars parked on and they reported that the roads were blocked should emergency vehicles need access. Please can you consider local residents and wider safety concerns when parking near school for tomorrow's summer fair and in the future. Thank you for your understanding.

Miss Palfrey and the Reading Ambassadors' Weekly Book Choices



Weekly Attendance Award

Congratulations to
Pine Class
for winning the School
Attendance Award with
99.3% attendance.
School target: 96%
The whole school achieved
95.8% this week



This Week's Star Pupils!

- Ash & Elm — Going for Gold! To all of Elm and Ash class for showing such confidence and team spirit in our Sports Day event this week. We had so much fun with our home and school families.
- Beech — Libby- for being an absolute trooper since breaking her foot! She has not complained once and continued to work hard at everything.
- Pine — Sophia W and Darcey for being so helpful in the orchard. Picking strawberries for the rest of the class!
- Oak — Owen- for his amazing attitude in writing resulting in great progress. He is also making a conscious effort to do the right thing and has shown excellent listening in the Ukulele lessons. Well done Owen!
- Apple— Luciana - for her effort in writing lessons. Her handwriting is really beautiful and her ideas are lovely. Well done!
- Birch — Charlie K- For your admirable sporting attitude and fantastic teamwork during sports day!
- Rowan — Logan for exemplary sitting, listening and concentration this week! Keep it up!
- Cherry — Ben - for showing not only an excellent level of skill at sports day, but also great sportsmanship! What a great role model!
- Maple - Noah and Finley - for showing aspiration and determination to succeed on Sports Day whilst also demonstrating great sportsmanship!
- Holly — Buster - for being such a great sportsman and team player yesterday. Well done
- Willow — Kit worked really hard in his writing and made sure that he included all of the skills he had been taught. Well done.
- Hazel— Daniella - for such determination, aspiration and effort in her acting, dancing and singing. You are a pleasure to watch Daniella!
- Hawthorn— Rhianna- for her great positivity, superb effort and infectious enthusiasm during rehearsals!

Diary Dates

Saturday 29.6.19	PTA Summer Fair 10-2
Thursday 4.7.19	Reception, Y1 and Y2 disco 4.00-5.00 Y3,Y4,Y5 and Y6 disco 5.30-6.45
Monday 8.7.19	2.00 pm PTA meeting at school—all welcome
Wednesday 10.7.19	End of year reports sent out.
Friday 19.7.19	Last day of term / year for the pupils
Wednesday 4.9.19	First day back for the pupils

KINDNESS

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

ASPIRATION