



Next week—W/C Monday 3rd March 2025	
Monday:	Lunchtime Choir Club Arts Award Club 3.30-4.30 (Must have confirmed place)
Tuesday:	Class Three PE Year Six SATs Club 3.30-4.30pm
Wednesday:	Class One Outdoor Learning (afternoon) - please remember your wellies!
Thursday:	World Book Day Class Two PE Lunchtime Lego Club
Friday:	Class Four PE 3.00 Celebration Collective Worship KS2 Sports Club 3.30-4.30pm

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school everyone - I hope you all had a lovely half-term break.

Mrs Game

I am delighted to be able to tell you that Mrs Game and her husband are expecting their third child. We will have the benefit of Mrs Game's expertise until the end of the Summer Term and then she plans to be on maternity leave for the following academic year. The process to ensure that we have an excellent cover teacher in place before Mrs Game leaves (so that they can have a successful handover) will start next week and I will, of course, keep you updated.

KS2 SATs' Information

The may dates for Y6 SATs tests are fast approaching. I am sure you will be familiar with how this works, but if not, I will be running a short presentation for parents of children in Y6 (other parents are welcome to attend) at 3:40pm on Monday 17th March. It will take about 25 minutes, including the opportunity for parents to ask questions.

Y4 Multiplication Check

Y4 children will also have a test in the Summer Term to assess their knowledge of times tables. Children ought to know these by then. For parent information about these tests, please follow the link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/multiplication-tables-check-information-for-parents>

London Residential

Before half-term, Y5 were away on an amazing adventure in London with children from other TEAM schools. As promised, some photos from their time there are included in the letter. The activities that we took part in were: Harry Potter tour at Warner Studios; Tower of London; London Eye; Matilda at the theatre; Natural History and Science Museums and London Zoo. Some of the children have also written about it in the Class Four section.

Miriam Latimer: Author Visit

We were delighted to welcome back Miriam to the school on Wednesday afternoon. She ran two lovely sessions - one with EYFS & KS1 and one with KS2 children, based around her beautiful book, "Colours of Home". We have ordered a copy of this for the school library, and know that some of you also bought a copy for your children. The book is available from a variety of bookshops if you would like to buy a copy now the visit has taken place.

Reading Curriculum

Talking of reading, I thought you might like to see a copy of our recently updated Reading Curriculum plan. We have included some new titles within our range for Whole Class Guided

Reading in KS1 and KS2 and for class texts to be listened to by the children (often at the end of the school day). As well as these new books, there are plenty of 'old favourites' too. You will see that sometimes the texts that we focus on are linked to projects and sometimes they 'stand alone' to reflect different events in the year, cultures or parts of the world. The curriculum is designed to reflect our core driver, "Building Communities" and the overview is attached.

And more reading ...

Next Thursday (6th March) is World Book Day. We encourage children to come to school dressed as a favourite book character and bring along the book that they feature in too. There will be plenty of reading activities during the day and children will bring home a WBD voucher at home-time. Class Two - if your costume is suitable for PE activities, you can wear it all day. If not, please come to school in PE kit and you can change into your costume afterwards. If you are not into dressing up, remember that there are lots of book characters who wear 'normal clothes'.

Pupil voice - non-uniform day

Dylan in Class two asked me the other day if we could have a non-uniform day - so that he can wear his Wales rugby kit. I think this is a fabulous idea and one that we could tie in with Comic Relief. So, on Friday 21st March, children can come to school in non-uniform in exchange for a donation to Comic Relief. If it can be something red (like Dylan will be wearing), even better!

Breakfast club

Breakfast Club has been getting very busy lately (which is great) and we are about to review this provision. In the meantime, can I remind parents who want to use Breakfast Club, that it starts at 8:00am. We can't take children before that time as we are not insured to do so. Thank you.

Proms

We are fast approaching this eagerly awaited bi-annual event in which KS2 children have the opportunity to perform on stage at the Queen's Theatre. Please see details in this letter of how to obtain tickets.

Swimming

We have booked swimming sessions for the summer term for children in KS1 and KS2. Further details will be sent out in the coming weeks.

Collective Worship

This week we have been thinking about Lent in CW and how Jesus went into the wilderness for 40 days and nights. We talked about how giving up something you enjoy for Lent can be really hard, but also exciting (as you get close to the end of the time you have to wait for it again). Someone said that it can make the thing you have given up seem much more special when you have it again: so true. Waiting for something (good or bad) can elicit a wide range of emotions Our prayer was: *Dear God, We know that we all have times in our lives when we must wait. We also know that we feel a range of emotions in waiting. Help us to take control of our feelings and understand that waiting can be a big part of life. Amen*

Have a great weekend,

Rob Norton
Head of School

Proms Performance

A reminder that tickets for our upcoming Proms Music Concert go on sale this Saturday (1st March).

Children in Class Three and Class Four will not need to purchase a ticket; there will be no cost to children for taking part in the concert.

Parents and families wanting to come and watch the concert will need to purchase a ticket directly from the Barnstaple Queens Theatre:

Online: www.queenstheatre-barnstaple.com

Phone: 01271 316523

In person from the box office: Queen's Theatre, 100 Boutport Street, Barnstaple, EX31 1SY

We will be taking children in Class Two to watch the afternoon performance - you do not need to buy your child a ticket for this. If you want to take a Class 2 child to the evening performance as well, you will need to purchase a ticket for them to sit with you.

Tickets cost £10. Money made through ticket sales will pay for the hire of the theatre. It would be great to perform to a sell-out theatre so please invite family and friends!

Trips and Residentials

Class Three St George's House Residential - Please remember the balance payment is due by Friday 7th March. Please return the medical/consent form by Monday 3rd March.

KS2 Proms Performance - Please complete the consent for children performing by Monday 10th March.

KS2 Exeter Chiefs Experience Day - The spaces allocated to High Bickington have now been filled. If you would like your child added to a waiting list, please e-mail admin@high-bickington-primary.devon.sch.uk, in case a space becomes available.

Year Six Bude Residential - Please remember the balance payment is due by Monday 2nd May.

Next Week's Menu—W/C Monday 3rd March

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Beef Pasta Bolognese V – Quorn Pasta Bolognese Peas & Carrots Fruit Muffin	Pork Sausages V – Vegetarian Sausages Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Veg Fruit Jelly	Roast of the Day Chicken V - Vegetarian Roast Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Veg Fruit Salad	Chicken and Chunky Veg Casserole V - Quorn and Chunky Veg Casserole Crusty Bread & Sweetcorn Chocolate Sponge and Chocolate Custard	Cod/Salmon Fish Cakes V – Vegetarian Nuggets/Fingers Golden Fries and Seasonal Veg Homemade Cookie

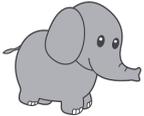
What happened at school this week?

These questions are about what has been happening in each class this week and are designed as 'conversation starters' for you to use with your child. We hope that they will provide a useful prompt to encourage conversations about school - talking for just three minutes each day about school has been shown to have a great impact on children's learning!



Learning Lions (Class One)

Which facts can you remember about goats?
Can you remember your number bonds to 10?
Can you talk about what you have played in the farm shop?



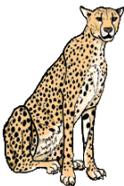
Exploring elephants (Class Two)

Can you spot and draw new signs of Spring outside?
Can you create a poster about how you would welcome a new person to our school?
Can you find doubles with numbers to 10?



Inventive Impalas (Class Three)

What was the book "Colours of Home" about?
Who was Rosa Parks and what did she do?
Explain what you have learnt so far about fractions to an adult at home.



Challenging Cheetahs (Class Four)

Can you show someone how to convert between fractions, decimals and percentages?
When could you use a semi-colon?
What have you found out about India?

Home Activities and Homework Tasks

Class One:

Please spend time reading with your child and practising their new phonic sounds, **recording this in your reading record.**

Class Two:

Please aim to read with an adult for 15 minutes each day and **record in reading records.**

Class Three:

Times tables, reading log book, spellings.

Class Four:

Year 6 - read for at least 60 minutes each day and up date your reading log carefully. Year 5 - read for at least 45 minutes each day and up date your reading log carefully. Times table Rock Stars. Complete your Maths homework sheets ready for Monday morning.



Class One

This week in Class One, we explored the story *The Goggle-Eyed Goats* by Stephen Davies. We loved the quirky characters and colourful pictures, which sparked lots of curious questions and exciting conversations about what farms in different countries might be like. We each painted our own goggle-eyed goats using dot patterns inspired by the illustrations in the story. This was a great opportunity for us to practise the fine motor skill of dabbing to create art. In Maths, we revisited number bonds to 10, practising and consolidating this important skill. On Wednesday, we enjoyed a visit from local author Miriam Latimer, who gently introduced us to the idea of displacement through her story of a child who must suddenly leave her home. It got us thinking about what things are precious to us. Finally, we started to think more deeply about the choices we make during our Busy Time, for example, planning our junk modelling creations before building to make the time we spend on this activity more focussed and meaningful. Our teachers have loved seeing our ideas come to life with such careful thought and attention. Our new farm shop role play area has also provided a great opportunity for us to express ourselves and practise our maths skills.

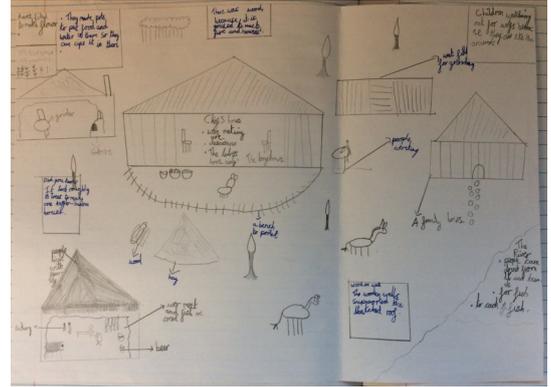
Class Two

The children have settled back into their new half term, with spring on it's way and even more learning to discover. Our topic in Class Two is now evolving. We are moving away from 'School Days' and into 'Magnificent Monarchs' where we will be learning all about different Kings and Queens on the historical timeline. We will be starting with Queen Victoria, who we know about from our Victorian topic. We shall be finding out about her reign in more detail and next week we will be taking part in a Design and Technology week based on Queen Victoria's Bathing Machine. Thank you for the cardboard donations, we now have plenty for our project next week. We have started reading a book called 'The King who Banned the Dark'. The children immersed themselves into the story this week by sitting in a dark room, listening to night sounds. They discussed thoughts and feelings and even took some special items out of a box to find out what our new story might be about. Later in the week, the children received a letter from the King who banned the dark. We are going to start exploring if we agree with his decision! This week we experienced a wonderful author visit from Miriam Latima. Class Two had the chance to join with Class One to meet the author and listen to her new book 'Colours of Home'. We talked about how we can help to welcome new people into our lives and school.



Class Three

This week in Class 3, we put our history knowledge to the test by designing our very own Anglo-Saxon villages! We learned that children in those times had the important job of keeping watch to protect their animals from wolves – a fact that really surprised us! We were also lucky to have a special author visit from Miriam Latimer, who wrote *Colours of Home*. The story follows a refugee who had to leave her home and precious belongings behind. It made us reflect on how lucky we are and inspired us to think about ways we can help others who aren't as fortunate.



Class Four—by Jack and Isaac

This week in Class Four, we have started our Ready, Steady, Write input. Our goal is write a documentary narration piece about wolves. In computing, we are still using Scratch but working towards coding our own games. We have learnt how to use scores so far. On Thursday, we learnt about Indian culture to prepare for our Zoom call.

London Residential

In London, the first thing we did was visit the Harry Potter Studios. We had a workshop about costume distressing. We saw outfits and costumes that the actors wore, and learnt about how costume distressers made outfits battle ready (battle scenes, anyway). Then we had a tour of the Harry Potter Studios. At the residential centre (the YHA), we were treated to a delicious meal and then sent up to bed. Then in the morning, we travelled to the Tower of London. We saw the crown jewels and barely had to queue! After that, we went to see (and ride) the London Eye. There is so much more to this fun trip, this only mentions a small amount of it!





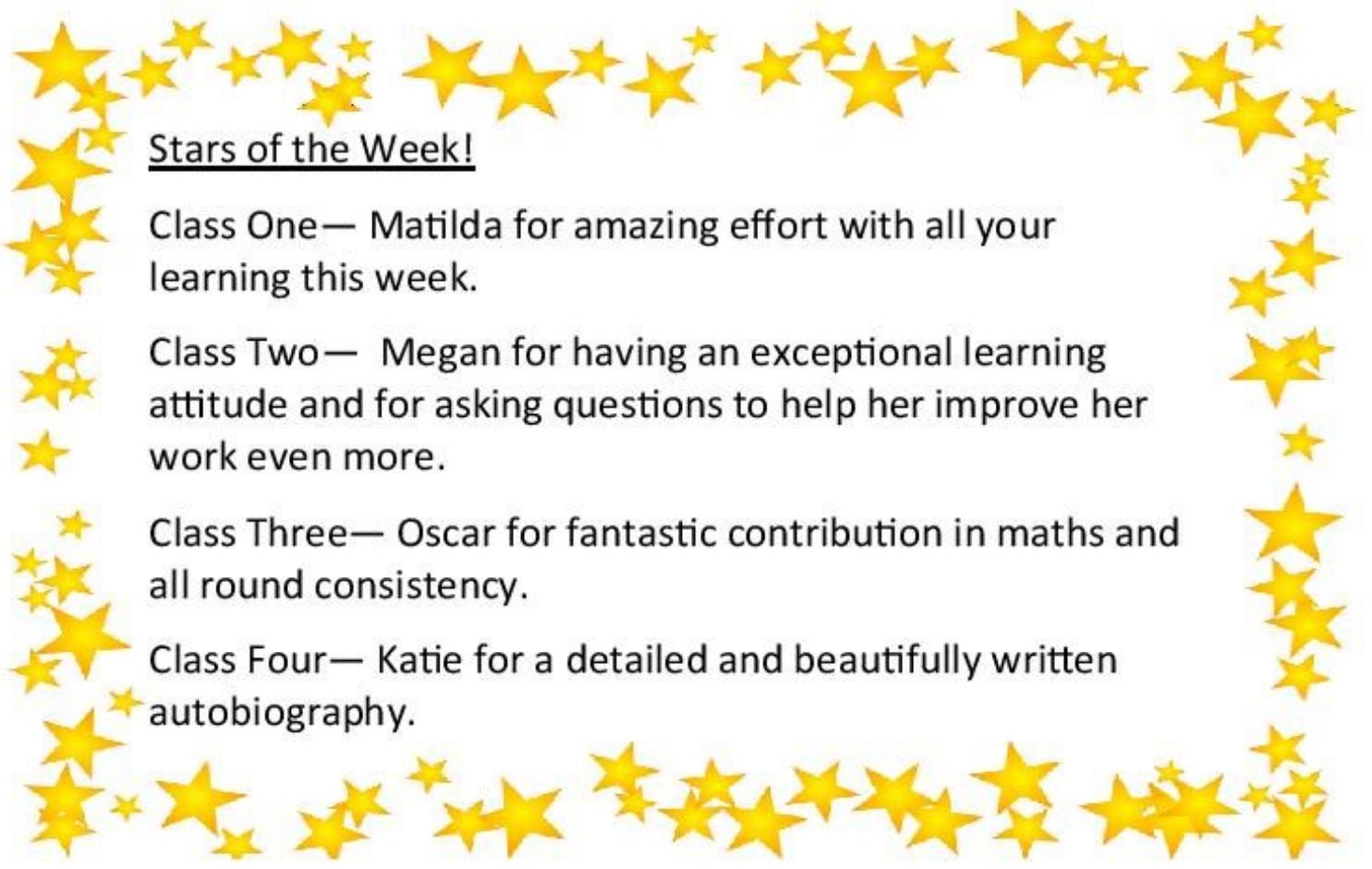
More London photos are on the school website! <https://www.high-bickington-primary.devon.sch.uk/gallery/?pid=3&gcatid=1&albumid=132>

Spring Term Dates

- Thursday 6th March - World Book Day. Come dressed as a favourite book character.
- Wednesday 12th to Friday 14th March – Class Three Residential at St George's House, Georgeham.
- ***NEW* Monday 17th March - 3:40pm - presentation to parents on Y6 SATs.**
- Wednesday 19th March - After School Church Club (Limited Spaces)
- Thursday 20th March – TEAM Proms at The Queen's Theatre – KS2 performing at 1:30pm and 6:00pm.
- ***NEW* Friday 21st March - Comic Relief - Non Uniform Day**
- Tuesday 1st April – Book and a biscuit 3:30-4:30pm.
- Wednesday 2nd April – Easter Service 2:00pm in the church.
- Friday 4th April - Last day of term.
- **Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April inclusive - Easter Holiday.**

Summer Term Dates

- Tuesday 22nd April - children return to school.
- **Monday 5 May - May Bank Holiday - no school.**
- Week beginning Monday 12th May – KS2 (Y6) SATs week.
- Sunday 18th May to Friday 23rd May – Y6 Residential at Bude.
- Wednesday 21st May - After School Church Club (Limited Spaces)
- **Week beginning Monday 26th May - Half term week.**
- **Monday 2nd June - Non Pupil Day.**
- Tuesday 3rd June to Friday 13th June – Y4 Multiplication check SAT.
- Monday 9th June to Friday 13th June - Y1 Phonics check SAT.
- Tuesday 10th June – Book and a biscuit 3:30-4:30pm
- Week beginning Monday 16th June - Y6 Bikeability training.
- Wednesday 18th June - After School Church Club (Limited Spaces)
- Wednesday 16th July - After School Church Club (Limited Spaces)
- Monday 21st July – Sports Day.
- Tuesday 22nd July – Leavers' Service 2:00pm. End of school year.



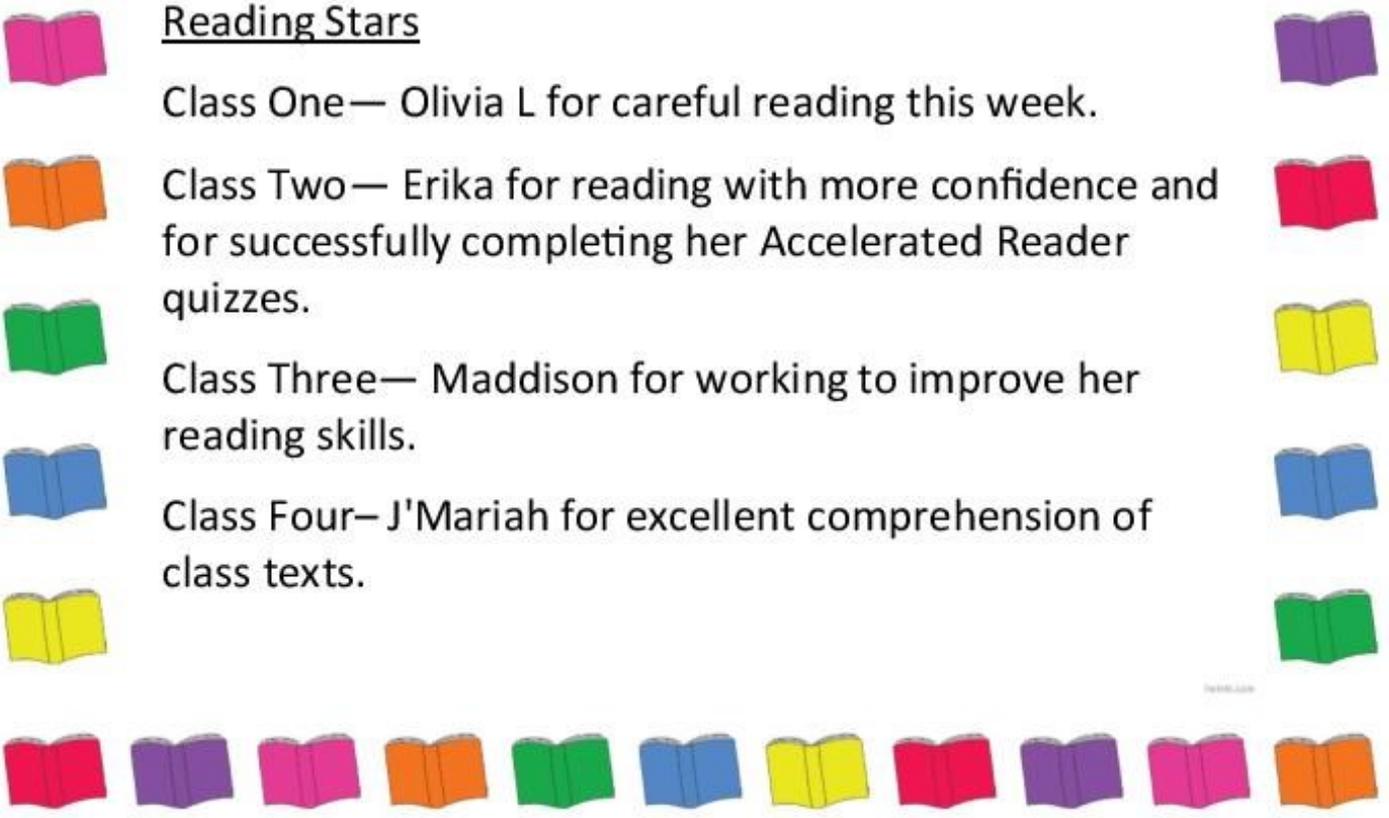
Stars of the Week!

Class One— Matilda for amazing effort with all your learning this week.

Class Two— Megan for having an exceptional learning attitude and for asking questions to help her improve her work even more.

Class Three— Oscar for fantastic contribution in maths and all round consistency.

Class Four— Katie for a detailed and beautifully written autobiography.



Reading Stars

Class One— Olivia L for careful reading this week.

Class Two— Erika for reading with more confidence and for successfully completing her Accelerated Reader quizzes.

Class Three— Maddison for working to improve her reading skills.

Class Four— J'Mariah for excellent comprehension of class texts.

TEAM Multi-Academy Trust Vacancies



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For more information and how to apply directly with My New Term please visit our website

<https://www.teamacademytrust.com/vacancies>

We currently have 1 vacancy available at Team Multi-Academy Trust:

0.44 FTE KS1/Reception Classroom
Teacher at Pilton Infants' Academy.





WE NEED YOU.

We are looking for keen and enthusiastic volunteers to join our Local Governing Bodies (LGB) as a school Governor and/or a Trustee.

Governor

The role of a School Governor is key in ensuring the school offers high standards of education for all children.

Each school within TEAM Multi -Academy Trust has its own Local Governing Body. The LGB meet once or twice a term and are encouraged to join in with our school visits and learning walks throughout the school year. This is a voluntary position and training is available for this role.

Trustee

Our Trustees oversee the strategic direction of the Trust schools along with holding the senior school leadership to account and monitoring the trust's finances– amongst many other aspects of school performance.

They can draw on their own expertise from all aspects of business and industry and have specific interests as part of their role such as – Curriculum, Personnel, Admissions, Finance, Safeguarding, Premises or SEND. They meet approximately 6 times a year as a whole group and are active within a range of committees and individual portfolios.

VOLUNTEERING IN THIS WAY BRINGS MANY REWARDS. YOU WILL ENJOY WORKING ALONGSIDE LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE AND GET REAL SATISFACTION AT USING YOUR SKILLS TO CREATE A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR CHILDREN.

If you are interested in volunteering or to find out more about being a local governor at your school or a TEAM trustee, then we would love to hear from you. Please email vacancies@team-mat.org.uk



For more information, please visit our Governance section on our website: www.teamacademytrust.com