



Newsletter—Friday 25th April 2025

Next week—W/C Monday 28th April 2025	
Monday:	Lunchtime Choir Club
Tuesday:	Class Three Swimming Year Six SATs Club 3.30-4.30pm
Wednesday:	Class Two Royal Tea Party Class One Outdoor Learning (Please remember your wellies)
Thursday:	Class Two PE Lunchtime Lego Club KS2 Italian Club 3.30-4.15pm
Friday:	Class Four PE 3.00 Celebration Collective Worship KS2 Sports Club

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the final term of this academic year!

SATs

The first half of this term must seem like a really mixed bag for the Year Sixes. We start with some pretty full-on revision to ensure that everyone is in the best possible place for SATs in Reading, Maths and SPaG. Then of course there is the week (week beginning Monday 12th May) of the national tests themselves to navigate. But then comes the reward for all of the hard work as the Year Sixes go off on their week long residential to Bude.

I have sent out details of the end of KS2 SATs previously, but should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to be in touch.

Key Dates

Please check the key dates for this term regularly - I have no doubt more will be added each week ... It's a very busy term!

Academic Year 2025-6

Plans are already underway for next academic year. Together with all other Heads of School in our Trust and other senior leaders, I attended training on the last day of last term to begin thinking about our priorities for school improvement as well as beginning to reflect on this year. Obviously there is still a large fraction of this year to go and staff will certainly not be taking their eye off the ball, but it is going to be important to be prepared for some changes next year too.

Classes Two & Three

A major change that we are already planning for is the swapping around of classrooms for Classes Two and Three. There will be 30 children in KS1 next year and so they will move into the 'mobile' classroom across the playground, with Class Three moving in the opposite direction. This will require a few 'tweaks' to each room, but I know it will provide the best possible solution to our erratic class sizes next year.

Swimming

Swimming has begun well, with Class Three getting straight in there on the first day back: well done all of you for remembering costumes and towels! You will have had the timetable for swimming, but again, please ask if you have any questions. Class Three are swimming again next Tuesday.

Collective Worship

Our theme this week was - learning from mistakes. We learnt about the Titanic disaster and the changes that were made to ship design as a result - most notably that there need to be

enough lifeboats for the number of people onboard. Whilst we hope our mistakes are not as disastrous, I think we agreed that if you learn from a mistake in maths or English for example, it can really cement that learning. As well as this, all children had a wonderful session in church on Wednesday during our 'Experience Easter' event. Many thanks go to Reverend Tracey and her team of volunteers for setting this up and guiding the children through the thought-provoking activities. *Our prayer was: Dear God, it makes us sad to hear of tragedies such as the sinking of the Titanic, but we are grateful for changes that come from such disasters and have saved lives since. Help us to learn from our mistakes and grow from past experiences. Amen.*

Exmoor Challenge

Our team of four who are taking part in this year's challenge will have their final practice walk this Sunday, joining with Beaford and Witheridge. We wish Kenneth, Rupert, Sonny and Stanley well as they prepare for the actual event on the following Saturday.

Have a lovely weekend,

Rob Norton
Head of School

Notices

Italian Club

Mrs Vickery will be running an 'Italian for Beginners' club for children in KS2, starting next week. The aim of the club will be to provide children with a foundation in Italian through basic vocabulary, pronunciation and simple conversational phrases. They will also be introduced to Italian art, music, food and traditions. The sessions will be as interactive as possible with hands-on experiences, boosting the children's confidence to try something new. The club will run each Thursday from 3:30 - 4:15 and will take place Class One. Children wishing to take part will be walked to Class One at the end of school by a member of staff and parents will need to pick up from Class One at 4:15pm.

Class Two Royal Tea Party

Class Two have been learning about how to use the appropriate manners and etiquette when meeting a member of the royal family.

On Wednesday 30th April, the children will be taking part in a tea party where they will practice meeting King Charles III.

Please can the children come to school dressed in a special appropriate outfit, this could be a lovely party dress or a smart waistcoat or shirt ready for our tea party in the afternoon.

Sunshine!

The sun is shining more and more! With that in mind, can you please make sure that your child comes to school with a hat and has suncream applied. Both of our playgrounds can get very hot and there is little shade, so both hats and sunblock are essential. Eight-hour suncream is now available, so if this is applied to the children before they leave home in the morning, it should protect them all day. Although it is more expensive, this is balanced out by needing to use less of it. If suncream needs reapplying through the day, please ensure this is in a named bottle.

School Uniform Discount Code

If you are in need of new school jumpers, MyClothing is running a 10% discount until 31st May - the code needed is MYCSS10%

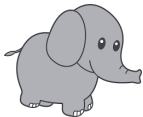
What happened at school this week?

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)

Can you find out a fact about space to share with your friends?
What was your favourite part of the Easter experience in the church?
Can you show a grown up how to add and subtract using your fingers?



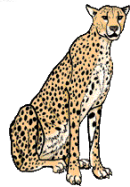
Exploring elephants (Class Two)

Can you find some pictures of a cityscape or create a picture of your own?
Can you practice measuring some objects at home using CM or M?
Can you make a welcome card for King Charles III next week?



Inventive Impalas (Class Three)

Can you tell the time on a clock to the nearest minute?
What happened in our story 'Into the Forest'
What did you learn about photo editing in computing?



Challenging Cheetahs (Class Four)

Can you explain how to calculate angles at a straight line?
What synonyms can you find for key vocabulary words on our list?
What can you recall about the Tudor period?

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.**

Year Two Spellings

The Year 2 children have been given a spelling book containing the Common Exception words which they should be able to spell 'most' of by the end of Year 2. A full list is stuck into the front and there is a Year 1 list in the back to support any gaps.

The children have been practising these each day, since September and it is now important that they are consistently applying their knowledge of the spellings in their regular written work to meet the expected standard for their writing.

Each week the children will be given 5 spellings to be practised at home to support their learning at school. These can be written into the spelling book individually or applied in sentences. You may also practise the spellings in other ways at home as well.

Thank you for your support.

Class Three:

Spellings, times tables, reading log book.

Class Four:

Lots of reading please and revising x tables and other key maths facts.



Class One

This week in Class 1, we launched into our exciting new topic – 'All aboard!' starting with climbing aboard a rocket into Space! As part of our Understanding the World learning, we've been exploring the lives of real astronauts and finding out what it might be like to travel into space. We showed wonderful curiosity as we discussed what we would take in our rockets if we were astronauts, supporting our communication and language development. Our Drawing Club sessions around the story Whatever Next! also sparked our imaginations as we wondered where else Baby Bear might go and what he might bring back from his adventures. In Expressive Arts and Design, we've been busy designing and building our own rockets, and even created our new Mission Control role play area together, which encouraged imaginative play and teamwork. We also started a new art project, creating collages inspired by Eric Carle, which is helping us to explore different textures and techniques. Throughout the week, our teachers have seen brilliant examples of children showing fantastic engagement, creative thinking and both independent and collaborative working. It's been an out-of-this-world start to the summer term!



Class Two



The children have come back in great spirits after the long Easter Break. It was lovely to share some of their exciting experiences over the holidays.

We have got stuck back into our learning at school with our new topic 'London's Calling!' The children will be exploring life in the city of London, they will find out about the Royal Family and will develop their understanding of important historical events in London in 1666. In Music, they will develop the use of their voice with songs linked to London and in Art they will be exploring Collage with London Transport.



This week we have been learning about Measures in Maths. We have learnt how to measure length, height and width using centimetres and metres. We have had the opportunities to use different measuring equipment to measure objects inside the classroom and outside in the playground. In Art, we have learnt about 'Cityscapes' and used cutting and simple collage to create buildings for our class city display.

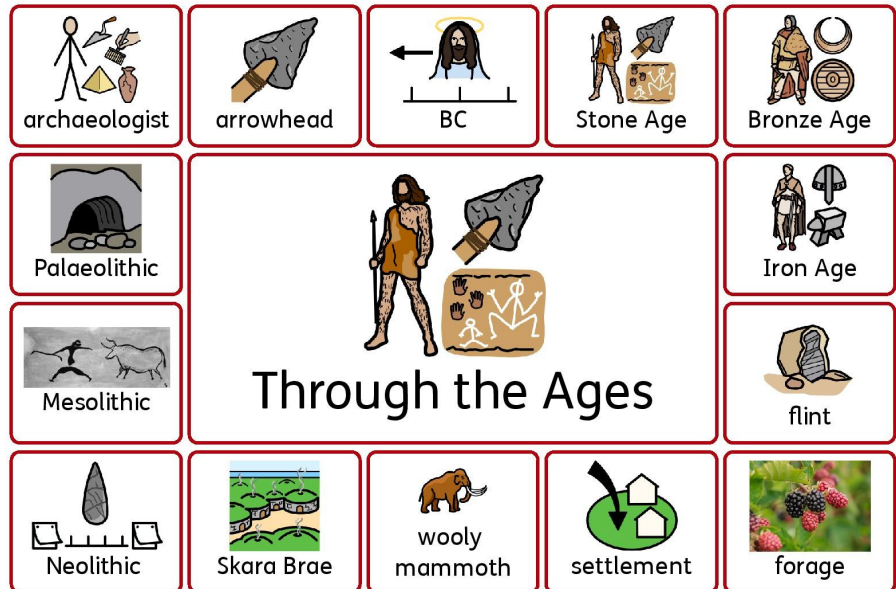
In PE we have started to develop our skills for fielding and striking games for the summer term games opportunities including rounders, cricket and tennis.

Also this week, we have had a wonderful session on Wednesday in the Church, taking part in different interactive activities all about the Easter Story.

We have been busy already and we look forward to our fun packed term as it progresses!

Class Three

This week, Class 3 have been busy starting lots of new learning! In maths, we began a new unit on telling the time. We used the hour hand to help us understand where the minute hand should be, and we also explored clocks with Roman numerals. We've also started our exciting swimming sessions. Some of us focused on improving our front crawl—making sure our bodies stayed afloat, kicking our legs, and working on our breathing patterns. Our new topic this term is From Stone to Steel. We began by exploring key vocabulary and set ourselves challenges to learn the words we do not yet know. We're looking forward to diving deeper into this fascinating topic!



Class Four

This week in Class Four has been characterised by lots and lots of maths! We are revising hard for our SATs that are only 7 maths-days away now! We have also been looking at some past SATs Reading texts and thinking about vocabulary that we these test us on. There is a lot to do still, but Mr Norton thinks that we should be confident in our knowledge and ability: we have learnt a lot! Although Maths has taken up much of our learning, there has also been time for Science. This week we created a poster about Heart Health. You need to sleep well; eat a healthy diet; exercise regularly (at least 60 minutes per day) and don't take drugs. With Mrs Kennard, at just after nine o'clock, we walked to the church and took part in six stations about Easter. These were: 'Alone', 'Servant King', 'Hopes and Dreams', 'Remember Me', 'Empty Tomb' and 'Sharing our Sorrows.' It was very good!



Next Week's Menu—W/C Monday 28th April

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Spaghetti Bolognese V –Veggie Spaghetti Bolognese Sweetcorn and peas Apple flapjack	Chicken Pasta Bake V – Tomato and Cheese Pasta Bake Mixed Veg Iced Sponge	Roast Gammon V - Vegetarian Roast Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Veg Fruit Salad	Jacket Potatoes with Cheese and Beans Mixed Salad Fruit Jelly	Fish in Breadcrumbs V – Vegetable nuggets Golden Fries and Seasonal Vegetables Homemade Cookie

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.



Have you seen the write up from the Proms concert in the North Devon Gazette? <https://www.northdevongazette.co.uk/news/home/1784816/north-devon-primary-schools-stage-spectacular-proms-concert-in-barnstaple.html>



Stars of the Week!

Class One— Arthur for such a brilliant attitude towards your learning and being a very kind friend.

Class Two— Beau for coming to school ready to learn and for having a great learning attitude.

Class Three— Rowan for his great learning focus in class this week.

Class Four— Kaitlyn for working independently to produce a fantastic presentation on climate based migration which she delivered to the rest of the school in an assembly.



Reading Stars

Class One— Emmett for consistently reading at home and being keen to read in school.

Class Two— Megan for being an enthusiastic reader and demonstrating great comprehension.

Class Three— Mason for his reading progress on his AR assessment this week.

Class Four— Millie S for excellent comprehension of SATs texts.



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