



Dear Parents & Carers,

### Next Book and a Biscuit

What a lovely week - weather-wise and of work in school. It has been so impressive to see the children in all classes giving their learning 100% effort since Easter and the standard of work in books is excellent (see for yourself at the next BaaB on Tuesday 10th June!).

### Sun protection

It has been hot, and although it may not stay that way, please continue to make sure that your child has a hat / cap, suncream and a bottle of water in school each day. The playground, field and school allotment do not offer much shade and we will be using each over the course of the term.

### Royal visitor?

There was a lot of excitement in Class Two on Wednesday afternoon, when the children had a visit from a very special guest ... I'll leave them to tell you all about it, but from what I heard they showed exceptional politeness and manners. They knew a lot of information about the monarchy in Britain too.

### Earlier this week

I had to leave school at short notice on Monday, and was out for the afternoon and all day Tuesday supporting colleagues in another TEAM school. For me, this is an important part of being in TEAM MAT and several of the HB staff periodically work in other schools to offer support with the curriculum. This is very much a two-way thing and, when we have the need, we know that there is a great deal of expertise who will come into our school to support us. I have to commend the attitude and behaviour of Class Four earlier this week. Despite a sudden change of teacher, they continued to work brilliantly, showing great learning behaviour. Thanks to them and to Mrs Rowden who stepped in with no notice and did such a splendid job: we are very lucky to be able to call on such an experienced and excellent teacher who is familiar to the children.

### Exmoor Challenge

All is set fair for Saturday's walk on the moor and our four intrepid walkers are all set. We know it will be a real challenge, but also that with perseverance and teamwork they will smash it! Good luck to Kenneth, Rupert, Sonny and Stanley.

### Next week

Monday is a Bank Holiday and school will be closed. Class Three continue to swim on Tuesday. On Wednesday we have our next internal review with Mr Polak (DoE) and Mr Mortimer (HoS at Pilton Infants') coming in to look at Reading and Science. And on Thursday ...

### Next week—W/C Monday 5th May 2025

Monday:	<b>Bank Holiday—No School</b>
Tuesday:	Class Three Swimming Year Six SATs Club 3.30-4.30pm
Wednesday:	Class One Outdoor Learning (Please bring appropriate footwear)
Thursday:	Class Two PE Lunchtime Lego Club VE Day Celebration—Non uniform (red white and blue if possible) KS2 Italian Club 3.30-4.15pm
Friday:	Class Four PE 3.00 Celebration Collective Worship KS2 Sports Club

## 80th Anniversary of VE Day

To mark the 80th anniversary of VE Day, we will be having our own 'street' party. Children can come in non-uniform (wear something red, white and blue if possible) and they will be finding out about VE Day, 1945 and what happened on this historic day. We will have a picnic (inside if the weather is not lovely) with a little food and drinks provided by school. Class Two parents—if your child's non uniform is suitable for PE they will not need to change, if not please come in PE kit with non uniform to change into afterwards.

Have a wonderful (long) weekend,

Rob Norton  
Head of School



## Out of School Success

Well done to Lily and Niah who took part in a gymnastics competition this week—we've loved to hear about how well you did.

## Notices



### 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.

### Exeter Chiefs Rugby Trip

Final information letters for those taking part went home this week—please return form/make balance payment by Tuesday 6th May.

### Y6 Bude Residential

Please ensure any remaining balances are paid by Tuesday 6th May. Thank you.

### Y6 Leavers Hoodies/T-Shirt

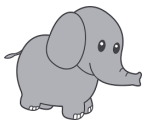
Letters went home this week—please return forms to the school office by Friday 9th May.

### 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!



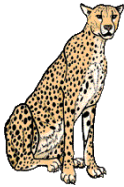
### Exploring elephants (Class Two)

Can you create your own Royal Tea Party at home?  
Can you write some facts about Buckingham Palace?  
Can you bake something using the weighing scales?



### Inventive Impalas (Class Three)

Can you explain how to tell the time using the 24 hour digital clock?  
What happened in your paragraph about getting lost in the forest?  
What fruit and vegetable names have you learnt in French?



### Challenging Cheetahs (Class Four)

What do you feel you still need to revise in maths?  
Can you explain the circulatory system in our bodies?  
Can you explain how to play baseball?

## 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.

### **Class Three:**

Multiplication tables, spellings, reading log book.

### **Class Four:**

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



## Summer Term Dates

- **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.



## Class One

This week in Class One, our topic focus has taken us further into space as we learned about the planets. Inspired by the book, *Meet the Planets* by Caryl Hart, we explored the different characteristics of the planets, culminating in a fact-writing activity to support our literacy development and communication skills. We also got creative with some planet-themed art and carefully ordered the planets in our solar system. Our Drawing Club sessions took inspiration from *The Smeds and the Smoos* by Julia Donaldson, sparking lots of imaginative storytelling and discussion. In Maths, we developed our shape recognition through puzzles and Tangram pictures, focussing on orientation, rotation and using shapes for a purpose. These activities encouraged critical thinking, perseverance and problem-solving. In Religions and Worldviews, we explored places of worship with a focus on churches. A visit to the church allowed us to spot key features and reflect on the special role such places have in Christians' lives. Our PSHE learning centred around friendships, particularly how we can solve problems together and maintain kind, respectful relationships. This week also included lots of fine motor practice as we squeezed water from pipettes during water play, which helped build coordination and control and was especially popular in the warm weather!



## Class Two

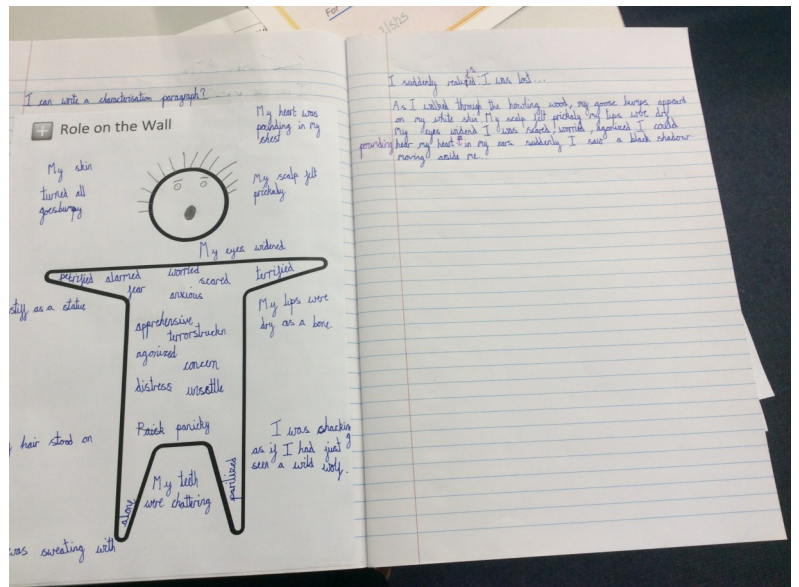
We have had a wonderful time in Class Two this week! Firstly, we have been exploring shape and measures in Maths. Year One have been learning how to use the balance scales to measure and compare the weight of different objects. Year Two have been developing their understanding of 2D shapes and their properties. In RW this week, we have started to consider 'Who do Christians believe created the World?' We made the most of the lovely weather and learned outside, exploring man-made and natural things in the world around us. We drew and shared our own ideas about who/what created the world and we shared the Christian Creation Story from the Bible. Most importantly this week, we enjoyed a fantastic Royal Tea Party! We dressed up in our best outfits, listened to the National Anthem, learnt all about Buckingham Palace and welcomed King Charles III. We made sure we used our best etiquette. We were really interested to listen to a tour guide and we looked around and learnt about the Drawing Room, Throne Room and Grand Staircase in Buckingham Palace. We also asked King Charles lots of questions and found out new facts about him and his family.





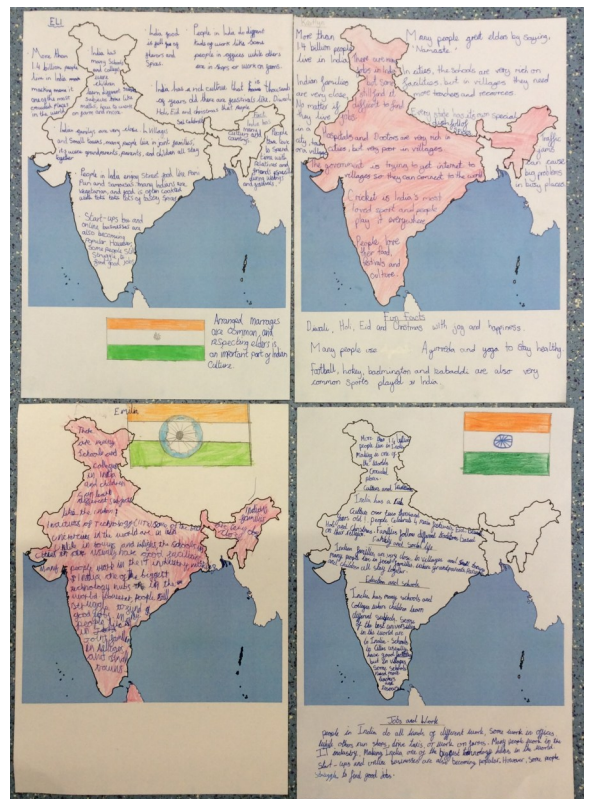
## Class Three

In swimming this week, some of us focused on breaststroke and improving our breathing technique. We also practised swimming to the bottom of the pool and worked on our tumble turns. In maths, we've been learning how to convert time between analogue and digital clocks, as well as between 12-hour and 24-hour formats. It's been really interesting! In PSHE, we explored the topic of jealousy and how to manage it. We created some top tips for someone who might be feeling that emotion. In English, we wrote in the first person, imagining we were the boy in the woods. We focused on using prepositions and adjectives to bring our writing to life.



## Class Four

It's been another packed week in Class Four, with a focus on SATs preparation and revision in Maths and SPaG. With have also been doing quite a bit of reading too ... And even some writing! In Maths we have revised fractions, percentages, calculation strategies and decimals. Mr Norton has been very impressed with the way we have persevered, showing great resilience. In Science we have learnt about the circulatory system in the human body. Did you know that there is one vein (the Pulmonary Vein) that carries oxygenated blood ... All others carry deoxygenated blood. In RW with Mrs Kennard, we completed our project about the Easter story by thinking about Jesus' death on the cross and how that makes Christians feel. This afternoon we were glad to spend some time on the field for PE ... It has been an intense week!



## Next Week's Menu—W/C Monday 5th May

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Non Pupil Day	<b>Hunters Chicken</b> V – Hunters Quorn Rice and Mixed Vegetables  Carrot Cake	<b>Roast of the Day Chicken</b> V – Vegetarian Roast Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Veg  Fruit Salad	<b>Sausage Roll</b> V – Quorn Sausage Roll  Mashed potato and mixed veg Pineapple Upside Down Cake	<b>Fish Fingers</b> V – Vegetable fingers Golden Fries, Seasonal Vegetables Shortbread biscuit - (various flavours)




## Stars of the Week!

Class One— Oscar E for engaging so well with our new topic and sharing what he has learned at home.


Class Two— Dexter for having a super attitude to learning and for working to his best ability.

Class Three— Amelia for her focus towards learning and always trying to improve.


Class Four— Billy for working really well with Mrs Kennard (SPaG) and with Mr Norton (on maths!)




## Reading Stars




Class One— Taylor for amazing perseverance through a tricky book this week.



Class Two— Maia for reading with fluency and for discussing books confidently.



Class Three— Zoe for going the extra mile with reading this week



Class Four— Vinny for making great progress this year ... Keep going!





High Bickington academy

Have you got the skills to lead a  
committee of active and  
dedicated volunteers?



We are reaching out to the  
community, to see if anyone  
would be interested in the  
above voluntary post

*Contact Nikki Pearce or Jemma Sanders  
for more information*

**DBS check required**





**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](mailto:vacancies@team-mat.org.uk)**



For more information, please visit our Governance section on our website: [www.teamacademytrust.com](http://www.teamacademytrust.com)