



"Mighty oaks from little acorns grow"

Our vision:

We constantly strive to promote the overall development of all our pupils and staff. We want the children to come to school happy and eager to learn in a caring environment, where all members of the school community feel that they can reach their full potential.

Dear All

Welcome back to all of our families! I hope you have all had a peaceful Christmas and I wish you all a Happy New Year!

We would like to welcome Miss Williams to The Duchy School. She is already settling in well and getting to know the children in Acland along with our school routines. We would also like to welcome Mrs Marsh who is continuing to teach Reynolds Class.

Very shortly we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Marklew who has been one of our dedicated LSAs. We would like to thank her for the support she has given to many of our children, both past and present, and wish her all the best as she sets off on her new business venture!

I am delighted to inform you that we have appointed Mrs Hannah Gubb to replace Mrs Foster as one of our LSAs. Mrs Gubb will be joining us next week and we look forward to using her experience to support our children.

A big "Well done!" to Acland class who raised £105.95 for Unicef when they went Carol Singing at Tesco, Cullompton during the last week of term. All their hard work learning traditional carols paid off and members of the public were very appreciative. Thank you to Ms Hunt for organising this fund-raising event. We also raised £110.00 for Save the Children on Christmas Jumper Day - thank you to everyone who donated to this.

Now that the weather is colder we ask that you send your child to school with a warm, waterproof coat every day. We try to ensure that the children are outdoors at break and lunch times as much as possible. Please would you ensure that your child's coat is named.

If your child has achieved an award in sport, music or in another arena, we would like to know about it so that we can celebrate with them in school. Please encourage your child to bring their award into school where they will be able to share it in assembly.

Alison Bourne

Our fortnight in pictures...



Foundation/KSI Christmas Production of Winter Wonderland



Acland Class Carol Singing at Tesco.



Christmas Craft Morning



Years 3 & 4 Christmas Around the World



Years 5 & 6 Operation Emmanuel



Entertaining the Senior Citizens of Bradninch

Our Notice Board

SOCIAL MEDIA

Whilst we understand that everyone occasionally has something that they are unhappy about, please come into school and not post on social media. In this way we can deal with the issue to maintain the positive image of the school.
 Thank you.

ABSENCE PROTOCOL

Please be aware that we have reviewed our absence and attendance procedures in line with new guidance from Devon County Council. For Safeguarding reasons, we now ask that parents / carers contact the school every day for the duration of a child's absence. Please be aware that if your child is absent from school and we have not received a reason for this absence, you may receive a home visit from a member of the Senior Leadership Team.





PARENTS EVENINGS

Our Spring Term Parent's Evenings are coming up - 17/1/18 4-6pm and 18/1/18 6-8pm. Please make every effort to make an appointment to discuss your child's learning with their class teacher and to see your child's books. Please return appointment slips to Mrs Stanbury as soon as possible.

EARLY ARRIVAL AT SCHOOL


Many children are arriving very early at school in the mornings. A teacher is on duty from 8.4.0am and we ask that you do not drop your child/ren off before this time as we are unable to supervise them. There is the option of Breakfast Club at The Duchy Pre-School should you need to drop your child/ren off earlier than this. Please call into the school office and speak to Mrs Stanbury if you require details.

LEARNING POWERS As part of our school vision we are committed to enabling the children to develop as confident and adaptable learners. We believe that 'Learning Powers' can help us achieve this. This term we are embarking on our Learning Powers journey and the children are being introduced to 7 characteristics that will help them to become better learners. Each one is represented by a different animal:


	The Resilient Tortoise - Persevering and being resilient no matter how hard things seem.		The Curious Cat - Finding out, exploring and asking questions.
	The Changing Chameleon - Changing and adapting an approach to learning to improve.		The Wise Owl - Thinking strategically.
	The Busy Bee - Working relationships.		The Creative Unicorn - Being imaginative, finding creative solutions.
		The Web Spinning spider - Making connections..	

Please speak to Mrs Anderson if you have any questions about Learning Powers.

Celebrations!

Mathematicians of the Week	
	
Our mathematicians for the last fortnight are:	
Foundation	Saskia & Jamie
Cook	Esme & Charlie
Raleigh	Brodie & Anna
Drake	Ella & Olive
Acland	Erin B, Millie T & Daniel
Reynolds	Isabelle, Chelsea & Louise
Brunel	Jessica & Betsy

Stars of the Week	
	
Our stars for the last fortnight are:	
Foundation	Gracie & Effie
Cook	Oscar L & Ezra
Raleigh	Arabella & Phoebe R
Drake	Brook & Abbie
Acland	Ben & Lydia
Reynolds	Gracie & Trixy
Brunel	Elliana & Josh

Friendship Points	
	
Our current Friendship totals are:	
Holland	340
Wales	410
Italy	380
South Africa	340
New Zealand	390
Japan	350
Brazil	380

Well done to all our Stars and Mathematicians as well as to Wales Friendship Group!

Diary Dates

Date	Event
17 th January	Early Parents' evening 4-6.00 pm
18 th January	Late Parents' evening 6-8.00 pm
26 th January	Maths Morning 10.50-11.50 am Come and join in Maths activities with your child/ren!
7 th February	Foundation Class assembly 3.00 pm

TERM DATES 2017/18
SPRING TERM will start on 3 rd January and end on 29 th March.
Half Term 12 th - 16 th February
SUMMER TERM will start 17 th April and end on 26 th July.
Half Term 28 th May - 1 st June

PTA NEWS

Happy New Year! [Our first PTA meeting of 2018 is on Wednesday 10th January at 7pm at The Castle Pub, Bradninch.](#) Look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible as we welcome our new Chair, Treasurer, Secretary and Teacher Rep.