



***“Mighty oaks from little acorns grow”***

*Through having high expectations for all, we constantly strive to promote the overall development of all members of our school community to enable them to reach their full potential. We are a welcoming, and motivational school that nurtures and supports pupils to learn transferable skills for life-long learning.*

**Message from Simon Roberts**

Following on from my last newsletter, we have continued to reinforce British Values through our school life over the past fortnight. On Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November, we hosted a visit from local MP and Secretary of State for Work and Pensions Mel Stride. Follow on from the learning the children had done as part of UK Parliament Week, Mel spoke to Year 5 and 6 pupils about his roles as an MP and cabinet minister, and then answered questions from the school council.

**Christmas dates**

Please pay close attention to page 4 of the newsletter which contains details of our Christmas events. Please note the following: -

- A letter has been sent to the parents and carers of Foundation and KS1 classes regarding the upcoming Christmas performances.
- We are looking forward to seeing parents and carers next Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 9.15am for our Christmas Craft Morning. This is also our Christmas Jumper Day (worn over normal school uniform). A link to the Just Giving page will be sent early next week.
- Parents and carers of KS2 children are welcome to attend the Christingle Service at St Disen’s Church on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm.

**Christmas lights switch on**


Thank you to everyone who entered the Christmas lights switch on competition. Congratulations to Maisie, in year 1, and Layla, in year 4, who were successfully picked by the Mayor of Bradninch, at random, during our assembly earlier in the week.


**Lost property**

We have a large quantity of unnamed clothing which has been collected over the half-term. As we have done in previous years, this will be laid out in front of the main school office doors, during the last week of term, either at drop off or collection time. Please take a look if you think your child is missing any items!



## Celebrations

Mathematicians of the Week		
		
Our mathematicians for the last fortnight were:		
	25.11.22	02.12.22
Acorn	Albie	Bryony
Andrews	Marley	Marcus
Scott	Marlowe	Charlie
Daley	Joey	Casper
Acland	Oliver	Stanley
Reynolds	Molly	Gracie
King	Alex	Ben

Stars of the Week		
		
Our stars for the last fortnight were:		
	25.11.22	02.12.22
Acorn	Eleanor	Evie
Andrews	Chester	Sutton
Scott	Chloe L	Edwin
Daley	Edward	Mollie
Acland	Sami	Archie
Reynolds	Elliott	Starr
King	Sophia	Sophia

Questions of the Week		
		
Our impressive questioners for the last fortnight were:		
	25.11.22	02.12.22
Andrews	Mia	Marley
Scott	Jessica	Rohan
Daley	Isabella	Amber
Acland	Troy	Rosie S
Reynolds	Anabelle	Mia
King	Ethan	Alex

## In assembly time, we have also celebrated these fantastic recent achievements!

Daley	Barnaby	For obtaining Goldfish 2 Award in swimming.
Daley	Summer	For obtaining Stage 3 in swimming.

## Sports Updates

### Hockey Taster Session – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November

Andrews, Scott and Daley classes received a hockey taster session from Pete, a hockey coach, from 'Hockey Heroes' based in Cullompton. The pupils had lots of fun as well as the staff! A leaflet about how to join 'Hockey Heroes' was emailed to the parents of these classes prior to the taster.



### Football Matches at Culmstock – Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November

The Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 football teams both got their league campaigns started with a match each against Culmstock. Both teams were victorious with Year 3/4 winning 3-0 and Year 5/6 winning 3-2. A big 'thank you' to all parents who came to support the teams – it was appreciated!



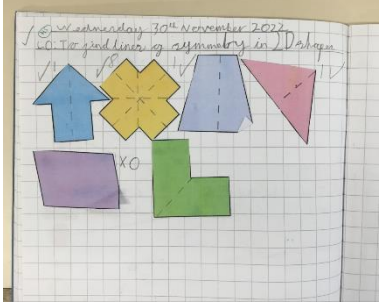








### Netball Match at Culmstock – Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November

The Year 5/6 Netball Team joined the footballers on the coach to play a friendly match against Culmstock. At first, the team were a little bit apprehensive, but once they scored their first goal, they played with lots of determination and sportsmanship. Well done Duchy netballers!

The Year 3/4 football team at Culmstock

Our fortnight in photos

<p><b>Acorn class</b></p> 	<p><b>Andrews class</b></p> 	<p><b>Scott class</b></p> 
<p>In understanding the world, we have been sorting materials using magnets.</p>	<p>In history, we have been learning about the past by exploring toys loaned to us from the museum.</p>	<p>In maths, we have been accurately folding 2d shapes to look for and draw lines of symmetry.</p>
<p><b>Daley class</b></p>	<p><b>Acland class</b></p>	<p><b>Reynolds class</b></p>
		
<p>In PE, the children have been using previously taught skills to create their own games.</p>	<p>In DT, we have explored applique and stuffing techniques to create our own frogs.</p>	<p>In science, we have been exploring the effects of levers and pulleys.</p>
<p><b>King class</b></p>	<p><b>Wellington School Maths Challenge</b></p>	<p><b>Teachers vs Year 6 (Hockey)</b></p>
		
<p>In science, we have been finding out more about the angles of incidence and reflection. We made periscopes to show how these angles are equal when light is reflected.</p>	<p>Four of our year six children recently represented the school in the Wellington Maths challenge. Working together they had to solve a variety of complex mathematical problems.</p>	<p>Tensions ran high on the playground during the annual hockey instalment of the teachers versus year six children. Eventually, it was the teachers who ran out victorious though!</p>

## Term Dates

Term	Commences	Finishes
Autumn	5 <sup>th</sup> September 2022	16 <sup>th</sup> December 2022
Spring	3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2023	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023
Summer	18 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	21 <sup>st</sup> July 2023

## Diary Dates

Date	Item
6 <sup>th</sup> December	Foundation/KS1 Nativity (2.30pm)
7 <sup>th</sup> December	Foundation/KS1 Nativity (3.45pm)
9 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Craft Morning - Parents Invited 9.15-10.15am
12 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Christingle at St Disen's Church (2pm)
13 <sup>th</sup> December	PTFA Christmas Disco ( <b>Foundation and KS1 4.15 – 5pm</b> )
13 <sup>th</sup> December	PTFA Christmas Disco ( <b>KS2 5.15 – 6.15pm</b> )
15 <sup>th</sup> December	School Christmas Lunch
16 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term

## Christmas in School

Children	Event
KS1	6 <sup>th</sup> and 7 <sup>th</sup> December - Reception, Years 1 and 2 Nativity Performances
Whole School	9 <sup>th</sup> December - All classes will host a Christmas Craft Morning. Parents and carers are welcome to attend between 9.15-10.15am. Children can also wear a Christmas jumper (over normal school uniform). Donation link for Save the Children will be sent nearer to the day.
KS2	12 <sup>th</sup> December - Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 Christingle Service at St Disen's Church
Whole School	13 <sup>th</sup> December - PTFA Christmas Disco

### Acorn class sale – Nearly New Toys

This term, Acorn class have been learning about how they can help the environment. The children have been encouraged to think about ways they can promote sustainable living by considering the three 'R' words (reduce, reuse and recycle).

On Friday 9th December, a **Nearly New Toys** stall will be held outside of the main entrance at 3.30pm; this initiative will put the children's classroom-based learning into real-life context! We would therefore welcome donations of any clean and tidy second-hand toys, books and games (suitable for ages 4 to 11 years).

All money raised from the stall will be donated to a charity called Young Lives vs Cancer. This charity funds Sam's house. Sam's house, in Bristol, offers accommodation and support to parents and siblings who are having to stay away from home while their child receives treatment for cancer. In Acorn class, we have a family who are receiving support from Sam's house – they have told us that they would have been 'lost without their assistance'.

If you are able to help, please drop any donations off to the Acorn entrance during the week beginning 5th December.



**Duchy Preschool, Bradninch**  
Filled with creativity & adventure!

**Christmas Fayre 2022!**

**Sunday 11th December 10am - 4pm**  
**Bradninch Guildhall**

We'll have all the usual attractions;  
Santa's Grotto  
Beautiful local crafts for sale  
Raffle and much more!

We look forward to seeing you there!