



***“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 the Head**

I would like to start by congratulating year 6 for their outstanding effort and attitude during this year’s SATs week. As a school, we take the same approach to SATs as all aspects of our learning which is to try your best, persevere and have a positive attitude. The children have certainly done this over the course of the week! I spoke during my mid-week assembly to all other year groups about the importance of compassion and kindness. There has been no shortage of this around school – everyone has adjusted fantastically to normal routines in order to facilitate testing. Everyone has played their part in ensuring the week has been such a success.

**Coronation celebrations**

Last week, we had a fantastic day celebrating the coronation of King Charles III; a snapshot of the day is included in the photos section below. Congratulations to the winners of the card competition – these designs were turned into cards, signed by each class and posted to Buckingham Palace! Fingers crossed for a response...

**Staff**

As many of you will already be aware, Jill Riggs has announced that she will be retiring at the end of this academic year. A Duchy legend - she will be sorely missed! I am delighted to announce that we have successfully recruited for her replacement in September, however. We will be welcoming Hazel Farrell, an experienced EYFS teacher, who is currently working within the Ventrus Multi Academy Trust.

**Sports Update**


On Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, a selection of pupils from years 3 and 4 went to Cullompton Community College to represent the school in the ‘Quad Kids’ athletics competition - an event which requires participants to complete in a sprint race, distance race, jump and throw. Everyone who attended had a great time! Huge thanks to the parents who supported the event by transporting pupils and cheering the teams on.



On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May, some pupils from year 5 travelled to Willand to play in a football friendly. The match was definitely one for the spectator with 11 goals scored. Congratulations to Willand who took a narrow 6-5 victory. Well done to all who played and a big thank you to those parents and grandparents who were able to come and cheer the team on.



## Celebrations

Mathematicians of the Week		
		
Our mathematicians for the last fortnight were:		
	05.05.23	12.05.23
Acorn	Theo	Alfie
Andrews	Theo W	Emily
Scott	Maia	Georgia
Daley	Rose	Amber
Acland	Flo	Elias
Reynolds	Elliott	Imogen
King	Alex	Everyone!

Stars of the Week		
		
Our stars for the last fortnight were:		
	05.05.23	12.05.23
Acorn	Bobbie	Bobbie
Andrews	Thomas	Bonnie
Scott	Harper P	Alice
Daley	Edward	Murray
Acland	Lucy	Oliver
Reynolds	Luke	Mia
King	Millie	Everyone!

Questions of the Week		
		
Our impressive questioners for the last fortnight were:		
	05.05.23	12.05.23
Andrews	Olly	Theo C
Scott	Albert	Violet
Daley	Charlie A	Alexandros
Acland	Sami	Zac
Reynolds	Immy	Ellie
King	Logan	Everyone!

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

Scott	Phoebe D	For swimming 25m
Scott	Georgia	For achieving Level 1 in Trampoline and Gymnastics
Scott	Katy	For achieving Level 1 in Trampoline and Gymnastics

## Duchy Mile award winners

After all of the children ran with their classes during our Duchy Mile event, children in Key Stage Two had the opportunity to complete a timed lap. Those who entered approached this challenge with fantastic determination and should be incredibly proud of the times that they achieved. After all of the times had been checked, double checked and triple checked, trophies were awarded to the fastest boy, Deegan (Year 6) and the fastest girl, Olivia (Year 5).

Since the Duchy Mile began, we have also kept a 'Duchy Hall of Fame' record, with the times of the fastest ten boys and girls ever. This year, we had a record 4 children making it onto the 'Duchy Hall of Fame'. A special congratulations for this fantastic achievement goes to Deegan, Samuel, Troy and Olivia.

We would also like to take this opportunity to give a MASSIVE thank you to the PTFA for their support in running this event as well as a thank you to everyone who worked hard to raise sponsorship money. Over £1,000 was raised which will go directly towards providing resources and wider opportunities for children at Duchy.



Congratulations to our three fastest girls: Olivia, Imogen and Lara.



Congratulations to our three fastest boys: Deegan, Samuel and Troy.



Congratulations to some of our fantastic fundraisers - Solly, Molly and Alfred.

Our fortnight in photos

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Acorn class</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Andrews class</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Scott class</b></p> 
<p>In UTW, the children have been caring for their tadpoles. It was time to move them to a new clean tank with fresh weed.</p>	<p>In PE, we have been enjoying our tennis lessons. We learnt a new game to help us work on hitting and catching the ball over the net.</p>	<p>In computing, we have been using laptops to create digital media by composing our own music. We thought about how music can make us feel and think different things.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Daley class</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Acland class</b></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Reynolds class</b></p> 
<p>In D&amp;T (as part of our history unit), we have designed and made Roman shields. We have learnt about the different tactics the Roman Empire used when they went to battle!</p>	<p>In English, we became archaeologists to predict the theme of our next book, <i>The Story of Tutankhamun</i>.</p>	<p>In R.E., we have been learning about the ways in which Christian organisations put Jesus' words into practise.</p>
<b>Coronation Celebrations</b>		
		
	<p>Children enjoying their royal themed picnic lunches</p>	<p>Members of the school council judging entries to the coronation card competition.</p>

## Diary Dates

Term	Commences	Finishes
Summer	18 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	21 <sup>st</sup> July 2023

	Summer Term
15 <sup>th</sup> May	Reception and Y6 height and weight check
17 <sup>th</sup> May	Y2 trip to Sidmouth
17 <sup>th</sup> May	Y3/4 and Y5/6 football matches (selected children only) at The Duchy School
24 <sup>th</sup> May	Wilcombe Wobbler running event (selected children only in Y3, 4 5 & 6 – TBC)
19 <sup>th</sup> May	Parent Forum Group Meeting
29 <sup>th</sup> May – 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Half Term
6 <sup>th</sup> June – 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Y4 swimming lessons (6 sessions)
15 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day
19 <sup>th</sup> to 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Book Fair (Hall)
22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Y6 Surfing trip
26 <sup>th</sup> June to 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Y6 - Bikeability
29 <sup>th</sup> June	Reserve Sports Day
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Foundation September 2023 Admissions – Settling Session 1.15 – 3.15pm (Group 1)
4 <sup>th</sup> July	Foundation September 2023 Admissions – Settling Session 1.15 – 3.15pm (Group 2)
5 <sup>th</sup> July	Foundation September 2023 Admissions – Settling Session 9.30 – 11.30am (All)
7 <sup>th</sup> July	Y5/6 Dress Rehearsal
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Y5/6 Afternoon Performance
11 <sup>th</sup> July	Y5/6 Evening Performance
12 <sup>th</sup> July	Reception – vision check
13 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 trip to Crealy
20 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 Leavers' Assembly 9.30 am (Y6 families only)
21 <sup>st</sup> July	Last day of term

## In the community

# Duchy Preschool, Bradninch

Filled with creativity & adventure!

## Before and after school clubs for pupils of the Duchy School

Did you know that the Duchy Preschool runs before and after school clubs for children attending the Duchy School?

Currently the clubs run Monday - Thursday (with potential to open Fridays if there is the demand).

The breakfast club session starts at 7.45 am - Children are walked to the Duchy School in time for morning registration. A light breakfast is included.

The after school club session runs until 6pm - Children are collected from the Duchy School at 3.30pm and walked to preschool for an afternoon of fun activities. A light tea is included.

If you would like to find out more, please contact the Duchy Preschool on:

Tel: 01392 881975

email: [Duchypreschool@googlemail.com](mailto:Duchypreschool@googlemail.com)

Web: [www.duchypreschool.org.uk](http://www.duchypreschool.org.uk)