



***“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**

Extended periods of warmth and sunshine have finally enabled us to maximise the use of all available spaces around the school during break and lunch times. I have included a snapshot below of the joy that has been widespread this week! I must pay tribute to the work our recently appointed sports leaders are doing to facilitate games, challenges and activities for their peers during these periods of the school day. Please ensure children have sun cream applied before coming into school and bring in sun hats and water bottles. Please can we also remind you to label all cardigans and jumpers so that if children misplace them, they can be returned easily.

**Assessments**

I have received a number of enquiries recently about my thoughts on assessments in general following the media’s coverage of the recent year 6 SATs reading paper. Over the course of the year, we have a number of **statutory assessments** to complete in school, including: Phonics Screening; Key Stage 1 SATs; Key Stage 2 SATs and The Multiplication Tables Check. As communicated in my previous newsletter, as a school we take the same approach to these as all aspects of our learning which is to try your best, persevere and have a positive attitude! I have attached to the e-mail that this newsletter is sent with, some useful parent information guides produced by the DfE. If you have any concerns, please speak to your child’s class teacher or myself and we will be more than happy to explain anything further.


**Parent Forum Group**


Earlier today, I met with the parent forum group; please contact your class representative in the first instance for feedback. A small number of the queries that were raised aligned closely to points that were brought to my attention in the recent school improvement survey. Further communication will follow, in the next half-term, on how these specific ideas will feed into our longer-term school improvement plan.


**Lunchtime in school this week**

		
Toys/games in the quiet area; football and running on the field	Dance	Daisy chains!

## Celebrations

Mathematicians of the Week		
		
Our mathematicians for the last fortnight were:		
	19.05.23	26.05.23
Acorn	Toby	Toby
Andrews	Mia	Chester & Sofia
Scott	Anya	Harper W
Daley	Kayden	Emmanuel
Acland	Troy, Tom & Zac	Luuk
Reynolds	Molly	Jamie
King	Ethan	Ezra

Stars of the Week		
		
Our stars for the last fortnight were:		
	19.05.23	26.05.23
Acorn	Kimmy	Theo
Andrews	Margaret	James Hay
Scott	Albert	Monty
Daley	Izzy	Mollie
Acland	Layla	Florence
Reynolds	James	Anabelle
King	Charlie	Joe

Questions of the Week		
		
Our impressive questioners for the last fortnight were:		
	19.05.23	26.05.23
Andrews	Brodi	Natalie
Scott	Elijah	William
Daley	Isabella	Summer
Acland	Marni	Bailey
Reynolds	Coby	Izzy
King	Alex	Ezra

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

Scott	William	For obtaining Stanley 5 award in swimming.
Scott	Sophie	For obtaining Stanley 6 award in swimming.
Reynolds	Elliott	For winning the Exeter & District Youth League U10s Plate with Kentisbeare Falcons AFC.
King	Orson	For obtaining Shark 3 award in swimming.
King	Oscar H	For obtaining Angelfish 2 and Angelfish 3 awards in swimming.

## Sports Leaders in action at lunchtime



Cheerleading



Netball



Hoops and beanbag challenge

## Sports Updates



On Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> May, Duchy played two football matches against Plymtree. One match was contested by the year 3/4 team and the other by the year 5/6 team. Both teams played superbly and won their matches. The 3/4 team won 6 – 0 and the 5/6 team won 11 – 0.

To their credit, Plymtree's players always kept going but it must also be noted how Duchy players kept encouraging the opposition and congratulating them on moments of good play. What sportsmanship!

Thanks, as always, to those parents and carers whose support enabled the matches to take place.

On Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May, selected runners from across Key Stage 2 travelled to Wilcombe Primary in Tiverton for the annual 'Wilcombe Wobbler' cross-country event. Duchy runners competed against other schools within Ventrus Academy Trust finishing a brilliant second overall! The year 3/4 boys team won their category, as did the year 5/6 boys. Samuel took 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the 5/6 boys' race, Olivia took 2<sup>nd</sup> in the 5/6 girls' race and Deegan took 1<sup>st</sup> place in the 5/6 boys' race.

Well done to all the runners for representing yourselves and the school so brilliantly. Thank you also to those parents and carers who were able to come and support the team.



Also on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May, two teams from across years 5 and 6 took part in the 'Quad Kids' athletics event at Cullompton Community College.

The event comprised each pupil completing a sprint race, throw, standing jump and distance race. One of our teams (Duchy A) have qualified for the area finals, which are to be held at The King's School, Ottery St. Mary a little later this term (details TBC).

Well done to all who took part and a huge thank you to parents and carers who provided transport to and from the event. It is greatly appreciated, as is you cheering the teams on!



Our fortnight in photos

<p><b>Acorn class</b></p> 	<p><b>Andrews class</b></p> 	<p><b>Scott class</b></p> 
<p>In UTW, we have been learning about the sun and how shadows are created. We had great fun making shadow puppets!</p>	<p>In science, we learnt that fruit have seeds. We cut open different fruits and found out tomatoes are fruit and bananas have seeds!</p>	<p>In science, we visited Jacob's Ladder Beach to explore some rockpool habitats. We identified a range of animals and thought about how they have adapted to their environment.</p>
<p><b>Daley class</b></p> 	<p><b>Acland class</b></p> 	<p><b>Reynolds class</b></p> 
<p>Year 3 have been working hard on their newspaper reports about Pompeii.</p>	<p>In computing, we have been exploring the effect that different colours and filters can have on an image.</p>	<p>In dance, we have been creating circus performances, which incorporate apparatus.</p>
<p><b>King class</b></p> 	<p><b>Pigs!</b></p> 	<p><b>Teachers vs Year 6 (Football)</b></p> 
<p>In Maths, we have been completing a theme park project where children have been designing and advertising their own park as well as calculating the profits that they would make after 12 months.</p>	<p>The children met two of Miss Short's pigs.</p>	<p>Tensions ran high on the field during the annual football instalment of the teachers versus year six children. Eventually, it was the teachers who ran out victorious though!</p>

## Diary Dates

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

	Summer Term
29 <sup>th</sup> May – 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Half Term
5 <sup>th</sup> June – 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Y4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) testing
6 <sup>th</sup> June	Y5/6 Quad Kids Final at King's School (selected children only)
6 <sup>th</sup> June – 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Y4 swimming lessons (6 sessions)
12 <sup>th</sup> June – 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Y1 Phonics screening check week
13 <sup>th</sup> June	YF Trip to Dawlish Warren/Powderham Castle
13 <sup>th</sup> June	Y3/4 & Y5/6 Football finals at Uffculme School (selected children only)
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
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)