



“Mighty oaks from little acorns grow”

Our children join us as “little acorns” and through the teaching and modelling of our vision, values and aims by all members of our school community, our children leave us as “mighty oaks”, equipped with the transferable skills to continue their journey of life-long learning.

Message from the Head

Over the past fortnight we have been exploring one of new school values, **respect**, in depth. In school, the children have begun to develop an appreciation and understanding of just how important it is as a foundational factor in the development and maintenance of a healthy learning environment. Reaching out into the wider community and further afield, we have explored why **respect** is also celebrated as a fundamental British value in helping to create an orderly society. I was an extremely proud onlooker at the town remembrance service last weekend, where I got to see this value in action with so many of our children representing the school fantastically. A very special mention to our two year six children who laid our school’s poppy wreath.

This week, to celebrate Children in Need, the whole school came together in their new friendship groups to learn more about the importance of positive relationships and the impact they have in helping to support them throughout their school years. A huge thank you for all the donations received via Parent Pay; the running total so far is a massive £200.40!

Thank you to all those who attended our phonics parent workshops on Wednesday. These were run in response to feedback received in last year’s parent survey; I am very grateful to those who have taken the time to reflect positively on the value of these sessions to our team.

Catch 77 – We need your help!



Earlier this week, the school council met Mary Richards from a Bradninch-based Community Interest Company - **Catch 77**. She talked to the children about the work her organisation has done to help others and the importance of healthy living.

Inspired by her kindness the school council are eager to support her with the not-for-profit company’s efforts over the Christmas period! If you are willing and able to, please drop off any **TOILETRIES** (for example shampoo, conditioner, toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, tissues, dental floss, etc) into the labelled box in the school reception area before **Friday 1st December**.

The school council will then be supporting Catch 77 with making their festive packages ready for delivery.

Celebrations

Values Champion				Learning Champion		
	10.11.23	17.11.23			10.11.23	17.11.23
Reception	Willow	Ida		Reception	Florence	Jack D
Year 1	Orla	Bryony		Year 1	Lily	Theo
Year 2	Ian	Lexie		Year 2	Maisie	Emily
Year 3	Monty	Alfred		Year 3	Elijah	Rohan
Year 4	Summer	Deacon		Year 4	Amber	Alexandros
Year 5	Lottie	Lucy		Year 5	Flo	Tyler
Year 6	Elliott	Archie		Year 6	Molly	Mia

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

Year 2	Sofia	For completing The Secret Book Quest (reading 25 books).
Year 2	James Hay	For completing the Summer Reading Challenge.
Year 3	Sophie	For getting a "Blue Card" at Football Fun Factory in Tiverton.
Year 5	Rosie	For coming 5 th in Arena Eventing at Pontispool.

Christmas in School

Christmas is soon upon us, and we are pleased to confirm we have now finalised all celebrations/events taking place in school over the festive period. Please pay close attention to the dates below.

Children	Dates	Event
Reception, Years 1 and 2	5 th and 6 th December	Nativity Performances – please reserve your tickets via the link in the letter emailed (sent on 10 th November) by Tuesday 21st November .
All classes	8 th December	Christmas Craft Morning. Parents and carers are welcome to attend between 9.15 - 10.15am (<i>please note revised time from previous newsletter</i>). Children can also wear a Christmas jumper (over normal school uniform). Donation link will be sent nearer to the day.
Years 3, 4, 5 & 6	11 th December	Key Stage 2 Christingle Service at St Disen's Church – parents are welcome to attend.
Years 3, 4, 5 & 6	12 th December	Key Stage 2 pantomime trip to Northcott Theatre (afternoon)
All classes	14 th December	School Christmas Lunch – children can order on the day (main or vegetarian) - please note jacket potatoes will not be available on this day.
Reception, Years 1 and 2	4 th January	Travelling pantomime production in school.

Our fortnight in photos

<p>Reception Class</p>	<p>Year 1</p>	<p>Year 2</p>
		
<p>We had a visit from Pirate Pat who taught us all about the importance of reduce, reuse, recycle. We went on adventure to save sea animals from plastic waste and learnt about what we can do to help protect our environment.</p>	<p>In history, we role played, built models and drew pictures to show our understanding of The Spanish Armada.</p>	<p>In science, we were visited by Sally from the Devon Waste Education Programme. We learned about the ways in which different materials are made and recycled.</p>
<p>Year 3</p>	<p>Year 4</p>	<p>Year 5</p>
		
<p>We have been enjoying doing Children in Need maths today and solving lots of fun challenges!</p>	<p>In history, we visited Escot and explored their Anglo-Saxon village where we undertook a number of hands on activities, including: bread making and woodwork.</p>	<p>In English, we have looked at Tanka poetry, which must follow a strict pattern of syllables: 5, 7, 5, 7, 7. Many Tanka poems relate to the seasons or nature.</p>
<p>Year 6</p>	<p>Friendship Groups</p>	<p>Remembrance Service</p>
		
<p>In science, we have been investigating how we can affect different components in a circuit depending on what we alter within the circuit.</p>	<p>Our first friendship group event of the year, where children from different classes came together to develop their understanding of the official charity Children in Need.</p>	<p>Year six children, laying our school's poppy wreath, at the town Remembrance ceremony.</p>

Sports Update

On Monday 13th November, the year 5/6 football team (debuting our new school football kit) took part in their first fixture of the new season. A superb effort from all those involved saw The Duchy beat Plymtree by 7 goals to nil.

Thank you to all those who stayed after school to cheer the team on.



On Thursday 9th November, 18 pupils from across years 3, 4, 5 and 6 travelled to Bicton College to take part in the East Devon Cross-Country Finals. All our runners gave their best effort, with some making it into the top-20 in their race, with each race containing 84 runners. Thank you to all those parents who made the journey over to Bicton to support the runners: it was greatly appreciated.

Team Results

Year 3/4 Boys – Team finished 8th out of 14 schools.

Year 5/6 Boys – Team finished 6th out of 14 schools.

Year 5/6 Girls – Team finished 10th out of 14 schools.



Diary Dates

Please regularly check and review the Diary Dates section of the newsletter; we will be updating with details of further trips, events and activities as and when they are confirmed.

Term	Commences	Finishes
Autumn	6 th September 2023	15 th December 2023
Spring	2 nd January 2024	28 th March 2024
Summer	15 th April 2024	23 rd July 2024

24 th November	Flu Immunisations in school – <u>give consent by 22nd November (via letter emailed)</u>
22 nd November	Foundation Admissions Tours – 1.30pm
23 rd November	Foundation Admissions Tours – 9.15am
w/c 27 th November	Bikeability (Year 6)
w/c 27 th November	Book Fayre in school
30 th November	PTFA School disco
5 th December	Reception /KS1 Nativity (2.30pm)
6 th December	Reception /KS1 Nativity (3.45pm)
6 th December	Y3 Trip to Kents Cavern
8 th December	Christmas Jumper Day
8 th December	Christmas Craft Morning-Parents invited (9.15-10.15am) <i>(please note revised time from previous newsletter)</i>
11 th December	Key Stage 2 Christingle at St Disen's Church (2pm)
12 th December	Key Stage 2 Pantomime trip to Northcott Theatre
14 th December	School Christmas Lunch
15 th December	Last day of term
18 th – 29 th December	Christmas Holidays
2 nd January	Spring Term starts
2 nd January	Non-Pupil Day (school closed)
4 th January	Reception & Key Stage 1 Pantomime travelling production (2pm)
31 st January	Y5 Trip to O2 Arena (Young Voices)
7 th February	Y4 Trip to Paignton Zoo – <i>communication to follow</i>

In the Community



SportyStars
GLOW IN THE DARK
DODGEBALL

THURSDAY 23RD NOV & THURSDAY 1ST FEB
5:15PM - 6:15PM (KS1) 6:30PM - 7:30PM (KS2)
@ THE DUCHY SCHOOL, BRADNINCH
£7 PER CHILD / PLACES LIMITED
BOOKINGS ONLINE: [SPORTYSTARS.CO.UK](https://sportystars.co.uk)

FACE PAINT **MUSIC** **LIGHTS** **FUN!**





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MR TIM WALKER 5TH DAN
MRS AMANDA WALKER 3RD DAN

☎ 07951 475671

✉ DuchyTaekwondo@hotmail.com

Mondays at Duchy Primary School

- 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm - Duchy Dragons & Juniors
- 7.15 pm to 8.30 pm - Adults

Thursdays at Bradninch Guildhall

- 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm - Duchy Dragons
- 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm - Juniors
- 7.15 pm to 8.45 pm - Adults