



### ***“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, **tenacity**, in depth. During my recent assemblies, we have looked at how different characters – including Bluey - have overcome challenges to succeed! As a teaching team, we have all been inspired by the **tenacity** demonstrated by members of our school community supporting us in the delivery of key school improvement projects; further details included below and on page 2.

### **Parents’ Evening**

I spent some time recently re-reviewing parent feedback from last year’s school improvement survey – namely reflections around how we share academic progress updates with parents. I will be discussing these ideas with key stakeholders in the months ahead. For the moment, in line with the approach recommended by our academy trust, we will continue with our current model of parents’ evening slots (Autumn term and Spring term) and end of year reports (Summer term). **Note: Face-to-face parents’ evening appointments for Spring Term are now available to book in the usual way on Arbor.**



Sue Eakers (school governor) and two rangers from the Killerton National Trust Estate team have recently helped restore a valuable learning area on our school site. By clearing an overgrown bank, removing rotten fences and piles of moss the area now has a sturdy new fence and the raised beds are protected from weeds and ready to be planted in the spring.



Artwork, linked to our new school values, funded thanks to the hard work of the school's PTFA.



Celebrations









Values Champion			Learning Champion		
	19.01.24	26.01.24		19.01.24	26.01.24
Reception	Hannah	Erik	Reception	James	Ollie
Year 1	Airi	Hakeem	Year 1	Ethan	Ridhwin
Year 2	Danilo	Thomas	Year 2	Isla	Bonnie-Mae
Year 3	Harper W	Yeva	Year 3	Edwin	Jessica
Year 4	Fleur	Amber	Year 4	Izzy	Daisy-Rose
Year 5	Troy	Daisy	Year 5	Archie	Marni
Year 6	Immy	Jamie	Year 6	Jamie	Logan

Sports Update

On Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January, the year 3/4 football team hosted a team from Kentisbeare C of E Primary School in the second league fixture of the season. Conditions were tricky due to the recent heavy rain. In the first half, The Duchy consistently applied pressure to the Kentisbeare goal taking a narrow 2-0 lead at half-time. The Duchy continued to dominate in the second half scoring two more, before Kentisbeare nabbed a consolation goal at the end. Final score 4-1. The result sees the team sitting at the top of the league. Thank you to all those who came to cheer on the team!



Our fortnight in photos

Reception Class	Year 1	Year 2
		
<p>In mathematics, we have been learning about capacity. We compared bottles to find out which had the greatest capacity.</p>	<p>In geography, we walked around our local area Bradninch, observing human and physical features.</p>	<p>In computing, we have been using algorithms to programme robots to follow a set route.</p>
Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
		
<p>Year 3 have been learning about how the Earth is made up of different layers of rocks and soils, using this tasty creation to help them remember all the different parts!</p>	<p>In PE, we have been practising for our Easter showdown.</p>	<p>In PE, we have been exploring counterbalances using apparatus.</p>
Year 6	Clubs	
		
<p>In PE, we have been playing handball. WE have been practising our skills of shooting and defending.</p>	<p>Our extra-curricular clubs for the Spring term are now up and running!</p>	

## 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
Spring	2 <sup>nd</sup> January 2024	28 <sup>th</sup> March 2024
Summer	15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2024

30 <sup>th</sup> January	School Council tree planting at Killerton
31 <sup>st</sup> January	Y5 Trip to O2 Arena (Young Voices)
8 <sup>th</sup> February	Y4 Trip to Paignton Zoo
<b>12<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>Half-term</b>
24 <sup>th</sup> February	PTFA Quiz
28 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents' Evening: 3.50-6.30pm
29 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents' Evening: 3.50-6.30pm
7 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
15 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent event linked to British Science Week (14:45 to 15:25) (communication to follow)
15 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day
20 <sup>th</sup> March	Y4 Dance Showdown at The Barnfield Theatre
28 <sup>th</sup> March	Last Day of term
<b>29<sup>th</sup> March – 12<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Easter Break</b>
17 <sup>th</sup> April	Y5 trip to Coldharbour Mill (communication to follow)
25 <sup>th</sup> April	Y3 trip to Rosemoor Gardens

PTFA**The Duchy School PTFA Rainbow Hamper Raffle**

The PTFA will be holding a Rainbow Hamper Raffle to raise funds for the school. Each class has been allocated a colour at random; if you are able to support, we would appreciate donations of that colour to be brought into your child's class.

Class	Colour	Suggested donation items
Reception	Yellow	Toblerone, lemonade, lemon flavoured sweets, M&M's, crackers, Yellow Tail wine
Year 1	Red	Skittles, Kit Kats, Celebrations chocolates, wine
Year 2	Orange	Fanta, Doritos, crackers, jams and chutneys
Year 3	Blue	Oreos, Doritos, Milky Way, Bounty,
Year 4	Green	Mint chocolates, green tea, Pringles, beer
Year 5	Purple	Dairy Milk, hot chocolate, popcorn, Monster Munch, Quality Street
Year 6	Pink	Pringles, Percy Pigs, berry flavoured drinks, marshmallows

All donations should be brought into your child's classroom however we politely request that any alcoholic donations be dropped off at the office. If you are donating consumable products, please ensure they are dated, unused and unopened. No frozen or fresh produce please.

Please bring in donations by **Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**. Raffle tickets will be £1 each. A sheet of tickets is attached to this letter and additional tickets will be on sale by a member of the PTFA outside of school on Tuesday and Friday afternoons (please do not come into the office for raffle tickets). The draw will be made at the PTFA quiz on **Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February**.

Thank you for your continued support.

The Duchy School PTFA



# Duchy PTFA Quiz Night

Saturday 24 February  
7pm - 9:30pm at the School  
£5 per person, teams of up to 6  
Payment due at time of booking

18+ only

Light snack  
included

Limited  
bar available - cash  
or card

Booking open to the  
school community only  
until 31 January

Pre order drinks for the  
table - prices on booking  
form

Submit your booking form to  
[emilyr.porter@gmail.com](mailto:emilyr.porter@gmail.com)

## In the Community

**Kids Holiday Heroes** are back at Willand School for February. Our camp is run by two experienced Willand School teachers who are motivated to keep children active and engaged in curriculum linked activities during the holidays.

- Who: **Holiday Club** for children aged between 5 to 12.
- How much: **£25 per day**.
- When: **Monday 12th to Friday 16th February (8:30am-4pm)**
- What: We are running an outdoor sport and craft-based programme with a range of fun and curriculum linked activities. And...hot chocolate and pancakes!

Please check our timetable on our booking page - <https://bookwhen.com/kidsholidayheroes>

We accept childcare vouchers. Please email us for any information - [bookings@kidsholidayheroes.co.uk](mailto:bookings@kidsholidayheroes.co.uk)

**KIDS HOLIDAY HEROES**  
Run by teachers

**NEW**

Kids Holiday Heroes is a fun School Holiday Club for children aged between 5 and 12.

Run by experienced teachers!

**£25 A DAY**  
8:30am - 4:00pm  
Monday - Friday, during school holidays only

SAVE £10 PER CHILD when you book a full week!

**At Willand School**  
Gables Road, Willand, Cullompton EX15 2QL

**BOOK ONLINE**

Our online booking system is always open. Please book in advance as places are limited.

**FOLLOW US**

kidsholidayheroes Kids Holiday Heroes

**Fun and educational**  
timetabled days, suitable for all children aged 5 to 12.

**ACTIVITIES INCLUDE**

Team building, sports, games, orienteering skills, campfires, bat and ball skills, and more

**Ofsted Registered**

Run by experienced teachers!

Matt is an experienced primary school teacher with additional qualifications in PE. He believes children should have a wide range of opportunities to be active and have fun at the same time! Matt is passionate about keeping active and enjoys playing a range of sports. He is a qualified first aider and is trained in safeguarding.

Oliver is an experienced primary school teacher, who is passionate about learning and believes wholeheartedly in the benefits of new experiences and challenges. Oliver is at home in the outdoors and can often be found surfing, climbing, hiking or cycling. He is a fully qualified first aider and holds Level 3 Safeguarding.

All sessions are held at Willand School. The best way to book is online. You can contact us by email: [bookings@kidsholidayheroes.co.uk](mailto:bookings@kidsholidayheroes.co.uk)

**CONTACT US**

kidsholidayheroes Kids Holiday Heroes

**KIDS HOLIDAY HEROES**  
Run by teachers



Newsletter 9  
26<sup>th</sup> January 2024

THE DUCHY SCHOOL  
Bowley Meadow, Bradninch, Exeter, EX5 4RF

<https://duchy.devon.sch.uk/>

01392 881482



**MONDAY**  
**12**  
**FEBRUARY**

**FROM**  
**10AM**

*Half term*  
**CRICKET**

**U10/U11/U13 SESSIONS - OPEN TO ALL  
NOT A CLUB MEMBER - NO PROBLEM  
JOIN THE FUN - EVERYONE WELCOME**

**FREE TO SIGN UP - PLACES LIMITED**  
Email [hello@bandkcc.co.uk](mailto:hello@bandkcc.co.uk) to find out more  
and reserve your place now

**UNIT 14 KINGSFORD RURAL BUSINESS  
CENTRE, KENTISBEARE, EX15 2AU**

# BUMPER HALF TERM

Join us this February half term to help us celebrate the Tivvy Bumper steam engine!

Saturday 10th to Saturday 17th  
February 2024 (closed Sunday 11th)

Follow the railway map around the museum,  
collecting letters to spell your destination  
Part of normal admission\*

Plus, train toys,  
board games,  
dressing up, colouring  
station & more!

\*Adults £8.50, accompanied kids go FREE!

**CRAFT sessions** on **Tuesday 13th** and  
**Wednesday 14th February**

From 10 - 12. Drop-in

£3 per child with paying adult (£2.50 per child with a museum member)



**TIVERTON  
MUSEUM**  
of Mid Devon Life

**Special Half Term Opening:**  
Monday - Saturday, 10:00-4:00  
[www.tivertonmuseum.org.uk](http://www.tivertonmuseum.org.uk)  
Beck's Square, Tiverton EX16 6PJ  
01884 256295  
Registered Charity 1181976



FOLLOW US  
@TivertonMuseum

# Duchy Preschool, Bradninch

Filled with creativity & adventure!



We offer before and after school clubs for  
children attending the Duchy School

- Breakfast Club: from 7.45am - includes a light breakfast
- After school club: 3.30pm - 5pm - includes a light tea
- Late session - 5pm - 6pm

For more information, please contact us:

[duchypreschool@gmail.com](mailto:duchypreschool@gmail.com) 01392 881975

