



### ***“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**

### **Testing**

Over the course of the year, we have statutory assessments to complete in school for different year groups - these are outlined in the **Diary Dates** section below. Next week, our year 6 children will be sitting their Key Stage 2 SATs. Earlier this week, Mrs Dunning spoke to all the children in assembly about how our normal routines and timings of breaks and lessons will look slightly different next week to support our older children. As a school, we take the same approach to testing as all aspects of our learning which is to try your best, persevere and have a positive attitude. If you have any concerns, please speak to your child’s class teacher or me and we will be more than happy to explain anything further.

### **Duchy Mile**

Your child will be coming home today with a sponsorship form for the infamous Duchy Mile sponsored run – taking place on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May. This year proceeds from the event will support the school’s PTFA.

### **Collection Arrangements**

If anyone other than a parent/carer/other person with authority to collect, is collecting your child at the end of the school day, please notify the office via email ([duchy@ventrus.org.uk](mailto:duchy@ventrus.org.uk)) **before 12pm on the day**. We understand there are emergency situations that arise during the afternoon and there may not be times when you can do this, but the earlier that we are told in the day, the better. This ensures that we can communicate it to the class teacher with plenty of notice.

## **Reception Trip to Seaton Wetlands**



When we arrived at Seaton Wetlands, we went on a nature scavenger hunt walking along the paths and looking in the hedgerows.



In the afternoon, we enjoyed mini beast hunting. We took pots and magnifying glasses into the woodland and carefully searched our surroundings.



One of our activities was pond dipping; we found Dragonfly Nymphs and Newts. We had a fantastic time!

## Celebrations

Please see details below of the new certificates that we are awarding each week to celebrate successes in school.


- Our **Values Champion** certificate will be used to acknowledge the efforts of those children who have represented the school values through their actions.
- Our **Learning Champion** certificate will be used to recognise those children who have demonstrated passion and pride in their work, delivering a moment or moments of brilliance in a subject that have captured their teacher's and their peers' attention.

Values Champion				Learning Champion		
	03.05.24	10.05.24			03.05.24	10.05.24
Reception	Sylvie	Woodia		Reception	Libby	Maci
Year 1	Lily	Hope		Year 1	Hakeem	Kimmie
Year 2	Margaret	Bonnie-Mae		Year 2	Daisy	Meadow
Year 3	Monty	Alice		Year 3	Maia	Hattie
Year 4	Jackson	Izzy		Year 4	Elliott	Isabella
Year 5	Florence	Lucy		Year 5	Elias	Rory
Year 6	Coby	Immy		Year 6	Oscar	Archie






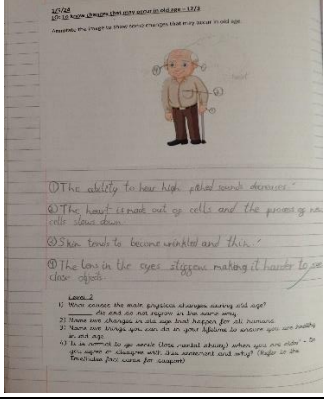


## We have also celebrated these fantastic recent achievements!

Year 4	Bobby	For winning "Top Trainer" and Sporting Steps (football)
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## Sports Update

Dodgeball at CCC	
	<p>On Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> May, pupils from years 5 and 6 went to Culm Valley Sports Centre to participate in a fun dodgeball event run by Cullompton Community College.</p> <p>The children were all extremely excited to go to the event and had a brilliant time playing small-sided matches against pupils from Willand, Plymtree and Willowbank, as well as against each other.</p> <p>A huge thank you to all the parents, family members and friends who supported this event by arranging transport for the children.</p>

Our fortnight in photos

<p><b>Reception Class</b></p>	<p><b>Year 1</b></p>	<p><b>Year 2</b></p>
		
<p>In maths, we have been looking at shapes and have been learning to rotate them to create pictures and patterns.</p>	<p>During learning through play, the children have been getting creative and building aeroplanes linked to our history learning.</p>	<p>In music, we have been learning how to play basic notes on nuvo recorders, carefully following the instructions of a composer.</p>
<p><b>Year 3</b></p>	<p><b>Year 4</b></p>	<p><b>Year 5</b></p>
		
<p>In music, we have begun to learn the J-flute. Getting the mouth right was very tricky!</p>	<p>In DT, whilst exploring seasonal vegetables we created our own Spring stew.</p>	<p>In science, we have been learning about the changes that may affect humans in old age.</p>
<p><b>Year 6</b></p>	<p><b>School Life</b></p>	
		
<p>In PE, we have been developing our tennis skills.</p>	<p>Lunchtime fun!</p>	<p>Eco-Club exploring the pond area.</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
Summer	15 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2024

15 <sup>th</sup> April	Summer Term starts
17 <sup>th</sup> April – 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Y4 Swimming every Wednesday
13 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6 SATs week
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Y2 Trip to Jacob's Ladder, Sidmouth
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Wilcombe Wobbler Event (KS2 selected children only)
24 <sup>th</sup> May	The Duchy Mile
27 <sup>th</sup> May – 31 <sup>st</sup> May	Half Term
3 <sup>rd</sup> June – 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Y4 Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) testing window
10 <sup>th</sup> June – 14 <sup>th</sup> June	Y1 Phonics Screening Check week
14 <sup>th</sup> June	Parent Forum Group Meeting
20 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day
21 <sup>st</sup> June	Y5 trip to Exmouth Beach for sea swimming
27 <sup>th</sup> June	Reserve Sports Day
w/c 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Bikeability (Year 5)
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Y2 Trip to Exeter Cathedral (communication to follow)
5 <sup>th</sup> July	Y3 The Mix Festival at Bridwell Park (communication to follow)
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Y5/6 Afternoon Performance
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Y5/6 Evening Performance
12 <sup>th</sup> July	PTFA event (Summer Fayre)
19 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 trip to Crealy (communication to follow)
22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Y6 Leaver's Assembly 9.30 am
23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Last day of term

## In the Community



# Duchy Preschool, Bradninch

Filled with creativity & adventure!

## Duchy Preschool Holiday Club Offer 2024

After a successful trial of our summer holiday club last year, we are pleased to announce that we will be running another club during the summer holidays this year.

The offer is for 3 and 4 year old Duchy Preschool children AND those children attending the Duchy Primary School (all ages).

### Sessions

We will be running the sessions from the Duchy Primary School, Bowley Meadow site,

We will be open on:

- Thursday 25th July 9am – 3pm
- Friday 26th July 9am – 3pm
- Week commencing 29th July – Monday – Friday 9am – 3pm
- Week commencing 5th August – Monday – Friday 9am -3pm
- Week commencing 12th August – Monday – Friday 9am – 3pm

### Funded Preschool Children

For funded preschool children, if you have any funded hours remaining at the end of the summer term, you will be able to use them for holiday club, you are also able to pay for sessions via any of the voucher/tax free childcare schemes as you do now.

### Session Prices

£36 Full Day - 3/4 year old preschool children (£18 for half day: 9am - 12pm or 12pm - 3pm)

£30 Full Day - School age children (£15 for half day: 9am - 12pm or 12pm - 3pm)

If you would like to book, please contact us via ~~family~~ email:  
[Duchypreschool@googlemail.com](mailto:Duchypreschool@googlemail.com)

*St Disen's Church Bradninch  
All Age Worship  
Church for Everybody  
Sundays 10.30 am.*

*Dates coming up: May 5th, May  
19th, June 2nd.*

*June 23rd A special Kidzone  
Celebration with Christian Book  
Prizes for all attendees this year*

**FUN FRESH THOUGHT PROVOKING  
FOR ALL AGES AND STAGES  
PRAYER WORSHIP**