



Summer Term Newsletter No.12

The school is resounding to song as the Y6 children are rehearsing their Leaver's play "Darwin Rocks" and we can hear it wherever we go. It does sound amazing! There are some pretty strange sights walking around—the costumes look fantastic! The school will be watching the show on Monday afternoon and parents of the Y6 children are invited on Tuesday.

We have lots of exciting things planned for the Y6 before they leave us and move on to their Secondary Schools—there is a Leavers' Disco for the Y6 children on Wednesday evening and then there will be their special assembly on Thursday, followed by a BBQ for them. It's always sad to see them moving on but we know they will love their new schools.

This week has been incredibly busy—no sign of winding down to the holidays for us!



The children in Y3 and Y4 had a visit from the Meteorology Office on Thursday and the children absolutely loved it! They made clouds inside a plastic bottle and made marshmallows grow larger by reducing the pressure inside the bottle.



Some of our younger children had more Outdoor Learning and spent time in the orchard making clay models or cooking in the cob oven! Iced cookies were definitely a favourite! We have put some pictures on our website and Twitter feed for you. Please have a look.

We are very proud of this week's Star Pupils:



Ash — James is a great leader in imaginative play, contributing ideas and being respectful

- Ruby R is a brilliant scientist being actively involved in her own learning.

Elm — Luciana was a Superstar in the Orchard, listening carefully and being responsible.

- Chloe is growing very independent, coming in by herself and putting away her belongings.

Beech — Keira has a great attitude towards moving her own learning on!

Pine — Isabelle has been really resilient this week—despite an injury to her thumb!

Apple — Eleanor goes above and beyond and always produces excellent homework!

Oak — All of Oak class deserve a nomination for their fantastic attitude to learning this year.

Birch — All of Birch class. Miss Worthington says "Thank You for being a wonderful class!"

Rowan — Harrison has tried really hard with his writing this year. Well done!

Cherry — Annabelle is a great role model and shows all of our school values.

Maple — Bobby has improved his handwriting and takes a pride in his work.

Holly — Taylor-Ann showed great bravery and perseverance with her sewing.

Willow — Jack G has been an all round star, not just this week but all year!

Hawthorn — Finley has shown superb effort and enthusiasm in the play!

Hazel — Lewis has participated in the Y6 play with excellent enthusiasm.

Diary Date Reminders:

Tuesday 18th 1:30pm and 6:00pm (children to arrive by 5:30pm please) - Y6 Play "Darwin Rocks"

Wednesday 19th—6:30pm to 8:00pm Y6 Disco

Thursday 20th 9:15am Y6—Leavers' Assembly for parents

Friday 21st and Monday 24th July—Non Pupil Days

Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th September—Non Pupil Days

Wednesday 6th September—First day back for children



Attendance Award

Congratulations to Cherry Class for winning the School Attendance Award with 97.6% attendance.

The whole school achieved 93.6% attendance overall is below our target.

Sports Day

After abandoning the KS2 Sports day due to wet weather, we were able to complete the Y5 & Y6 track events on Monday 10th July in glorious sunshine. There was a lovely atmosphere and the children enjoyed competing in sprints, distance races, relays and hurdles. Well done to Drake (blue team) who came first and to the four new record holders of 2017. [Amari Hadley—Y4 Boys Sprint 9.25 seconds; Georgia Smith Y5 Girls Sprint 9.59 seconds; Jack Howlett—Y6 Boys Sprint—9.10 seconds; Toby Price Y5 Boys Long Race 1 minute 57 seconds] Some of the records have been held since 2004!

A huge thank you to all the parents, carers, friends and family members who came along to support the children again. There are some photos on our Twitter feed.

PTA News

Huge thanks to our PTA for all their hard work organising the fair. It was a lovely treat for families and there was a great atmosphere. Many thanks to all the parents who gave their time to run stall, paint nails, man the goals, cook the BBQ... we would not have been able to run the fair without your help. The profits from the fair will all go back into buying equipment for the children.

PTA Fundraising

Did you know the PTA have just bought £4,000 worth of LearnPads for the children to use in school? This is all thanks to the support you have given the school over the last year.



School PE T-shirt



We are introducing a new St. Margaret's Academy PE T-shirt to our uniform in September. The t-shirt is purple and has the school's name embroidered on the front. We strongly believe that a uniform promotes a sense of pride in the school and will help identify the children with their school when we are out and about at local sporting events.

The T-shirts are available at Riviera Schooldays, 186 Union Street, Torquay, TQ2 5QP.

As our uniform has undergone a re-design, for this year only, your child will come home with a voucher in their end of year report which you can redeem at the shop for a free t-shirt.

There are some things you need to be aware of though:

- There is only one voucher per child and unfortunately if it is lost, we cannot replace it.
- The voucher expires by September 8th. After that time you will have to buy the t-shirt for £4.25

All of these T-shirts have kindly been funded by the PTA and we think the money is well spent as we are going to be the smartest school in the Bay when we are taking part in sports in the local community.

If you have any queries about the T-shirt please contact the school office.

Learning today to achieve our tomorrows.

The Golden Mile Fundraiser

This Summer the children were really excited about raising money for the Golden Mile fun run. The event brought all the children together to get active and raise some cash. We thank the children so much for taking part in the fun run and raising lots of money. We hope they had lots of fun running on the field. The money that was raised will go towards an amazing Golden Mile running track on the field that we hope will inspire children and help keep them active for many years to come. A cheque for the amount raised will be presented to the school in an assembly, along with certificates and prizes for the children that took part. This will take place on Monday 17th July.

All children who participated will receive a certificate.

Children who raised more than £5 will receive a bronze medal, children who raised more than £10 will receive a silver medal and children who raised more than £15 will receive a gold medal!



The child that collected the most sponsorship money will also receive a Voucher entitling them to a free day for them and a friend at any Premier Sport Holiday Club.



We really appreciate your support and hope that you had fun helping our school raise lots of money for the Golden Mile track!

Torbay Council Letter

All parents of children in Foundation Stage to Y5 have been sent a letter from Torbay Council. These letters are waiting in your child's class for you to collect. Please call in over the next few days to save us having to chase you. These are just information letters for you—nothing to worry about!

Y6 children will receive these letters once they have started in their Secondary Schools.

Bikeability Holiday Courses

Torbay Council are once again running their hugely popular Cycling courses in the Summer Holidays at Torbay Velopark. These range from Learn to Ride to Bikeability Level 2 and will be running 24th-28th July and 21st-25th August. There are courses for age 6 upwards. The places go quickly so please book early. Course information is available from twowheelstuition@yahoo.co.uk



THRIVE Bus

It's nearly a year since we bought our THRIVE bus! This is such a fantastic space for children who need a quiet place to talk. Children have many big emotions which can sometimes overwhelm them, such as family separations or bereavements. These emotions can manifest in many different ways and children can become withdrawn, sad or angry. The THRIVE bus is full of resources which help children express themselves in different ways if they are not able to talk about their feelings.



The Thrive Approach integrates arts and creativity to support children's emotional and social development. The THRIVE website has more information if you are interested. <https://www.thriveapproach.com/the-thrive-approach/>

School Performance Data

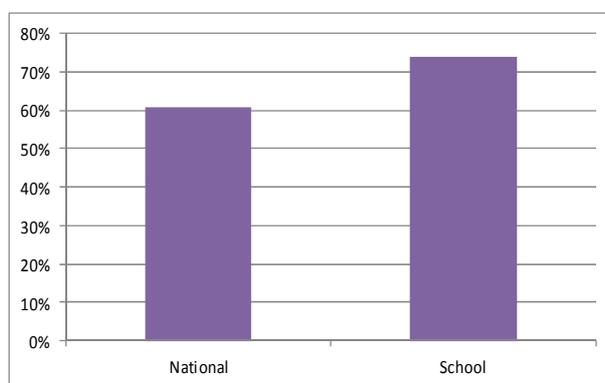
As we draw to the end of another academic year we would like to share some of the school's Y6 data with you as we are proud of how hard the children have worked and how well they have achieved. The children sit a test (SATS) in May for Reading, Maths and Grammar and are assessed by their class teacher for their writing. We have higher percentages of children achieving across all the subjects than the national average, as the table below shows:

End of KS2 2017	Reading	Writing	Maths	Grammar, Punctuation Spelling
	At or above Expected Standard			
National	71%	76%	75%	77%
School	82.5%	86%	79%	82.5%

Combined Measure

The Government also checks how many of these children achieved the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths combined. We are delighted that 74% of our children achieved this compared to 61% nationally.

The demands of the new curriculum are incredibly high and the children have risen to the challenge. We are immensely proud of them!



Scaled Scores

Another measure the Government checks is the Scaled Score. 100 is the scores assigned to the 'average' pass mark in the tests. Again, our children's average score is higher than the national scaled score.

2017	Reading	GPS	Maths
National	104	106	104
School	107	107	104

Children working at a Higher Standard

We don't have any national comparison data for this as it is not available until late September but, regardless, we are proud of the children as many scored brilliantly on their tests. Last year 5% of children nationally achieved at Greater Depth in Combined Subjects whereas we had 9%. This year we have 16% of children which is a fantastic result.

Pupil Premium Children

The Government provide schools with additional funding (Pupil Premium) to close the gap between children they identify as disadvantaged and their peers. Again, our Pupil Premium children have achieved fantastic results and in English a higher percentage of Pupil Premium pupils achieved the Expected Standard than Non Pupil Premium pupils.

There will be additional school data released in September which we will report to you.

End of Year School Reports

Your children will be coming home with their end of year report today, and will report on your child's achievement if they took the Phonic Screening Check in June and end of Foundation Stage, KS1 and KS2 results.

There are no formal Parents Meetings at the end of the year but if you have any concerns based on the end of year report you are very welcome to book an appointment with your child's class teacher to discuss these.