



Autumn Term Newsletter No. 8

Welcome back - we hope you enjoyed the half term break. We started the term with a treat for the children organised by our PTA—the film night was a great success and it raised over £230 profit. Thank you all those who gave their time to make the event so enjoyable for the children. The PTA would like to involve parents in decisions about what to spend the money on first so please watch out for information coming home soon. Their next event is the Christmas Fair and they would love your help to make this a fun afternoon for the children.

The KS1 children have had a seasonal few days as they have launched their topics about Festivals and Celebrations—they found pumpkins all over the orchard and then spent the day weighing, comparing and writing about them. It's amazing how much maths you can get out of a pumpkin! Y2 also spent time on Tuesday cooking with pumpkins—our new Woodland Den is such a fabulous space for cooking! Their topic will end with their Christmas Celebrations on the stage in the Princess Theatre—this is such a treat for them, us and your families! Further information has been sent home this week.

We will have even more cooking opportunities in school soon as Y3 will embark on a project with Dartington Hall Trust to learn about cooking in the past which will culminate in building a cob oven in our school grounds. Wood fired pizzas for all! We are delighted to have been selected to work with the craftsmen and women on this project as the children will also be working with willow and making structures for our Orchard. There will be a Celebration Day for the parents of the children involved in the project in December and in the Spring Term there will be an event in Dartington on a Saturday where all families can attend—and try a pizza there too!

This Week's Star Pupils:



Beech — Floyd Le Milliere
Pine — Ethan Bellamy
Apple— Adrienne Sturdy
Oak— Ethan Bakalarz
Birch— Summer Thompson
Rowan — Ruby Reed
Cherry— Courtney Eldridge
Maple — Jack Scaife
Holly— Jack Rigg
Willow — Daniella Avis
Hawthorn — Sophie Petrakis
Hazel — Melody Hunt

Diary Date Reminders:

Friday 11th November— Remembrance Service

Wednesday 16th November—Y3 Dartington trip. (**Late return - 4:15pm approximately**)

Thursday 17th and Friday 18th November—Individual School Photos

Thursday 1st December—Y1 and Y2 Nativity at the Princess Theatre (afternoon performance)

Attendance Award



Congratulations to Willow Class for winning the School Attendance Award with 98% attendance this week.

The whole school achieved 93.6% attendance over-all which is below our target.



Don't forget to follow us on Twitter to see photographs and updates about school life.

<https://twitter.com/StMargaretsTQ>

Reception Intake 2017

Do you have a child born between 01/09/2012 and 31/08/2013? You will need to complete your application form online before 15th January, 2017 to ensure your child has a place for September 2017. Siblings are given priority places in our school but you must still apply through Torbay Council to secure a place. Please apply online through www.torbay.gov.uk or ask them for a copy of TIPS 8 Guidance (01803 208908) and complete the CAF2 form.

Family Ponder....

Would family life be better without technology?
(Cherry Class)



Thank you for supporting the Rotary ShoeBox Scheme - there are still some left and there is plenty of time to return them to school as they are not due back until Friday 18th November. Please don't seal or wrap the boxes as they get checked before being sent off but feel free to decorate the outside of the boxes if you wish. If you need ideas of what to put in them please have a look at their website <http://www.rotaryshoobox.org/box-contents-2/>

From Monday we will be selling poppies in school for The Royal British Legion. On Friday some children will be representing the school at the Remembrance Service at St Marychurch's memorial. You would be welcome to join us there from 11:00am.



School Trips and Events

We have had a fun week with the children enjoying their 'Entry Points' into their new topics. Y5 and Y6 went to Bygones to learn about Victorian Life and Y3 and Y4 had Billy Wiz in to teach them some magic for their topic "Let the magic begin..". There are some photos on our Twitter feed.

It is great to be able to offer the children these experiences to enhance their learning and to get them interested in their topic and we hope you will support us with this. We have most, but not all, parents permission to take their children off site—without this it can mean that your child is left behind when their class go off for the day. If you have not completed this form please contact the office—you will always be notified of trips and have an opportunity to withdraw your child should you wish which avoids the horrible situation of us leaving a child behind because we have not heard from you.

Equally, we ask for a contribution towards the trips and experiences as school budgets are increasingly cut but we would hate for the children to miss out. We fund transport costs, which are often the most expensive part of the trip, but ask that parents contribute towards the costs of the activity. Without sufficient contributions we have to decide whether the school can afford to fund the activity which can result in the whole trip being cancelled. Whilst we appreciate that household budgets are also being squeezed we hope to still be able to offer these educational experiences for the children and ask that you support the school.

St Margaret's Close

The residents of St Margaret's Close have asked us to remind you that this is a private road and you should not be parking there to drop off or collect your children. We ask that you respect this and park away from the entrance to the Close and escort your children to the school gates so they are not disturbing the residents whilst waiting for the gates to open. Thank you.

Riviera Schooldays

Our uniform stockist, Riviera Schooldays, is moving back to 186 Union Street (opposite the Magistrates Court) so their current premises will close on Friday 11th November and re-open in the new premises on Tuesday 15th November. Customers can now park for free for up to 1 hour in Union Street, Torre (in the one-way system between the Printers Elbow and the Play Café) or you can order online at www.rivieraschooldays.co.uk

RESPECT

CREATIVITY

INDEPENDENCE