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9th October 2020 – End of Week 5 - Autumn Newsletter #7

Dear Parents,

This week we've been continuing our school focus on *Being Me*. In Monday's assembly we celebrated Miss Blackburn's 26.2 mile marathon under 5 hours. In today's star assembly, children asked Miss Blackburn questions to find out about her achievement.

Another achievement recently is we now have a new staff record holder for completing the Rubik's Cube. Mrs Pike's impressive 2 minutes, 5 seconds has not been enough to hold on to the top spot. Mrs Burke is now the leader with an incredible 1 minute and 45 seconds.

Year 1 children are loving their new outdoor area which might be a reason why Beech Class have 100% attendance this week. This first week of it being open they have used it for a big general explore. From next week, teachers will start adding in more purposeful areas of learning gradually building up over time this extension to their classroom. For those of you who haven't had a chance for a proper look, [Click here](#) to see some photos.

Teachers are in the middle of completing a range of assessments currently which will be done by the half term. This data will allow us to identify gaps that we can then work on over the rest of the year. It will also mean teachers can give you an accurate assessment of where your child is working at when it comes to parents evenings which are scheduled for the week beginning 9th November. This will be done remotely; more detail to follow soon.

On Tuesday we had our visit from Ofsted. Two inspectors attended school to find out the impact of the pandemic on the school overall and in particular on our attendance, behaviour, safeguarding and the curriculum. Mrs Pike and I spent the day with the inspectors sharing this information. Our Chair of Governors, James Bennett also joined us for part of the day. It was a very positive visit and somewhat a shame that the inspectors won't be making any judgements. They were simply

collecting information and we are one of 1200 schools chosen at random for a government report into the impact of the pandemic on schools across England. The full report will be published after Christmas. We will only receive a very short letter about our school which I will share with you once we receive it.

Thank you to everybody for your patience with drop off and collection arrangements and adapting to the changes. Overall it is working better and I think we all feel a bit safer with the increased use of masks. The main problem now is traffic congestion, dangerous driving, illegal parking and blocking of neighbour's drives. I have contacted the police to ask them to rota in their PSCOs at these times. I have also contacted the council and requested Traffic Officers to attend at the earliest opportunity. Today our Site Manager was also able to get out and about to help. Please can I appeal to you to look at parking further away and walking your child to school.

With the heightened concern around the pandemic and all the variety of scenarios that present, please find on our website a very useful 'what to do if...' help sheet. You can find it in the 'Range of Helpful Resources for Parents' under 'Coronavirus' or by clicking [this link](#). Thank you to King's Ash Academy for making this excellent document available which I've adopted to fit for our school.

If you have any positive COVID-19 test outcome please report it to us at the very earliest opportunity. During school hours, phoning the school office is the quickest route. If it's out of school hours, including the weekend, please email admin@st-margarets.torbay.sch.uk. This email will be monitored at regular intervals. Knowing quickly will give us more time to plan the next steps. Thank you.

Have a lovely weekend.



Tim Hughes (Headteacher)

Attendance Stars –for 9th October 2020



Whole school for last week: 98.3% (end year school target is 96%)

Class star: Beech Class with 100% - 2 more class stars needed for a Beech non-uniform day!



Individual stars of the week...

Beech	William has shown so much determination, perseverance and creativity all week with his creations. You have been responsible for your own learning and thought carefully about what you will need, how it will look and who it is for!
Pine	Lennon has really taken responsibility for his learning this week by using his signs more to communicate with friends and adults, super work Lennon!
Oak	Finley C has settled into Oak class really well and shows responsibility by trying his best with his learning and helping around the class. Well done Finley!
Apple	Ryan has focused really well during all lessons and completed a listening challenge with 100% success. Excellent all round effort - well done!
Birch	Autumn has been trying extremely hard with her writing this week and wrote a fantastic narrative story! - well done Autumn!
Rowan	Max - for fantastic behaviour on our school trip to Kent's Cavern and taking such an interest in our Stone Age topic
Cherry	Ellie is a wonderful student. She is hard working, helpful and kind. She is always polite and demonstrates all of our school values all of the time. She is a real asset to our class.
Hazel	Jaya - a fantastic effort in her learning attitude from Year 3 to Year 4
Willow	Keira has worked consistently hard since the start of the year and is always willing to help others. She puts 100% into all of her independent work - Well done Keira!
Holly	Karolina has worked very hard this week and has consistently demonstrated our respect core value. She behaves with great maturity and is always ready to listen and learn. Well done Karolina!
Maple	John - you have such enthusiasm and enjoyment of learning and this really inspires others in the class. Your effort in maths has been exemplary and you have shown resilience and determination to succeed brilliantly with the new skill of long division. What an amazing role model you are!
Hawthorn	Lola- you have shown a great determination to do your best in all of our lessons this week! From excellent discussions with your table partner, to beautifully presented work, you have been a fantastic role model in everything you do.