



## Spring Term Newsletter No.8 (6.3.20)

**Year 6 Fun**—A huge well done to all of Year 6 this week who have been doing lots of interesting activities, locally or away in north Devon. Here they have been taking part in archery, climbing, skiing, swimming, pottery, art, whittling, baking and eating. They've been facing their fears and conquering them. Check out the [SMSC Blog](#) to see how they got on at Skern Lodge. I'd like to say a huge thank you to the adults who've given their time and expertise to make of this a success; a massive amount of work goes into projects and events like this. Thank you Miss Wooldridge, Mr Marchant, Mr Robinson, Mrs West, Mrs Chivers and Mrs Broom.

**Science**—Next week is *Science Week* in school when children will be taking part in exciting lessons to inspire their interest. There will be visiting professionals from the working world to see how we use skills learnt in school in the real world. Governors will be looking at our work in Science, Design & Technology, Computing and Maths as part of this. Wednesday is the day for children to bring in their science projects which will be shared with our friends from Dunboyne Court. Check out the [Science Blog](#) to see how Year 1 have been using their plant observational skills this week in preparation from some planting next week.

**PTA News and Events**—Ella Brennan and her wonderful PTA have been busy organising lots of fun events for your children. Keep an eye on the school website calendar, the dates on this newsletter and the PTA webpage to stay up to date. Every Friday from 2.45-3.15 the PTA will be selling pre-loved uniform and a few other things. Visit their shed to see what's there. Tickets are now on sale for the PTA Disco and for the Reception and Years 1&2 Film Night (please make sure you order tickets in your child's year group). Purchase via [www.pta-events.co.uk/smapta](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/smapta). Event details for KS2 to follow soon. Ella's term as Chair of the PTA will sadly soon be coming to an end. Therefore, this is an early appeal to anybody who might be interested in taking over for the new academic year, from September 2020. If you think you might be interested please catch Ella to find out more or leave your name with the office. Thank you very much to the PTA for all their work providing exciting opportunities for the children and raising funds for school.

**School Policy Regarding Earrings**—Following a review of the best approach to children wearing earrings in school, please be advised of the following:

- Children are only allowed to wear stud earrings which should be removed at home on PE days.
- If you are considering having your child's ears pierced, please do so at the start of the summer holidays to give them a chance to properly heal.
- If earrings cannot be removed for whatever reason, please tape over them on PE days before coming to school otherwise they will not be permitted to take part for safety reasons.

**Request for Parents Volunteers**—Reading is the core skill to help children. To help with the school's work to improve reading, we would love to get more adult volunteers in school to help. If you have even 30 minutes spare (e.g. after drop-off in the morning or just before pick-up) and would be willing to help, please let the office know. Or you might know a willing grandparent who would love to help. If so, please ask them to contact school also. Many thanks.

**A Search for Good Quality Books**—Is there anybody out there with a brain wave or link that could help us source new books. Our library is looking a little thread bare and we'd love to restock with good quality new books. Maybe you have an idea for a fund-raiser or a connection in local business with someone who could help. Or any other idea. If so, we'd love to know.

**Traffic Concerns and Road Safety**—Following continued concerns of dangerous driving and conflict before and after school, I have written a letter direct to all parents this week to appeal to everybody to help improve the situation. You can also find a copy of this letter on our website under *Parent and Carers* or by [clicking this link](#). You might also have noticed the attendance of PCSOs on Thursday and the Traffic Enforcement Officer last week. They will be making more frequent visits to help us also. Thank you for your support.

**Volunteer Enforcement Officer Needed**—We are still looking for our own volunteer enforcement officer who can issue parking penalty charge notices. The Council will provide the necessary training, as this has to be in line with the Traffic Management Act 2004. If you are able to volunteer at the beginning and the end of the school day, please can you let the office know. Many thanks.

**Update on Coronavirus**—follow [this link](#) for the most recent guidance to schools—Hopefully you all received my letter on Monday this week outlining our approach to the virus along with some useful advice, a Youtube link and a helpline; all of which continues to be relevant despite the daily changes. Please be advised we are keeping alert to the changing scenario each day and are in contact with the DfE and Torbay to ensure we act sensibly and responsibly. Keep washing those hands and the Wuhan handshake appears to be quite popular. The following website is also updated regularly and provides links to other areas such as travel advice: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

## Miss Palfrey and the Reading Ambassadors' Weekly Book Choices



For our older readers:  
*The Day we met the Queen* by Onjau O Rauf



For our younger readers:  
*Dog Man* by Dav Pilkey

## Weekly Attendance Award



Congratulations to **Oak and Pine Class** for winning the School Attendance Award with 100% attendance. School target: 96%  
The whole school achieved **97.2% last week**

## Stars of the Week

Ash	Evie - for showing such kind and caring partner work in phonics and not only that she has also been trying her best to practise her skills in all areas of learning this week. What a star! Louie -for showing such creativity - a little designer in the making. His creative costume designs have really inspired lots of his friends too!
Elm	Roman - What a very mature and responsible little boy you are. You can always be depended upon to be doing your best and you keep us all so entertained with your super sense of humour. Thank you Roman! Poppy - We are all so impressed by your amazing artistic ability. You have shown us how you carefully plan your creations, organise your materials and produce some beautiful pieces of work..a real artist in the making!
Beech	Ludo - for being such a responsible member of our class. Your confidence to join in with whole class discussions is growing by the day and we must not forget to mention your amazing knowledge of counting in 5'S!!
Pine	Ruby for being an amazing pupil in Pine Class. She always shows respect and kindness. This week she has been taking great responsibility for her learning by sharing her ideas with the class and working hard on all activities. Well done Ruby.
Oak	Lilly-Ella- for her excellent level of respect and aspiration shown in maths this week. It has been lovely to have you sharing your answers and see your confidence grow! Well done Lilly.
Apple	Sofia for really thinking about her work and for working hard to improve her handwriting. Keep it up!
Birch	Owen - For being more responsible in your learning this week. You have been so focussed and aspirational - Fantastic!
Rowan	Rocco - for being a wonderful friend to so many children, showing kindness to everyone and making the class a better place to be!
Cherry	Maisie - for being awesome in many ways but not always realising it! You are always kind and helpful and have been trying really hard with your reading recently. Well done!
Maple	Saphia - Your confidence has grown in maths over the last few weeks. You have worked hard to show your understanding of fractions and it has been great to see you sharing this with other children
Willow	<i>Look out for double winners next week.</i>
Holly	Calleigh - for always being polite and helpful and a good role model of our respect core value. She is also becoming more aspirational with her learning, particularly in Maths.
Year 6	Well done to all of the Y6 children who took part in activities week. It has been so lovely to see how you have encouraged each other to face your fears. You have all been stars!

## Diary Dates

Mon 9.3.20	Last day of the book fair in the library after school
Wk beg 9.3.20	Parents evenings this week for Y1 to Y6 ( <i>excluding</i> Y5 Holly which will take place after Easter) Science and Engineering Week—lots of whizzing and popping coming up
Wed 11.3.10	Science homework fair supported by our friends from Dunboyne Court. <a href="#">Click this link for more info.</a>
Wed 11.3.20—Fri 13.3.20	Science gadgets on sale after school as part of Science Week - process range from 50p to £3.00
Thursday 26.3.20	PTA Disco—more details to follow
Tuesday 28.4.20	R, Y1 and Y2 PTA film night

KINDNESS

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

ASPIRATION