



## Spring Term Newsletter No.2

Y1 and Y2 had visits from a librarian from Torquay library and Y3 and Y4 visited the library this week. They have been learning about how to access the books, how to sign up for membership, etc. The library provide the children with the opportunity to take part in a Book Quest but also hosts different activities through the year. At the moment there is a Lego club where the children take part in a teamwork project on Saturdays from 2pm to 3pm and a Coding Club (the next session is Saturday 20th January from 2pm to 3pm) There are also activities during the day for preschool children. All the activities are free. We really hope you and your child will visit the library whenever you can and take advantage of this amazing free resource! Y5 and 6 will be visiting the library next week.



At the end of next week the Life Education Van will be returning to school. The children love visiting the van to find out about being safe around medicines, staying healthy, etc. All the content covered in the van is part of the children's year group curriculum but is presented in an interactive way through the use of puppets, video clips and discussions. This is quite an expensive resource so we would really appreciate it if everyone could help the school by contributing £1 towards the costs of hosting the van. Please watch out for a letter coming home.

We have put out a plea for any toys your older child may have grown out of. Things we would find particularly useful would be toys for imaginative play (play figures, farm animals, fire engines, castles, etc.) construction toys such as Lego or games such as jigsaw puzzles etc. If you do have anything please drop it in to the office or the Reception classrooms. Equally, if you have any craft materials, colouring books, puzzle books, etc. that are cluttering up your house we would love them for our Arts Garden. Our stock is running low! Many thanks if you can help.

### We are very proud of this week's Star Pupils!



Beech — Sophia has shown outstanding listening skills this week and has been sharing her knowledge with the class.

Pine — Archie has taken responsibility for his learning. Fabulous attitude this week. Keep it up, Archie!

Apple — Olivia is always aspirational and a great role model for the class with excellent behaviour and attitude.

Oak — Saphia has shown excellent listening in maths to complete work independently and support others.

Birch — Thomas has superb behaviour and has been trying very hard to join his handwriting.

Rowan — Leon has shown outstanding concentration, persistence and determination. Keep it up!

Cherry — Katie has great focus in class and made a super effort in our times table homework challenge.

Maple — Amelia is our Star for her improved effort, especially in her writing this week. Well done!

Holly — Cally-Mae has settled really well into our school and has shown a great attitude to her learning.

Willow — Emilia has made a great start to the year and taken more responsibility for her learning!

Hawthorn — Oliver deserves recognition for his incredible attitude and his excellent start to the New Year.

Hazel — Charlotte is Curious, Hardworking, Ambitious, Reliable, Level-headed, Optimistic, Trustworthy, Talented and Ever so supportive of others!

## Diary Date Reminders:

Monday 15th—Maple Class swimming  
Wednesday 17th—Y2 Maths workshop for parents/carers  
(addition) 9:10—10:00 Woodland Studio  
Thursday 18th—The A Games  
Thursday 18th—Life Education Van arrives

Please check the eSchools app or our website calendar for other dates of events happening in school.



Attendance Award  
Congratulations to  
Maple Class  
for winning the School  
Attendance Award with  
97.3% attendance.

They have won a non uniform day on Monday 15th January for winning the attendance award three times. Well done, Maple Class! (Sensible clothes and shoes please as Maple Class are also going swimming!)



As a Rights Respecting School we have a termly focus on one of the 54 articles from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The articles cover all aspects of a child's life and set out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights that all children everywhere are entitled to.

This term we are focusing on Article 24 and the children will be learning more about what this means in lessons and assemblies. Linked to this we are reviewing our Healthy Eating Policy and our lunch provision. As a school we have to

comply with the School Food Standards which ensures that the meals we produce are balanced over the week with regard to carbohydrates, protein, etc. and are low sugar, low salt. Our menus are created with this in mind but it would be good to get some feedback about how you think we are doing. We have created a Survey Monkey Questionnaire about the school meals we provide so if you could find a couple of minutes to answer the questions that would be really helpful for us. Please click on the link sent out in the email with this newsletter to answer the short questionnaire. Even if your child never has school meals it would be good to know why not so we can see if there are improvements we could make.

Recent research by Leeds University showed that only 1.6% of Packed Lunches are meeting healthy food standards. 98.4% of the packed lunches in the research contained too many snacks and sweetened drinks and not enough fruits and vegetables, leading to high levels of saturated fat, sugars and salt and low levels of vitamins and minerals. The School Nutrition Action Group (SNAG) will be getting involved and speaking to their class about making healthy choices and drawing up guidelines for packed lunches.

## Free School Meals

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 automatically get free school meals but you should still register your child to receive free school meals if you are eligible because you are in receipt of certain benefits. By doing this your child's entitlement can be checked on a regular basis and the school will receive valuable additional funding (Pupil Premium Funding) of £1,320 per pupil who is entitled. Children in Y3—Y6 could also be eligible for free school meals. It is easy to check whether you are entitled on Torbay Council's website. They will check your claim and let you and us know if you are eligible. Even if you never intend your child to take up their entitlement to the free meal we would encourage you to apply anyway as the funding the school receives can support your child in other ways (e.g. subsidising the cost of the Y6 Residential, music tuition, etc.) and will benefit the school as a whole. Please click on the link below and apply if you think you may be eligible as this will help the school funds: <http://www.torbay.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals>

## School Census Day—Thursday 18th January. Please help us!

Please support the school by sending your child in for a school meal on this day, especially if they are in the infants or entitled to free school meals as this is the day when the Government counts who has a meal and funds us according to how many meals are taken. It is a roast turkey day so we are running it like "Christmas has come again" and adding in the children's favourite trimmings (sausages and stuffing). The salad bar will also be available for those children who prefer to fill up their plates from there too. To further entice them in, there will also be lucky plates where winning children can choose a treat for their class such as a toy day or a non-uniform day. Last census day we had 93% uptake for our meals —it would be great if, this time, we could receive 100% of the funding we are entitled to for providing school food. Please do encourage your child to have a school dinner on Thursday 18th January! Thank you.

