



Newsletter—Friday 19th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back everyone. I hope that you all enjoyed the Easter break: we have heard lots of stories from the children about their adventures and egg consumption! Here we are in the Summer Term already (the school year certainly does fly by!) and it promises to be a very busy one. Here are a few key dates - there will be more to follow:

- Monday 6th May—Bank Holiday, no school
- W/C Monday 27th May—Half Term
- Monday 3rd June—Non pupil day
- Wednesday 5th June - 'The Selfish Giant' theatre performance in school.
- Monday 17th June - Friday 21st June - Year Six Bikeability.
- Friday 5th July - KS2 trip to The Music Mix.
- Tuesday 9th July - Transition Day. Children move up a year. Year Sixes at CCC.
- Thursday 11th July - TEAM E-safety Day.
- Tuesday 16th July - Sports Morning (all classes).
- Monday 22nd July - Annual Reports go home.
- Tuesday 23rd July - Last day of the school year. Leavers' Service at 2:00pm.

During May and June there will be certain year groups sitting statutory tests. The children work really hard at school and these tests determine whether they have met age related expectations. We will support the children in the lead up to these Government tests and there has, as ever, been a huge amount of effort put in by the children to do the best that they possibly can. During the tests, the children must work independently, so it is important that they are well prepared and that is our focus now - especially in Y6. We are mindful also that these tests can seem daunting and we will certainly not put undue pressure on them. Building and maintaining the children's self-esteem remains high priority. Below are more details about the assessments but if you have any questions then please speak to myself or your child's class teacher.

Year Six SATs:

- Monday 13th May - SPaG test.
- Tuesday 14th May - Reading test.
- Wednesday 15th May - Arithmetic test. 1st Maths Reasoning test.
- Thursday 16th May - 2nd Maths Reasoning test.

Year Four Multiplication Check: W/C Monday 3rd June

Year One Phonics Check: W/C Monday 10th June

We are not just thinking ahead to tests, there are new projects and your child's class teacher will be sending out a curriculum newsletter with more details very soon. We are also looking forward to many curriculum enrichment opportunities this term and details of these will come out over the next few weeks.

Next week—W/C Monday 22nd April 2024

Monday:	Lunchtime Choir Club
Tuesday:	Lego Club KS2 Art Club
Wednesday:	Lunchtime Drama Club
Thursday:	Class 2 PE No Lunchtime Eco Club Y6 SATs Club KS1 Sports Club
Friday:	Class 3 PE Class 4 PE KS2 Lifeguards visit (in school) Celebration collective worship, 3.00pm Y3/4 Football— no KS2 Sports Club

At the end of the term, we will be saying good-bye to Mrs Jones who has been covering Mrs Warner-Smith's maternity absence in Class One. She will be taking up a new role as SENDCo for the Pilton Academies in the trust. Mrs Jones has been a tremendous asset to the school and has been fantastic working with the younger children in the school: I will say more nearer the end of the term. However, you may notice that we are currently advertising for a vacancy in Class One for next year. This is because Mrs Warner-Smith will be having a second baby in early autumn. We have begun the process to recruit a new teacher to work alongside Mrs Game, covering Thursdays and Fridays and will keep you posted on the outcome.

Here's to a great term!

Best wishes,

Rob Norton
Head of School

Attendance Ladder



Our Attendance this week	
Class One	85.15%
Class Two	100%
Class Three	97.08%
Class Four	95.93%

“We are only a few minutes late” - Does it matter?

Being late for school reduces learning time and does not prepare your child for their future working lives.

- Arrival 5 minutes late every day = 3 days of learning missed each year
- Arrival 15 minutes late every day = 10 days or 2 weeks of learning each year

MINUTES LATE	IMPACT ON YOUR ATTENDANCE IN A YEAR
5 MINUTES A DAY =	3.4 days 98.4% attendance
10 MINUTES A DAY =	6.9 days 97.6% attendance
15 MINUTES A DAY =	10.3 days 94.6% attendance
20 MINUTES A DAY =	13.8 days 92.9% attendance
30 MINUTES A DAY =	20.7 days 89.2% attendance



Birthday Time!

Happy Birthday to Ashleigh for the 26th and Clara for the 26th.

What happened at school this week?

These questions are about what has been happening in each class this week and are designed as 'conversation starters' for you to use with your child. We hope that they will provide a useful prompt to encourage conversations about school - talking for just three minutes each day about school has been shown to have a great impact on children's learning!



Learning Lions (Class One)

Can you name the different parts of a flower and explain what those parts do?
Can you make a repeating pattern using 4 different items?
What signs of spring can you spot outside?



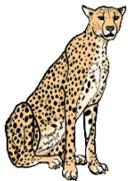
Exploring elephants (Class Two)

Can you find different 3D shapes around your house and talk about their properties?
Can you find out about how castles have changed over time?
Can you make your own spell book?



Inventive Impalas (Class Three)

How do you convert between mm/cm, cm/m and m/km?
What did you learn in our first lesson about Islam?
Why are time fronted adverbials important when writing instructions?



Challenging Cheetahs (Class Four)

What are the formulas for finding area of a rectangle and area of a triangle?
Can you show someone the written methods we use for the four operations?
What areas of maths do you feel you still need to work on?

Home Activities and Homework Tasks

Class One – Reading.

Class Two – Reading for 15-20 minutes each day. Please log reading in yellow Reading Record books.

Class Three— Times tables, spellings, reading log book.

Class Four – Reading for at least 60 minutes (Y6) and 45 minutes (Y5).
Study times table facts.



Next Week's Menu—W/C 22nd April 2024

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Mild Chilli V – Quorn Chilli Rice and Sweetcorn Sticky Chocolate Slice	Pork Sausages V – Vegetarian Sausage Creamed Potato & Seasonal Veg Lemon Drizzle Cake	Roast of the Day - Gammon V – Vegetarian Roast/Fillets Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Veg Fruit Platter	Hunters Chicken V - Hunters Quorn Fillets Rice and Mixed Veg Carrot Cake	Salmon or Cod Fishcakes V – Veggie fingers/nuggets Golden Fries & Vegetables Custard/ Shortbread Biscuit

Class One

This week our learning has matched the weather, spring has arrived! We have explored the concept of spring and the signs of spring, including the blossom, our word of the week. The children have learned about the different parts of a flower and their functions. They even impressed some visitors with their amazing knowledge. Our maths this week has seen us explore and make lots of different repeating patterns using different materials. We have planted sunflowers as part of a competition between some of the TEAM Trust schools to see who can grow the tallest sunflowers. We intend to take very good care of our sunflowers to win the contest!



Class Two

We are excited to be back after the Easter break with our new topic 'Towers, Tunnels and Turrets'. This week, we have learning about how castles were first built and how they designs evolved over time. We used our artistic skills to mix colours and paint large pieces of paper to create a Motte and Bailey castle for our display. We have also started thinking our 'Towers' within our Literacy and Year Two were excited to receive a magical spell book in class. They looked carefully at the book and discussed who it might belong to. The children found some special items in the spell book 'hair strands', 'a witches hat' and 'a green leaf' - they worked together to discover a story where these items might be familiar. They decided it must link to Rapunzel! We have now predicted what we think might happen in the book and we have started reading the first part - the story was not quite what we had imagined! We look forward to finding out more as our lessons unfold...

How to make a model shaduf

Are you learning about ancient Egypt at school? Do you want to amaze your classmates? Make a shaduf, and impress them by demonstrating how the ancient Egyptians moved water from the rivers to the land.

You will need

- two balls of plasticine, 3cm in diameter
- rectangle of card, 10cm x 15cm
- three dowels, approximately 30cm in length
- two pieces of string, 1m in length
- three thick dowels, approximately 15cm in length
- scissors
- square of foil, approximately 15cm²
- glue stick

Method

1. First, flatten one ball of plasticine between your palms. Push and pull the edges until it forms a triangle that will fit over the card.
2. Place the plasticine onto the card. This is the base for the shaduf.
3. Next, tie one end of a piece of string 13cm along the thin dowel. Secure it with knots so that it cannot slip.
4. After that, press the three thick dowels into the corners of the plasticine triangle. Position them so that they cross over at the top, making a triangular frame like that of a tower.
5. Next, ask a friend to hold the structure while you lean the thin dowel against the triangular frame so that the end with the knot is pointing upwards. Lace the string from the dowel firmly around the top of the triangular frame until the structure is secure. The thin dowel should now be hanging off the side of the frame.
6. Tie a knot and cut off any spare string.

7. Following that, push the second ball of plasticine onto the short end of the thin dowel. This acts as a counterweight. The short end of the dowel should drop, forcing the long end upwards.

8. Fold the foil in half to strengthen it and put the glue stick lid in the centre. Bend the foil around it, then remove the lid to reveal a cavity. Gently fold the foil over the sides of the hole to make the bucket.

9. After that, drive the top of a pencil through opposite sides of the bucket to form two holes near the top. Thread the second piece of string through the holes and tie a knot near to the bucket.

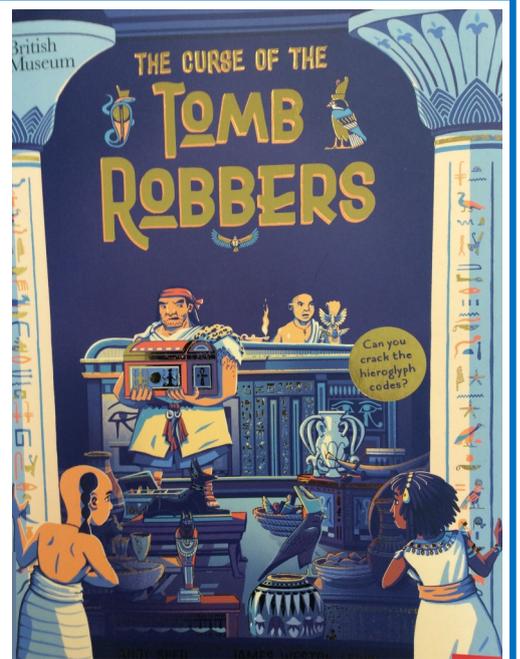
10. Finally, tie and secure the loose ends of the string to the long end of the thin dowel. Your shaduf is complete.

Now, practice using the shaduf to lift and move water. You will be the envy of your friends as you show them how cleverly the ancient Egyptians irrigated their land.

A diagram showing a shaduf, a traditional Egyptian water-lifting device. It consists of a long wooden beam (the shaduf) supported by a vertical post. One end of the beam has a bucket (the shaduf) attached, and the other end has a counterweight. The bucket is used to draw water from a source, and the counterweight helps lift it. The diagram is labeled with 'shaduf' and 'counterweight'.

Class Three—Kaitlyn and Esmay

In maths this week we have been learning about different types of measure units such as cm, mm, km, m, eg $4.48\text{km} = 4480\text{m}$ ($\times 1000$). In history we have learnt what civilisation means. It stands for **Cities, Inventions, Vital water supplies, Information in the form of writing, Leadership, Infrastructure, Social hierarchy, Arts and culture, Trade, Individuals, Organised religion, Nutrition.** (What does this spell?) In English we have analysed an instruction text on how to make a shaduf to help us write our own.



Class Four

This week in Class Four, on Monday morning, we began studying shape in Maths. We have been learning a lot about different aspects of shape, including angles, perimeter and area to help us as the Year Six SATs are rapidly approaching! On Wednesday we had a lovely break from Maths (but only in the afternoon) when we were leaning about 'adaptation' in Science. During this lesson, we learnt how cacti survive in the harsh conditions of a desert. They are adapted with spreading roots that are close to the surface (as the sand is hydrophobic); they have spines to prevent animals attacking them for their nutrients and they have waxy skins. Also, the smaller the cactus is, the less water will be evaporated. Did you know, cacti can live up to two hundred years? On Thursday afternoon, we revisited our last project to complete our retrieval grids. After that, we began our new project about Mexico and the Maya civilisation. We have all worked extremely hard and Mr Norton is astonished at how well we have all done.

Stars of the Week and Reading Stars

Certificates will be presented at Celebration Collective Worship on Friday 19th April, 3.00pm in the church.



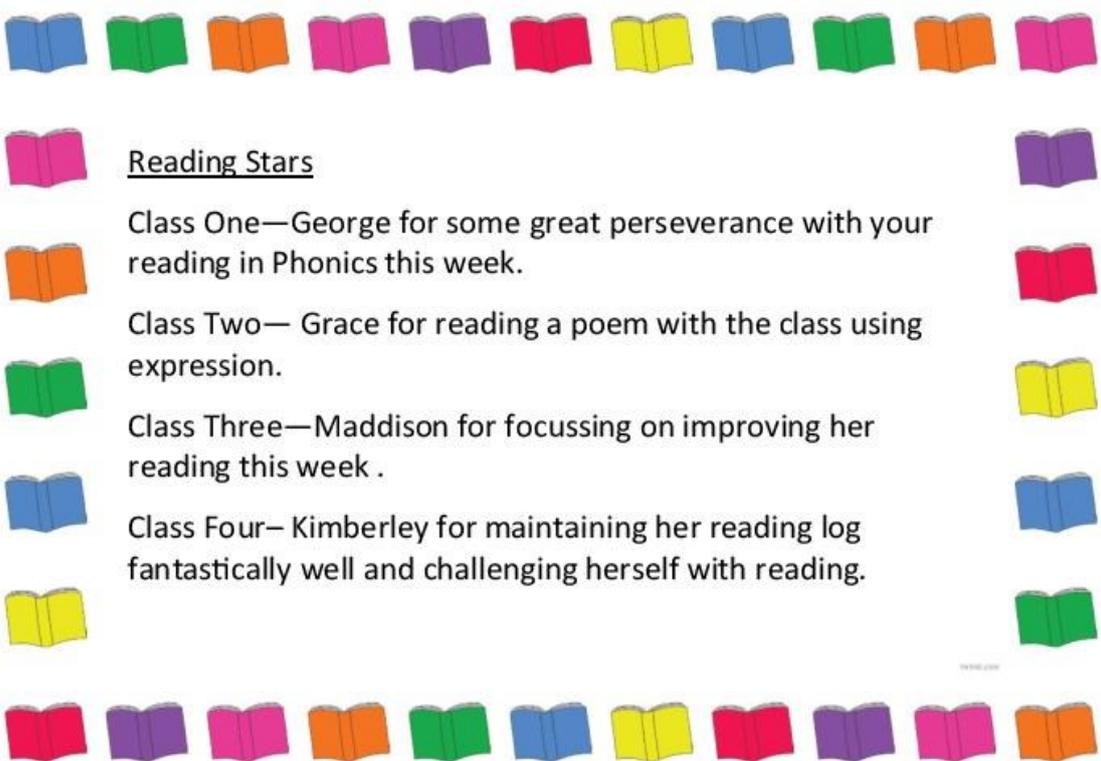
Stars of the Week!

Class One— Arthur for some amazing imaginative play with his friends.

Class Two— Torben for completing his work independently.

Class Three—Frankie for her effort and contributions this week in class discussions.

Class Four—Eloise for working really hard to learn key maths facts at home and in school.



Reading Stars

Class One—George for some great perseverance with your reading in Phonics this week.

Class Two— Grace for reading a poem with the class using expression.

Class Three—Maddison for focussing on improving her reading this week .

Class Four— Kimberley for maintaining her reading log fantastically well and challenging herself with reading.

High Bickington school
PTA PRESENTS

June 15th 24

SUMMER NIGHT PARTY

Includes
Buffet Meal

Dance the night away to
Devons best rock and indie
band

The
**GARDEN
CLUB**

@ Libbaton
golf clubhouse

Ticket only, £20 | START 8PM | Over 18's only

Tickets from Nikki Pearce or

CALL on 07788821670



VACANCY FOR TEACHER
HIGH BICKINGTON C OF E ACADEMY

INVITATIONS ARE INVITED FROM BOTH INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL CANDIDATES FOR THE ABOVE POST THAT WILL BECOME VACANT ON 1ST SEPTEMBER 2024

JOB TITLE: CLASSROOM TEACHER (EYFS/ PRIMARY)

STATUS: MATERNITY COVER / PART TIME/ FIXED TERM UNTIL 31ST AUGUST 2025

HOURS: 0.44 FTE (X2 DAYS A WEEK)

SALARY RANGE: MPS/ UPS

CLOSING DATE: 12 NOON ON THURSDAY 16TH MAY 2024

We are seeking to appoint an enthusiastic colleague to join a thriving primary school. The contract will be fixed term to provide cover for maternity leave. Newly Qualified Teachers are encouraged to apply.

The successful candidate will have a passion for teaching, the ability to inspire and enthuse pupils and a desire to get involved in many areas of school life.

If you would like to work and contribute to a Trust that is committed to providing children with outstanding learning experiences, aims to continually develop and grow, and where teamwork and the professional development of all staff is important, we would encourage you to apply.

We actively welcome visits to our school. Should you have any further questions or wish to arrange a visit, please make contact with our Head of School, Rob Norton, via head@high-bickington-primary.devon.sch.uk

Team Multi Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff to share this commitment. Offers of appointment are subject to the completion of pre-employment checks including an Enhanced DBS check and satisfactory references.

An application form should be fully completed; we do not accept CVs. Full details and application form can be found on our website www.teamacademytrust.com or the Devon jobs website www.devonjobs.gov.uk

Application should be hand delivered, posted or emailed to Sam Stobbs: vacancies@team-mat.org.uk



Registered Office: Pilton Bluecoat Academy, Abbey Road, Barnstaple EX31 1JU T:01271 345952

Mr Ian Thomas – Executive Headteacher

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER 8110847



VACANCY FOR A MEALTIME ASSISTANT
PILTON INFANTS PRIMARY SCHOOL

JOB TITLE: MEALTIME ASSISTANT

REQUIRED: ASAP

HOURS PER WEEK: 7.5 (1 HOUR 30 MINUTES PER DAY AT 11:50AM-1:20PM MONDAY – FRIDAY)

WORKING WEEKS:38 WEEKS (TERM TIME)

STATUS: PERMANENT / PART TIME

STARTING SALARY: £11.60 PER HOUR

GRADE: A

CLOSING DATE: 12 NOON ON WEDNESDAY 1ST MAY 2024

INTERVIEWS: WEEK COMMENCING 6TH MAY 2024

The appointed person will work as part of a team of Meal Time Assistants managed by the Head of School. In-service training will be provided where appropriate.

It's a fantastic opportunity to join a team where you will be valued, welcomed, and supported within a friendly staff environment. Additional benefits include, Membership of a generous pension scheme (TP/ LGPS). Access to Medigold Occupational Health who provide our employees with a range of free health and wellbeing benefits including access to Thrive; a mental wellbeing app. Free Seasonal Flu Vaccinations, Cycle to work and IT schemes, a Competitive Salary, Wellbeing and Long Service days.

TEAM Multi-Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all its staff and volunteers to share this commitment. A DBS check will be undertaken and references taken up before interview. All shortlisted candidates are subject to a pre-employment online search prior to interview.

An application form should be fully completed; we do not accept CV's.

We actively welcome visits to our schools. Should you have any further questions or wish to arrange a visit, please make contact with John Mortimer Head of School, via jmortimer@piltoninfants.school

Full details and application form can be found on our website www.teamacademytrust.com

Application should be hand delivered, posted or emailed to Sam Stobbs, via vacancies@team-mat.org.uk



Registered Office: Pilton Bluecoat Academy, Abbey Road, Barnstaple EX31 1JU T:01271 345952

Mr Ian Thomas – Executive Headteacher

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER 8110847



WE NEED YOU.

We are looking for keen and enthusiastic volunteers to join our Local Governing Bodies (LGB) as a school Governor and/or a Trustee.

Governor

The role of a School Governor is key in ensuring the school offers high standards of education for all children.

Each school within TEAM Multi -Academy Trust has its own Local Governing Body. The LGB meet once or twice a term and are encouraged to join in with our school visits and learning walks throughout the school year. This is a voluntary position and training is available for this role.

Trustee

Our Trustees oversee the strategic direction of the Trust schools along with holding the senior school leadership to account and monitoring the trust's finances– amongst many other aspects of school performance.

They can draw on their own expertise from all aspects of business and industry and have specific interests as part of their role such as – Curriculum, Personnel, Admissions, Finance, Safeguarding, Premises or SEND. They meet approximately 6 times a year as a whole group and are active within a range of committees and individual portfolios.

VOLUNTEERING IN THIS WAY BRINGS MANY REWARDS. YOU WILL ENJOY WORKING ALONGSIDE LIKE-MINDED PEOPLE AND GET REAL SATISFACTION AT USING YOUR SKILLS TO CREATE A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR CHILDREN.

If you are interested in volunteering or to find out more about being a local governor at your school or a TEAM trustee, then we would love to hear from you. Please email vacancies@team-mat.org.uk



For more information, please visit our Governance section on our website: www.teamacademytrust.com