



Dear Parents and Carers,

### World Book Day

Yesterday was World Book Day and what an amazing effort the children (and you parents and carers) put in to their costumes. We had everything from a pair of Oompa Loompas to Lord Nelson; from Gangsta Granny to mother bear from Goldilocks (well done to Mrs Spry and Mrs Kennard for those two); from a dinosaur to a palaeontologist and many more amazing costumes besides. It was so nice that most children had previously read the book that their character had come from - or were planning to do so. WBD is always a perfect opportunity to remind children of the importance of reading and it can really help to spark their enthusiasm, making them excited to pick up a new book. Stories offer a child so much and play a vital role in their growth development. At HB Academy it is our mission to make every child a lifelong reader not only for gaining information but for pleasure too.

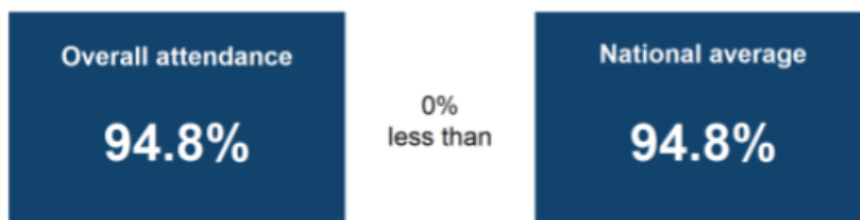
### Attendance

The latest attendance summary report for our school from the DfE shows that we are pretty much in line with the national average for attendance and persistent absence. The overall figures are these:

### Headline attendance and absence

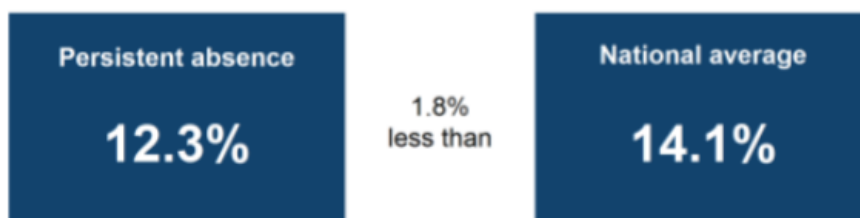
Overall attendance and persistent absence percentage for your school compared to the national average from the start of the academic year 2024 to 2025, up to Tuesday 18 February 2025.

#### Overall school attendance



Overall attendance is 94.8% which is 0% less than the national average.

#### Absence breakdown



### Next week—W/C Monday 10th March 2025

Monday:	Lunchtime Choir Club Arts Award Club 3.30-4.30 (Must have confirmed place)
Tuesday:	Year Five London Residential Class Three PE Year Six SATs Club 3.30-4.30pm
Wednesday:	St George's House Residential Class One Outdoor Learning (afternoon) - please remember your wellies!
Thursday:	St George's House Residential Class Two PE Lunchtime Lego Club
Friday:	St George's House Residential Class Four PE 3.00 Celebration Collective Worship KS2 Sports Club 3.30-4.30pm

It would be great to climb above the national before the end of the year as we know that time away from school will impact negatively on your child's learning. The figures for this week are listed later in this letter. Next week we will be sending out attendance letters for those children who are persistently absent from school.

### **New PE Shed**

Simon and Rosa are going to be busy putting up a new PE shed in the corner of the playground. We will use this to store PE equipment for use at the old site. Once this is in use, we will empty the current shed and use it to store materials for break times.

### **Active Break Time**

We are anxious to provide more activities for children at break times and are looking at ways to make the playground a more interesting place for children. We hope to collect items for creative play once we have space to store them. I will let you know more over the next few weeks.

### **Exmoor Challenge**

A reminder to the eight Y6s who want to be considered for the challenge that we will be doing our first practice walk this Sunday (9th) along the Tarka Trail. Please be at the railway station car park in Barnstaple in plenty of time for our departure at 9:00am. We will be back at the station for 1:00pm.

### **Amazing Class One**

It was so lovely to be up at the new site on Wednesday afternoon and to see the absolutely fantastic outdoor learning and independent activity taking place. I looked out of the window to see 10 or 12 children, all working in the small space of the mud kitchen. The creative, careful and collaborative work that was going on without any adult input, was really inspiring. What a fantastic bunch you are, Class One!

Have a great weekend,

Rob Norton  
Head of School



## Attendance Ladder



### Our Attendance this half term

Reception	92.76%
Class Two	95.29%
Class Three	99.47%
Class Four	94.94%

“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

## Notices

**Class Three** - please could you bring in a tea towel and empty spray bottle for our art project starting W/C 17th March. Thank you.

## Trips and Residential

Class Three St George's House Residential - Please remember the balance payment is due by Friday 7th March.

KS2 Proms Performance - Please complete the consent for children performing by Monday 10th March.

Year Six Bude Residential - Please remember the balance payment is due by Monday 2nd May.

## Next Week's Menu—W/C Monday 10th March

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><b>Cheese &amp; Tomato Pizza</b> Potato Wedges and Peas</p> <p>Tinned fruit and ice cream</p>	<p><b>Meatballs &amp; pasta</b> V – No Meat Meatballs and Pasta Crusty Bread, Peas and Sweetcorn</p> <p>Apple Sponge</p>	<p><b>Roast of the Day Pork</b> V – Vegetarian roast Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Veg</p> <p>Fruit Salad</p>	<p><b>Hunters Chicken</b> V – Hunters Quorn Fillets Rice and Mixed Vegetables</p> <p>Sticky Toffee Pudding with Custard</p>	<p><b>Fish Fingers</b> V – Vegetarian Fingers Golden Fries, Peas and Carrots</p> <p>Shortbread Biscuit</p>



## 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!

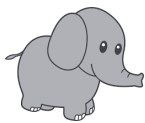


### Learning Lions (Class One)

Can you practise doubling numbers 1-5?

Can you explain how to plant a potato?

Can you draw a picture of something on a farm and label it?



### Exploring elephants (Class Two)

Can you draw or paint a picture of Queen Victoria's Bathing Machine?

Can you find different objects which have axels and wheels?

Can you write or draw all the ways to make the number 9?

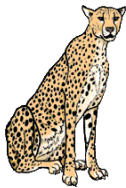


### Inventive Impalas (Class Three)

What is a non unit fraction?

Can you count up to 20 (or beyond) in French?

What did you find out about the Viking gods?



### Challenging Cheetahs (Class Four)

Who were the Tudors?

What other calculations can you work out if you know  $456 \div 19 = 24$ ?

Can you tell someone about your narration script about wolves?

## Home Activities and Homework Tasks

### **Class One:**

Please spend time reading with your child and practising their new phonic sounds, **recording this in your reading record.**

### **Class Two:**

Please aim to read with an adult for 15 minutes each day and **record in reading records.**

### **Class Three:**

Reading log book and Multiplication tables.

### **Class Four:**

Year 6 - read for at least 60 minutes each day and up date your reading log carefully. Year 5 - read for at least 45 minutes each day and up date your reading log carefully. Times table Rock Stars. Complete your Maths homework sheets ready for Monday morning.



## Class One

This week in Class 1 has been full of engaging and hands-on learning experiences. We were curious and creative, as we explored activities around the theme of tractors and other farm vehicles, using our imaginations and problem-solving skills to design and craft our own tractors from a variety of materials, from boxes to playdough. We loved playing with the toy tractors and even experimented with ways to make marks by rolling them through paint, further developing our fine motor skills while prompting us to think critically about how we could make our tractor paint designs unique. In Maths, we revisited the concept of doubles, odds and evens. This gave us the opportunity to think logically, fostering a deeper understanding of number patterns and relationships. Other highlights this week included Shrove Tuesday celebrations, with a range of pancake-themed activities, and World Book Day, during which we took part in a parade of costumes with the whole school at the church. It was a wonderful way for us to express and be proud of our ideas and interests.

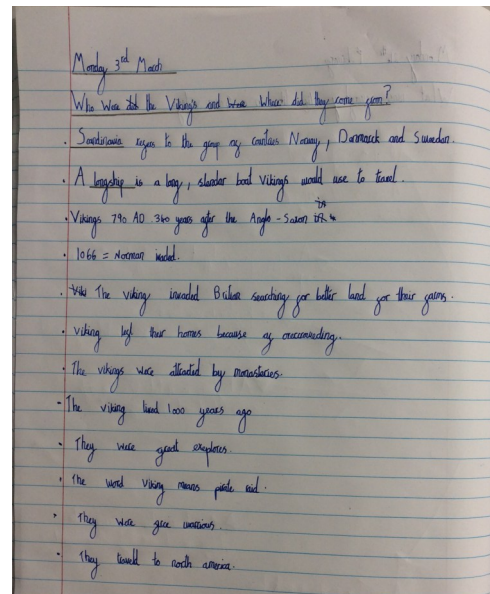
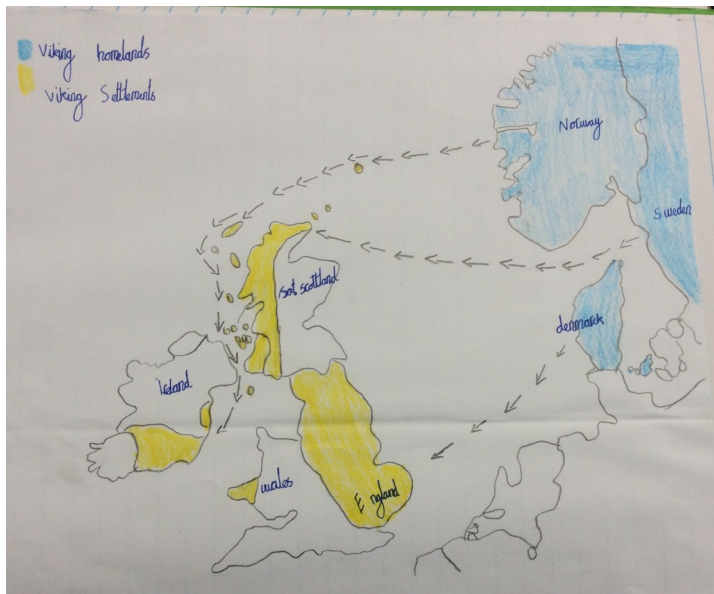
## Class Two

Class Two have enjoyed a fun filled Design and Technology week, exploring the story of Queen Victoria's Bathing Machine. We have learnt all about the importance of the bathing machine during the Victorian times. We have found out how Queen Victoria enjoyed spending time at Osbourne House on the Isle of Wight and how she enjoyed spending time in the sea at Osbourne beach. We have looked at old photos and have seen how the etiquette on the beach was very different to now. Our challenge was to design a new bathing machine for Queen Victoria. We worked on our own and with a partner to create new designs and we created careful diagrams which we labelled. We considered different materials which we could use to make our designs and learnt how wheels and axels work. As the week progressed, we found out about how to create and attach different parts to our designs. We worked hard with our partner to complete them. We are really pleased with our results, they look just great. We think Queen Victoria would be proud!



### Class Three

This week, we have continued our work on fractions, focusing on ordering them, placing them on a number line, and exploring whole fractions. Yesterday, we celebrated World Book Day! We wrote about our costumes and shared our favorite characters. In reading, we learned about Viking gods, including Thor, the son of Odin and the god of thunder. In history, we created our own maps, showing where the Vikings came from and where they invaded. We discovered that the Vikings left their homes in search of more fertile farmland and often raided monasteries and villages.



### Class Four

On Monday this week, we began our incredible and fascinating new project on the Tudors. Class Four also recapped its vast maths knowledge and began to learn about hyphen-usage in English. Tuesday saw us tackle music with Miss Trofa. We also took in half an hour of extra dance with Class Three to have a run-through in preparation for the Prom. We learnt our positions and had a lot of fun! We also completed a maths 'fast-five-a-day' and learnt about finding percentages of an amount. On Wednesday we learnt about climate change and started to create presentations on the chrome books. A few of us also have a SPaG test: it tested many elements of punctuation and grammar knowledge. We completed our study of light with Mrs Rowden. Yesterday, we all took part in WBD; there were so many amazing costumes which we showed off to other classes in the church. It was lovely to see everyone else's costumes - especially the little people from Class One.



### Spring Term Dates

- Wednesday 12th to Friday 14th March – Class Three Residential at St George's House, Georgeham.
- Monday 17th March - 3:40pm - presentation to parents on Y6 SATs.
- Wednesday 19th March - After School Church Club (Limited Spaces)
- Thursday 20th March – TEAM Proms at The Queen's Theatre – KS2 performing at 1:30pm and 6:00pm.
- Friday 21st March - Comic Relief - Non Uniform Day
- Tuesday 1st April – Book and a biscuit 3:30-4:30pm.
- Wednesday 2nd April – Easter Service 2:00pm in the church.
- Friday 4th April - Last day of term.
- **Monday 7th April to Monday 21st April inclusive - Easter Holiday.**

### Summer Term Dates

- Tuesday 22nd April - children return to school.
- **Monday 5 May - May Bank Holiday - no school.**
- Week beginning Monday 12th May – KS2 (Y6) SATs week.
- Sunday 18th May to Friday 23rd May – Y6 Residential at Bude.
- Wednesday 21st May - After School Church Club (Limited Spaces)
- **Week beginning Monday 26th May - Half term week.**
- **Monday 2nd June - Non Pupil Day.**
- Tuesday 3rd June to Friday 13th June – Y4 Multiplication check SAT.
- Monday 9th June to Friday 13th June - Y1 Phonics check SAT.
- Tuesday 10th June – Book and a biscuit 3:30-4:30pm
- Week beginning Monday 16th June - Y6 Bikeability training.
- Wednesday 18th June - After School Church Club (Limited Spaces)
- Wednesday 16th July - After School Church Club (Limited Spaces)
- Monday 21st July – Sports Day.
- Tuesday 22nd July – Leavers' Service 2:00pm. End of school year.







# The parents lottery

Support your school with every ticket



Photography: iStock.com/Dimensions, shutterstock.com/Artem Varnitsin, Illustrations: Freepik



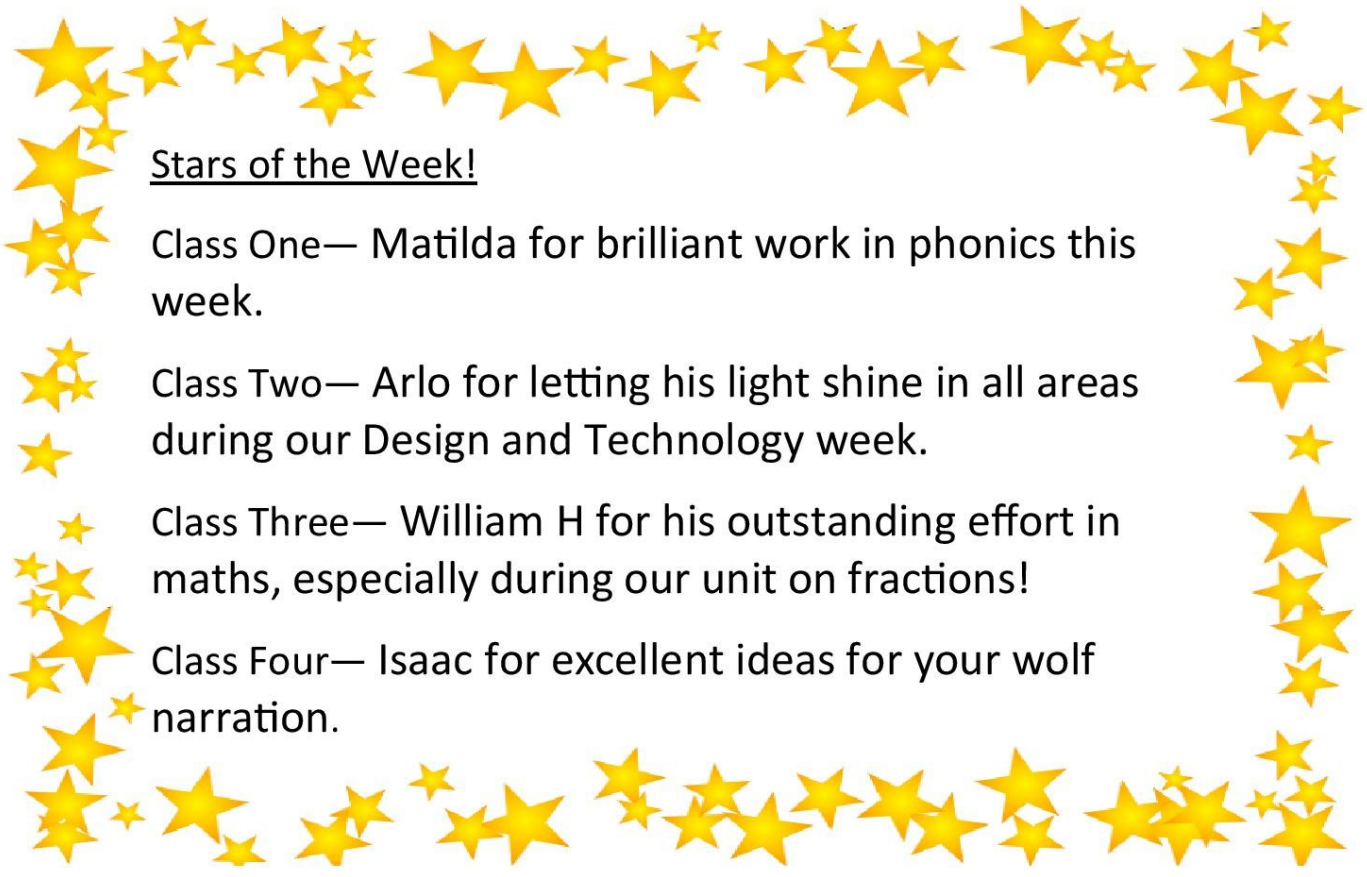
## WIN £25,000 and SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL

Various prizes up for grabs each week! Buy your tickets at [theparentslottery.org](http://theparentslottery.org)



The Parents Lottery is a weekly lottery promoted by Parentkind Enterprises Ltd (PEL Company no: 3884281), a wholly owned subsidiary of Parentkind. It is run under our remote operating licence (Licence no: 057904). The Parents Lottery is strictly 18+ only. Playing a lottery is a form of gambling. If you, or someone you know, needs information and/or help with a problem gambling, please call the National Gambling Helpline on 0808 8020 133.





### Stars of the Week!

Class One— Matilda for brilliant work in phonics this week.


Class Two— Arlo for letting his light shine in all areas during our Design and Technology week.

Class Three— William H for his outstanding effort in maths, especially during our unit on fractions!


Class Four— Isaac for excellent ideas for your wolf narration.




### Reading Stars




Class One— Harry F for reading your new book carefully.




Class Two— Arianwen for reading with confidence and fluency during guided reading and for showing great comprehension.



Class Three— Imogen for her amazing enthusiasm in reading this week!



Class Four— Billy for reading aloud well in guided reading.





# TEAM Multi-Academy Trust Vacancies



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LIFE PRIMARY SCHOOL



*Life, Love and Learning to the Full*

Part of **TEAM MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST**

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*For more information and how to apply directly with My New Term please visit our website*

For more information and how to apply directly with My New Term please visit our website

<https://www.teamacademytrust.com/vacancies>

We currently have 1 vacancy available at Team Multi-Academy Trust:

Meal Time Assistant at Umberleigh  
Primary Academy.







**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](mailto:vacancies@team-mat.org.uk)**



For more information, please visit our Governance section on our website: [www.teamacademytrust.com](http://www.teamacademytrust.com)