



Newsletter—Friday 10th October 2025

Next week—W/C Monday 13th October 2025	
Monday:	
Tuesday:	Class Three PE
Wednesday:	Class One Maths Stay and Play - 9.30 Class One Outdoor Learning (Please remember appropriate footwear) After School Church Club
Thursday:	YR-Y6 Flu Vaccinations Class Two PE
Friday:	Class Four PE 3.00 Celebration Collective Worship KS2 Sports Club

Dear Parents and Carers,

**This week**

**Harvest Collective Worship**

It was so nice to see lots of you at the Harvest Service on Wednesday. The children were great in presenting some of the work they have been doing around harvest and creation. Really well done to Class One whose first time 'performing' it was. As Mr Northmore said, it can be daunting looking out at the sea of faces

in church - especially when you are in a small group. Many thanks to Rev Tracey for your brilliant harvest prayer and special mention to Harker who showed what a good speller he is! Thank you also to everyone who brought in something to go to the Torrington food bank. I am sure it will all be much appreciated.

**Houses of Parliament**

Classes Three and Four welcomed Tomas Williams on Thursday to talk about the work that goes on inside the Houses of Parliament. He answered some very good questions from the children and I know they learnt a lot about the two houses and the three things that parliament does. The Year Five children who are going on the London residential in February will be able to find out more when they actually go inside the building.

**World Mental Health Day**

Thank you to everyone who wore non-uniform (and some yellow) to support this important cause. The day was all about raising awareness of how important mental health is for all of us. Those of you who sent in donations - thank you. We will make sure that these go to the Young Minds charity.

**Next Week**

**Class Three**

Sadly, Miss Trofa is not well and will not be in school for at least the first part of next week. We are fortunate to be able to call on Mrs Rowden - who of course knows the children well - and she will be teaching in Class Three all day Monday and Tuesday.

**Maths Stay & Play**

If you have a child in Class One, please do come along to the Maths Stay & Play on Wednesday. Mr Northmore will be demonstrating what maths looks like in Class One and you will be able to get stuck in with your child. It all starts at 9:30am.

**Attendance**

The overall attendance is looking pretty good so far for the year (and long may that continue) with the various classes coming out as follows: Reception - 98.14%. Class 2 - 97.83%. Class 3 - 98.43%. Class 4 96.74%. Really well done to Class 3 who are leading the way currently ... It would be nice to see Class 4 getting up around that mark. Regular attendance really does matter as even one day missed in the week can leave your child behind in their learning. As I

have said here before, the curriculum is packed and it is difficult for children to catch up on missed learning. It is better for your child to be in, even if they are a little under the weather. A great example of this has been Freddie W in Class 4 this week. Although not 100%, he has been in all week, aided by a dose of Calpol to keep him going, and he has done some excellent work as a result. Really well done, Freddie!

Have a lovely weekend,

Rob Norton  
Head of School

## **Notices**

### **After School Church Club**

Booking for next week's session will open at 7.00pm this evening - please look under 'clubs' on Arbor.

### **Year 5 London Residential**

Please ensure the deposit is paid by the end of Monday 13th October (for those who have previously indicated your child would be attending). If the deposit is not received by this date the place will be extended to those on the waiting list. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

### **Road Closure Next Week**

We have been informed the High Street will be closed next week - please see information and diversion map later in the newsletter.

### **Flu Vaccines**

The immunisation team will be visiting the school on Thursday 16th. If you would like your child to receive the vaccine but have not yet completed the forms, there is still time - please see a reminder of the letter attached with the newsletter.

### **Church Notice**

On Halloween, 31st October (All Hallows Eve), the church will be open from 6.00-8.00pm for trick or treaters, with hot chocolate/juice and gift bags for children.



# Arbor

## **Payments**

We kindly ask that Dinner and Breakfast Club accounts are kept in credit at all times.

Topping up is quick and easy — simply log in to your account, head to the 'Accounts' section, and make a payment by card. If you pay for breakfast club using

tax free childcare, please let Mrs Goss know when you make a payment.

If you're experiencing any difficulties or have any questions, please don't hesitate to speak to Mrs Goss in the school office.



# Arbor

## Annual tasks

It's time for a little housekeeping! Please can all parents and carers to log in to Arbor to:

Check and update your contact details - please review the following and update anything that may have changed:

- Home address - have you moved and forgotten to give the office your new address?
- Mobile & home telephone numbers
- Emergency contacts
- Medical conditions and allergies

Complete your child(ren)'s parental consents for the 2025/2026 academic year, including:

- Dietary information
- Photographs
- Off site activities
- Transport

Renewing these annually ensures that we can keep accurate records.

The photographic permission categories have been updated this year to reflect how TEAM uses photographs of children. Remember we will not name individual children in photographs.

If you have any questions, please contact the school office. Thank you.

## School Calendar

### October

Wed 15th: Class 1 Maths Stay & Play for parents & carers

Wed 15th: After School Church Club

Thu 16th: 'Flu' vaccines

Tue 21st: Class 4 trip to Exeter race course

Wed 22nd: Book and a Biscuit from 3:30pm

Fri 24th: Last day of the half term

W/C Monday 27th: Half Term

### November

Mon 3rd: School restarts

Mon 3rd: DT week begins

Thu 13th: Class 4 Big Event. Trip to Tiverton Museum

Wed 19th: After School Church Club

Fri 21st: Children in Need Day - non-uniform

### December

Tue 9th: Book and a Biscuit from 3:30pm

Wed 17th: School Christmas dinner

Thu 18th: School Christmas production (TBC)

Fri 19th: Carol Collective Worship in the church at 2:45pm

Fri 19th: Last day of term

### January 2026

Tue 6th: School restarts

## February

Tue 3rd: London Residential (Y5) departs

Fri 6th: London Residential returns

Mon 9th: Book and a Biscuit from 3:30pm

Fri 13th: Last day of the half term

W/C Mon 16th: Half Term

Mon 23rd: School restarts

Mon 23rd: DT week begins

## March

Wed 11th: SGH Residential (Y3/4) departs

Fri 13th: SGH Residential returns

Fri 21st: Red Nose Day - non-uniform

Tue 31st: Book and a Biscuit from 3:30pm

## April

Thu 2nd: Easter Service in the church at 2:30pm

Thu 2nd: Last day of term

Mon 20th: School restarts

## May

Mon 4th: Bank Holiday - no school

Mon 11th: Y6 SPaG SAT

Tue 12th: Y6 Reading SAT

Wed 13th: Y6 Arithmetic and Maths 1 SAT

Thu 14th: Y6 Maths 2 SAT

Sun 17th: Bude Residential (Y6) departs

Fri 22nd: Bude Residential returns

Fri 22nd: Last day of the half term

W/C Mon 25th: Half Term

## June

Mon 1st: Non-Pupil Day

Tue 2nd: Y4 Multiplication Tables Check

Thu 18th: Vision Day

## July

Wed 15th: Book and a Biscuit from 3:30pm

Mon 20th: School Sports Morning

Tue 21st: Leavers' Service at 2:00pm

Tue 21st: Last day of the school year

## Home Activities and Homework Tasks

### **Class One:**

Please spend time reading with your child and practising their new phonic sounds.

### **Class Two:**

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

### **Class Three:**

Reading log book, multiplication tables and spellings.

### **Class Four:**

Read for 60 minutes at least (Y6) and 45 minutes at least (Y5). Maths homework to be returned on Tuesday please.



## 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!

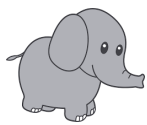


### Learning Lions (Class One)

Can you use more than or fewer than to describe two sets of objects?

Can you begin to hear your new sounds in words?

If you were to choose, what would you have as a pet?



### Exploring elephants (Class Two)

Can you show on a map where the Jurassic coast is?

Find a picture of the Jurassic coast and draw or paint it. Can you remember why it is so important?

Can you count confidently in 2s, 5s and 10s? (Year Two)

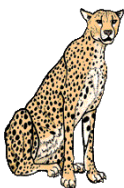


### Inventive Impalas (Class Three)

Can you explain how to round to the nearest 10?

How did you persuade the witch to return the happy endings in our drama activity?

What did you learn about Parliament from our visitor on Thursday?



### Challenging Cheetahs (Class Four)

What can you remember about the Houses of Parliament?

What do you know about the Solar System?

Can you retell the Creation Story from the Bible?

## Next Week's Menu—W/C Monday 13th October 2025

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Burger in a bun/ veggie burger</b> Hash brown, beans, peas  Fruit crumble and custard	<b>Beef Pasta Bolognaise</b> V – veggie bolognaise Crusty bread and vegetables  Fruit muffin	<b>Roast of the Day Gammon</b> V – Quorn Fillet Roast Potatoes and Seasonal Veg  Fruit salad	<b>Hunters Chicken</b> V – Hunters Quorn Rice and vegetables  Chocolate Sponge and Chocolate Custard	<b>Cod or Salmon Fishcakes</b> V – Vegetable fingers Golden Fries and Seasonal Vegetables  Cracknell

## Class One

What a busy week we've had in Class 1! In maths, we have been learning how to create a repeating pattern. We have had the chance to create our own shape and colour patterns, and even created sound patterns using musical instruments. We have also been comparing amounts of objects using the vocabulary of 'more than' and 'fewer than'. In phonics, we have continued to work hard learning the set 1 sounds, and have practiced building and blending simple words using magnetic letters. In addition to this, we have continued with our printing topic in art. This week, we have created rubbings using leaves, coins and even different surfaces within the outside area. A big well done to the children for also taking part in the harvest festival on Wednesday and thank you to all family members for coming to watch.

## Class Two

We have worked super hard in Class Two this week, with lots of interesting learning. On Monday we enjoyed learning all about Harvest. We focused on how important it is to give thanks to God, Farmers and people who make it easy for us to have the food we need each day. We enjoyed learning and practising our song for the Harvest Collective Worship and used our craft skills to make our autumn headbands. In Maths this week, we have been building on our place value knowledge which we have learnt so far and Year Ones have started to find out how to partition numbers into two parts using 'Whole Part Models'. They have started to understand how these can help us write addition number sentences to show the two parts which add to make the whole. Year Two have been exploring the number system to 100 and have been looking for patterns and rules when counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. Miss Phillips, our student teacher, has been working alongside the Year One Read, Write Inc group with Mrs Pearce, teaching the children their Set 2 sounds. Next week, Miss Phillips will join Mrs Laurence's group with Literacy. Mrs Laurence's group have had an exciting week, finishing of their 'Where the Wild Things Are!' stories and immersed themselves in their next part of their learning, discovering monster footprints, using drama and acting out what it would be like to meet a Wild Thing. They then discovered a book 'A Guide to Wild Things'. The children will be finding out more about the information inside and will develop their writing skills to add to the information book.



### **Class Three - Reggie and Lily**

In literacy we have been thinking and writing about the lost happy endings in our story. In our writing we have been concentrating on fronted adverbials, prepositions and apostrophes for possessions. In maths we have been rounding to the nearest 10, and looking at Roman numerals. For example 49 is written XLIX. In topic we have learnt more about Romans and the Iceni leader called Boudicca. In PE we have played baseball, with catching and throwing skills.

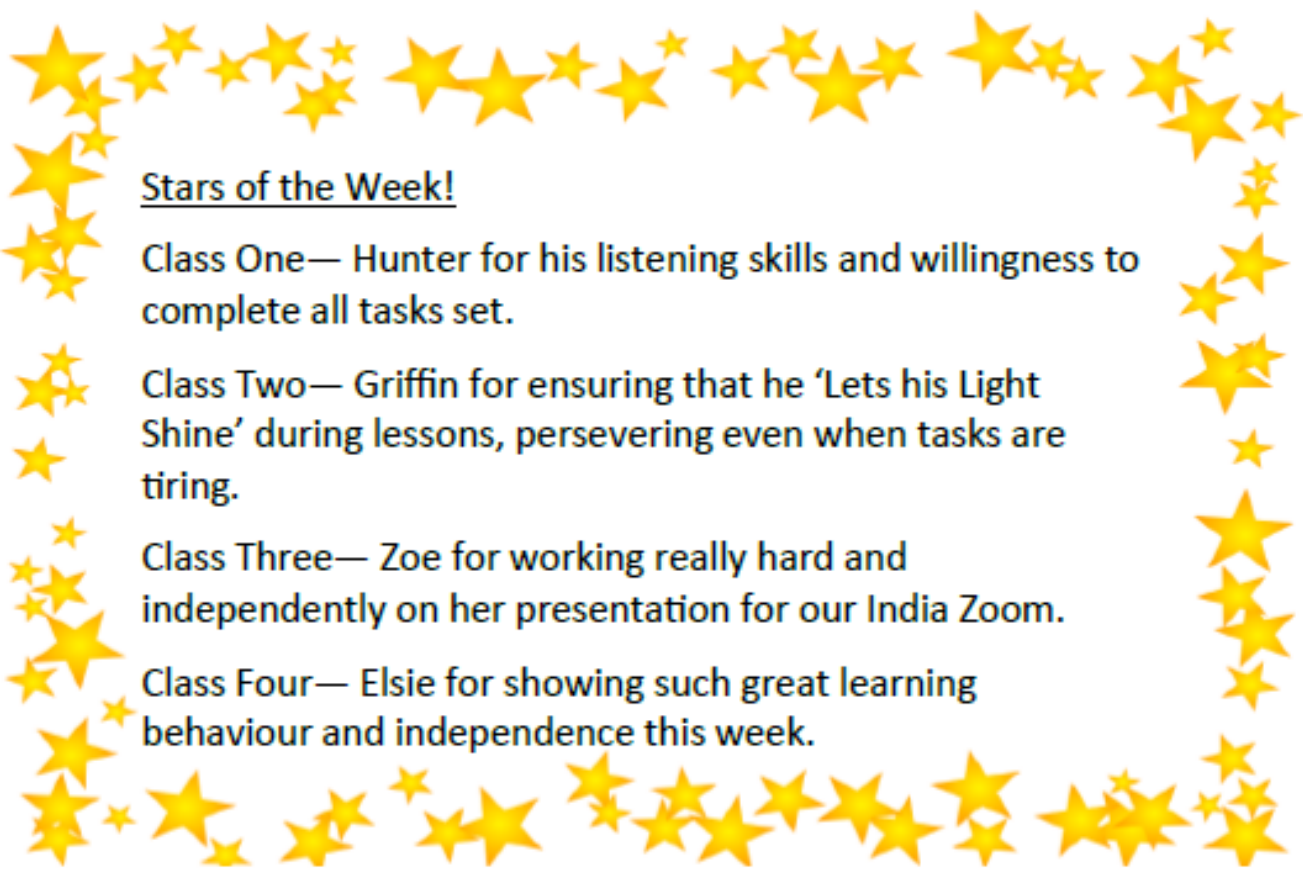
### **Class Four**

We have had a busy week and a bit in Class Four. Last Friday we welcomed Luna North into our class. Luna is a professional artist specialising in print-making. She taught us how to work through the different steps in print-making and we all made beautiful prints of scenes from an industrial town during the Industrial Revolution. First we had to sketch the scene that we wanted to portray. When we were happy with this, we transferred the design onto a special lino tile. We had a practice at cutting the lino with very sharp tools before we began, so we knew that we would have to simplify our designs to make it possible to etch them into the lino. Once we were happy that we had cut away all of the lino from the parts that were going to be white, we inked up a roller and rolled ink onto the parts that were still raised. Using a special 90-degree corner bracket, we put smooth paper over the top and firmly pressed it onto the lino cut. When we carefully peeled it away, we were left with our designs ... but back to front!

Yesterday, we had a visit from Tom Williams who works for the Houses of Parliament. He explained about how the two houses work to hold the Government to account; debate issues and create new laws for our country. He told us that the MP for Torrington and Tavistock (the constituency that HB sits in) is Geoffrey Cox. He was voted for by people over 18 at the last General Election. We asked him some good questions and several of us were able to answer some of his questions too.

Today we have been busy typing out our 'Hound of the Baskervilles' suspense narratives. In PE we are starting to learn some Tag Rugby skills and seven of us are going off to play in a mini-festival on Monday.





### Stars of the Week!

Class One— Hunter for his listening skills and willingness to complete all tasks set.


Class Two— Griffin for ensuring that he 'Lets his Light Shine' during lessons, persevering even when tasks are tiring.

Class Three— Zoe for working really hard and independently on her presentation for our India Zoom.


Class Four— Elsie for showing such great learning behaviour and independence this week.




### Reading Stars




Class One— Rowan for his terminology of key elements of a story.




Class Two— Reuben for being really enthusiastic to read his Accelerated Reader books and for passing three quizzes in one week!



Class Three— Hadley for his positive attitude to his reading, making great progress.



Class Four— Megan for demonstrating good understanding of texts in guided reading.





Any articles which appear in the school newsletter, that have not been organised by or on behalf of the school, have not been verified by TEAM Multi-Academy Trust as to the suitability for children. The news items are for parent information only.

**B I N G O**

**TO RAISE MONEY FOR THE**



Royal Devon  
Hospitals Charity

**TOPLESS  
SWIM  
2025**

**LADIES  
ONLY!**

**WEDNESDAY 15TH OCTOBER**

**VENUE: HIGH BICKINGTON COMMUNITY CENTRE  
DOORS OPEN AT 6.30PM, EYES DOWN AT 7.30PM**

**£10 PER BOOK**

**RAFFLE**

**TEA AND COFFEE AVAILABLE**

# TEAM Multi-Academy Trust Vacancies



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We currently have 2 vacancies available at Team Multi-Academy Trust:

Cover Supervisor at Witheridge Church of England Primary Academy

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