



Happy New Year

Happy New Year to all families and our community. It has been a pleasure to see the children enjoying being back at school, keen and ready to learn. There are lots of exciting opportunities coming up this term which we are sure will create brilliant experiences for the children.



Stars of the Week

Jacob L – *Flourished* with enjoyment and ideas; great predicting skills

Megan – Showing great *ambition* to do well in her learning

Riley – For settling well into his new school

Thomas – For resilience in Maths and handwriting

Team Points: Willow

SENDCo provision

This term we welcome Jacqui Dart as our Special Educational Needs Coordinator. Mrs Dart has extensive experience in SEN provision with the Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust.

We thank Mr Williams for his time and commitment to our school and wish him the best as he starts a new role at The Promise School in Okehampton.



Spring Term Swimming

We are pleased to continue to offer weekly swimming sessions to all our children this academic year. The sessions for children in KS2 started this week. If you haven't already done so, please make payment via School Gateway.

New Menu

The new Spring menu was emailed to families this week. We are proud to provide freshly cooked hot meals for our children daily. Please book meals in the normal way via School Gateway.

After-School Clubs

Clubs begin again next week – please book individual sessions via School Gateway. There is no charge for clubs, and we are grateful to all the staff who give up their time to provide extra opportunities and enrichment for our children.

Forest School

Ranger Rob will be starting Forest School again on the 18th of January with EYFS, Years 1, 2 and 3. All future dates are on the dates section at the end of the newsletter and on the website calendar.

Mental Health Assembly and Workshop

Local Cllr Tony Leech has provided funding to support pupils' mental and emotional wellbeing through a fully funded assembly and workshop around mental health. The sessions will be run by Youth Mental Health Foundation, who are a non-profit organisation that supports young people's mental health in Devon.

To date, the organisation has visited over 90 primary and secondary schools in Devon and delivered assemblies and workshops to encourage and inspire young people and destigmatise mental health. The assemblies are delivered by the CEO's 18-year-old daughter, Jade, who has now delivered her message to over 35,000 school children in Devon.

Jade's work has received a lot of recognition, She is a Mind Devon Ambassador, has been interviewed on the ITN News, the BBC, BBC Radio Devon, subject of a short film and has been shortlisted for a National Diversity Award in the category of 'Positive Role Model for Young People'. Most recently she has been invited to be a keynote speaker at a United Nations global conference on neurodiversity.

The Youth Mental Health Foundation will be delivering the following workshops at Bridestowe Primary:

'Believe in Yourself and Follow Your Dreams' assembly presentation: Wednesday 11th January

- For Snowy Owls and Barn Owls
- Delivered virtually

'What's Your Genius' workshop: Friday 13th January

- Barn Owls Only
- Delivered in person

To find out more information about the workshops which your child will be part of you can visit their website:

<https://www.youthmentalhealthfoundation.org/believe-in-yourself-school-assembly>

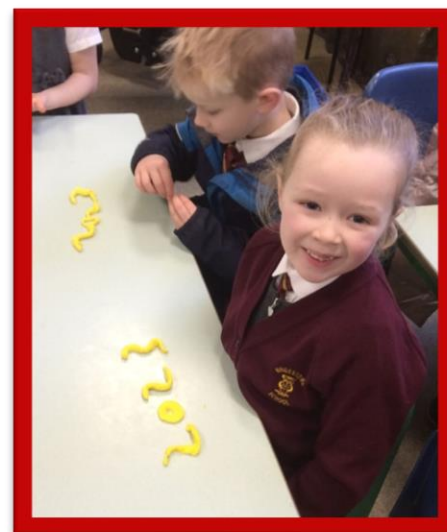
And watch a short documentary about Jade's work called 'What's your story': <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7CHYEgLA3jg&t=8s>

If you have any further questions please do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher or email questions to admin.



Tawny Owls

The Tawny Owls have been celebrating the new year this week, discussing their own and others ambitions. They have also had the opportunity to develop their fine motor skills using playdoh - creating the numbers 2023!



The children are learning about Islam. This week they looked at the Muslim belief there is one true God and that Allah has 99 names. To reinforce the children's understanding that although Allah has many names it has one meaning, they went on a word hunt. They read the word they found and then had to find people with similar meanings.

Reminders

A few reminders at the start of a new term:

Uniform – our uniform expectations are on the website here: [Hub - Parents - Carers - BRIDESTOWE PRIMARY SCHOOL \(bridestowe-primary.devon.sch.uk\)](https://www.bridestowe-primary.devon.sch.uk) and I would request parents ensure their children have the correct uniform, shoes and PE kit. FoBS have a wide range of second-hand uniform for sale and unbranded items are very acceptable. If you are struggling with the finances for uniform, please speak to school staff as we would be happy to provide support with this.

Healthy Schools – As a healthy school, we encourage children to make healthy choices in their diet and lifestyle. We therefore ask that children have water in drinks bottles and, if they bring a snack, this be fruit, vegetables or healthy alternative. More information can be found here: [Healthier snacks - Food facts - Healthier Families - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk)

A reminder that we are a nut-free school.

School day – We expect children to be in class for registers at 09.00am. Please ensure your child is at school on time to avoid missing any learning time. School gates open from 08.50am. Being 5 minutes late each day will add up to 3 whole days lost learning by the end of term.

Head Lice

Please check your child's hair regularly for head lice, using conditioner and a lice comb. If live lice are found please treat accordingly. While your child is clear of lice, a useful natural deterrent is to use a few drops of tea tree oil in 100ml of water, which can be sprayed onto hair on a daily basis before school. Thank you for your support.

Next Week

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| Monday | *RRR Club, Y6 only 3.15-4.15pm |
| Tuesday | *Film Club 3.15-4.00pm |
| Wednesday | *OCRA Club 3.15-4.15pm; *Board Games 3.15-4.00pm KS2 Mental Health Assembly |
| Thursday | *Cheerleading Club 3.15-4.00pm; *Recorder Club 3.15-4.00pm |
| Friday | Barn Owls Mental Health Workshop KS2 Swimming Deadline for Primary School Applications – September 2023 |

*Your child must be booked into after-school clubs via School Gateway in order to take part

Diary Dates

January

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|------|--|
| 18th | Forest School – EYFS, Years 1-3 Ability Games @ Parklands – selected children |
| 20th | KS2 Swimming |
| 24th | Okehampton Swim Gala – selected children |
| 25th | Forest School – EYFS, Years 4-6 |
| 26th | STEM Coding @ Okehampton Games – selected Year 6 children |
| 27th | KS2 Swimming |

February

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|-------------|--|
| 1st | KS2 trip to Paignton Zoo |
| 3rd | KS2 Swimming Cross Country @ Simmons Park – selected children |
| 8th | Forest School – EYFS, Years 1-3 Homework Share – 3.00pm |
| 9th | KS2 Swimming – final session Last Day of Term |
| 13th – 17th | Half Term Break |
| 22nd | Forest School – EYFS, Years 4-6 |
| 24th | EYFS and KS1 Swimming – first session |

March

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|------|---|
| 2nd | World Book Day |
| 3rd | EYFS and KS1 Swimming |
| 8th | Forest School – EYFS, Years 1-3 |
| 10th | EYFS and KS1 Swimming |
| 17th | EYFS and KS1 Swimming |
| 21st | Forest School – EYFS, Years 4-6 Odd Socks Day |
| 24th | EYFS and KS1 Swimming |
| 27th | Parental Book Look – 09.00am |
| 31st | EYFS and KS1 Swimming – final session Last Day of Term |

Mr A. Hill – Principal
ahill@dmatschools.org.uk
01837 861361

Whole School Attendance

95.1%

LET'S TALK PRE-TEENS

Dates:

- Tuesday 17 January
- Tuesday 24 January
- Tuesday 31 January

Free support sessions for parents and carers



Have you got a 9-12 year old? Join us online for a chat about some of the challenges young people are facing today, find out what tools you can use to support them.

We'll be running twilight sessions throughout January covering topics such as:

- **drugs and alcohol**
- **body image**
- **safety online**
- **mental health**
- **social risks**
- **peer pressure**



Weekly 90 minute sessions starting at 7.00pm



Visit **saferdevon.co.uk/lets-talk-teenagers** to find out more about each session and book your free place.

Safer Devon

Working together to make Devon even safer

STAY SAFE ON NEW DEVICES

Whether you're an internet newbie or a pro at surfing the web, it's always important to keep online safety in mind. We've pulled together a list of top tips to make it easier for you to protect yourself and your devices in the digital world - helping you steer clear of hazards like misleading information and vicious viruses. There's never a bad time to refresh your internet safety knowledge, but it's an especially smart thing to do before you start using any shiny new devices!



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