

Our Bridestowe Family

Today we confirmed September staffing and were pleased to be able to offer the consistency of all four classes being taught by known adults.

Mrs Baker will become a full-time teacher of Owlets, providing security and consistency for our new September starters. Mrs Lammas will remain as Tawny Owls teacher, providing stability in the key year groups at Key Stage One. Mrs Harris and Mrs Sharland will both be increasing their teaching time at school and leading Snowy Owls and Barn Owls respectively. Mrs Sherring provides strong experience and stability as a known adult for one day a week in both classes. This builds a superb Key Stage Two team who will provide the very best support for our learners as they move through our school.

This strong teacher team will be complemented by Mrs Davies, Mrs Houghton, Ms Dewsbery and Mrs Dixon. All four are strong and experienced Teaching Assistants who have excellent relational skills with our children. Mrs Dixon joins us from Okehampton Primary School and has a previous 25-year career as a teacher, adding huge experience to our team.

Mrs Reid's appointment to be Deputy Headteacher at a nearby school is to be celebrated as is Mrs Brendon's completion of her Qualified Teacher Status assessment, which allows her to take up a full-time teaching role within our Trust.

Mrs Butler's, Miss Spooner's and Mrs Green's redeployment to other Moorland Hub schools means they remain part of our Trust family.

All will be forever welcome at Bridestowe and we wish them the best in their new roles.

Stars of the Week



Juliet – *flourishing* in Creative Art work

Flynn – *flourishing* in science activities, and sharing his ideas

Lara – *flourishing* in her times table recall

Year 4 and 5 – showing *ambition* and *respect* whilst on residential and representing the school so well

Team Points: Oak

Year 4/5 Residential

The Year 4/5 children have had a fantastic 3 days in north Cornwall this week on their residential. 76 children from 8 small schools in our Trust came together for 3 days of adventurous activity and team building. The highlight certainly was the day Surfing at Polzeath beach – seeing the children challenge their fears and conquer the waves was amazing to experience.

The children made new friends and built confidence in all areas – thank you to them all.

Menadue Gallery



Sports Day



We are looking forward to Sports Day next Wednesday. Families are invited to join us for a picnic lunch from 11.45am on the field before events begin at 12.30pm.

Mrs Berry will be providing a special school picnic lunch for the children, and families are asked to bring along their own lunch to enjoy. School lunch options are: Chicken Nuggets/Quorn Nuggets, Potato Wedges, veg sticks and a cupcake. Sandwich options will also be available but not Jacket Potatoes. Please order in the normal way via School Gateway.

We are watching the weather forecast carefully and are very hopeful the much-needed rain waits until Wednesday evening! A decision on postponement will be made no later than Tuesday morning. Our back-up date, if needed, will be the 18th of July.

There will be NO Running Club after Sports Day

FoBS Summer Fair

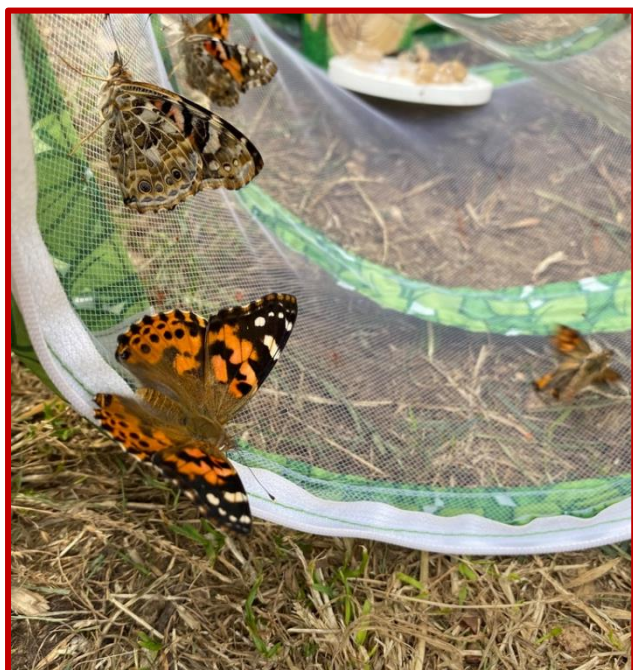
Next Friday is FoBS summer fair – FoBS kindly request donations of bottles of wine for the ever popular 'wine or water' game and also cakes and bakes for the refreshments stall. Please hand any donations to a FoBS committee member by Friday morning. Thank you

NEU Strikes

Both Wednesday 5th and Friday 7th July are planned strike days by the NEU. We expect the school to be open as normal, however this cannot be confirmed definitively until the morning of the strike days. Information was sent earlier this week.

Butterfly Release

The Owlets released 10 butterflies into the sensory garden. The children enjoyed observing them fluttering from flower to flower.



Words of the Week

In order to develop the children's vocabulary, each class teacher chooses one word to discuss and model using in class with their children. Here are next week's words:-

Owlets - different

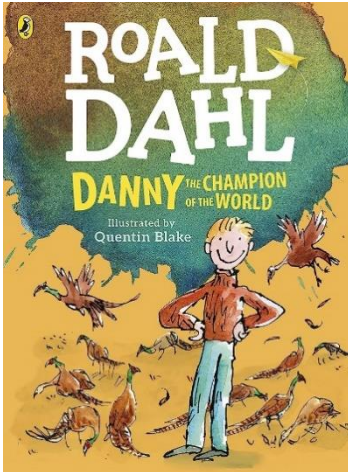
Tawny Owls - determined

Snowy Owls - elated

Barn Owls - repetition



Book Review by Mrs Reid



"Danny Champion of the World" by Roald Dahl

Imagine being 9 years-old, waking at 2 in the morning, then getting into an old car and driving it around dark lanes to find a missing person (don't do it!). This is the sort of adventure that Roald Dahl had the imagination to include in "Danny, Champion of the World".

What seems like a story of childhood idyll is tinged with sadness. Danny lives in a caravan at the garage his father owns and runs in the countryside, going to school, learning how to maintain and fix car engines, and observing the sometimes strange people who live locally. His mother died when he was very young, and there is that sense of loss, despite the fact that the story demonstrates to us what a fantastic father Danny's dad is throughout.

Naturally, this being a Roald Dahl story, a nasty character appears who needs to be overcome. It comes in the form of Mr Victor Hazell, a wealthy landowner who threatens Danny with retribution should he find fingerprints on his Rolls Royce after it has been worked on in the garage.

This triggers a plan to humiliate Mr Hazell involving poaching, pheasants, raisins and several local, sympathetic community members.

There is plenty of suspense, and a sense of danger in this story, as well as joy and triumph, but its real magic lies in its invention and clever plot twists.

Listen to an hour and a half long fully dramatized recording of the story by clicking on this link: _

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OsZf8ykhvA>

Time to Talk

As part of our school focus on getting children talking and improving their Oracy, we have a topical, weekly question and picture for you to discuss as a family:-



The Met Office issued yellow hot-weather warnings to seven regions across England last weekend including the South West.

What can you do to stay safe in the sun and keep cool?

Watch and listen to the Slip, Slop, Slap and Wrap Summer Safety Song for Kids animation by clicking on the link below:-

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MfoBA3cBJSM>

Next Week

Monday	*Mindfulness Club 3.15-4.00pm; *Athletics Club 3.15-4.00pm
Tuesday	Local Heroes – Meet the Police Officer *Photography Club, 3.15-4.00pm
Wednesday	Potential Industrial Action Sports Day and Picnic Lunch NO RUNNING CLUB
Thursday	September Intake Transition Afternoon, 1.15-3.05pm *Cheerleading Club 3.15-4.15pm; *Cricket Club 3.15-4.15pm
Friday	Potential Industrial Action Open the Book Assembly Parental Book Look, 2.45pm FoBS Summer Fair, 3.30-6.00pm

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

Diary Dates

July

10 th	September Intake Transition Afternoon, 12.00-3.05pm
12 th	Forest School, EYFS, Y1-3 KS2 Summer Performance, 1.30pm @ Methodist Chapel
13 th	September Intake Transition Afternoon, 12.00-3.05pm
14 th	Football Workshop
17 th	Forest School – EYFS, Years 4-6 Y6 Meet The Tutor Evening @ Okehampton College
18 th	September Intake Transition Day Reserve Sports Day
19 th	Circus in a Day – Whole School
20 th	Y6 Beach Trip
21 st	Leavers' Assembly Last Day of Term

Mr A. Hill – Principal

ahill@dmatschools.org.uk

01837 861361

Whole School Attendance

95.6%



Your child is invited to sign up for this year's Summer Reading Challenge.

Sign up at Okehampton Library!

Opening Hours

Monday	09:00-17:00
Tuesday	09:00-18:00
Wednesday	09:00-13:00
Thursday	09:00-17:00
Friday	09:00-18:00
Saturday	09:00-13:00

devonlibraries.org.uk/web/arena

4 North Street, Okehampton EX20 1AR

Throughout the **summer holidays** - 8th July – 16th September

Launch with fun free activities on Saturday 8 July 09:00-12:30

Sign up early and start the fun!

Summer Reading Challenge 2023

When?

**Ready,
Set,
Read!**

Presented by The Reading Agency.
Delivered in partnership with libraries.

What is the Summer Reading Challenge?

Children aged 4-11 are invited to set a reading goal and collect rewards for their reading. The Challenge encourages them to keep reading during the school summer holidays – and to enjoy anything they like to read! It's **FREE** to take part.

It has been created by the Reading Agency and is delivered by libraries across the country. For 2023, The Reading Agency has teamed up with Youth Sport Trust for 'Ready, Set, Read!' a sports and games themed Challenge that will encourage play and participation.

How can a child take part in the Challenge?

- Visit your local library and sign up for free.
- Set a reading goal for the summer (usually 6 books) and borrow and read books, eBooks and audiobooks. Your child can choose anything they like to read!
- Receive a Challenge folder and collect special stickers and rewards for reading.
- Complete the challenge, claim your certificate and medal and be entered into our prize draw and FREE swim ticket for those completing at Okehampton Library, kindly donated by Fusion Leisure! Have your photo taken with our finisher's trophy!
-

Why should my child sign up?

- They will be **better prepared to return to school** in the autumn.
- Becoming more independent in their reading boosts children's **confidence and self-esteem**.
- The library provides **free access to books and fun family activities** all through the summer.
- Library staff are on hand to offer support and book recommendations.

Your child will be part of a UK-wide programme developed by [The Reading Agency](http://TheReadingAgency)

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

AMINO

AGE RESTRICTION
12+

PETS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MODERATION GAPS

Amino has a 12+ classification in the App Store and a 'Teen' rating on Google Play. However, certain communities on the platform have little to no moderation in place – increasing the potential for more adult-themed content to reach young users. It's also possible to create an account without proof of age, raising the possibility of even younger children finding their way onto the platform.

UNSAFE CONTENT

The central concept behind Amino is for users to share content, then make and receive comments on these uploads. The level of anonymity that the platform offers (someone's true identity can be completely obscured behind their username, for instance) means that it would be extremely difficult to stop suggestive or outright predatory comments and messages being sent to young people.

INAPPROPRIATE IMAGES

Like most social media, Amino offers easy sharing of images. Its community guidelines state that any suggestive photos of under-18s will be removed immediately, but of course this doesn't prevent inappropriate pictures being seen by a young person. Not all of Amino's communities are rigorously moderated, so there's a chance that some unsuitable images could temporarily evade detection.

Amino is a social media platform offering a large group of subcommunities under one digital 'roof'; it was envisaged as the online version of a convention, where fans gather to celebrate a shared interest like comic books or sci-fi, for example. While many such platforms are harmless spaces for devotees of a certain TV show or video game to congregate, there are still some aspects that trusted adults should be aware of. With a focus on sharing user-generated content, the idea of Amino is for users to communicate with like-minded individuals – but even that can create plenty of hazards.

COMICS & COSPLAY

MEMBERSHIP COSTS

Amino+ is a premium membership for the platform, offering a bevy of customisation options such as stickers, 'moods' to display and an exclusive profile badge. Users can also purchase one-off cosmetic items including different styles of chat bubble or profile frames. If your child has payment methods available via their device, they could potentially make these in-app purchases without you realising.

REPEATED USAGE

As a social media app, Amino is focused on keeping its communities engaged and coming back for more. Part of this approach is encouraging people to build up 'streaks', as users are awarded 'reputation points' for logging in regularly. This type of mechanism, of course, always carries the risk of young people feeling a compulsion to repeatedly check in with the app, further increasing their screen time.

Advice for Parents & Carers

TALK ABOUT IT

If your child is old enough and chooses to download and use Amino, it's probably wise to remind them of some online safety basics – such as how not everyone in the digital world is who they claim to be, for example, or not to give out personal information online. It might also be a good idea to go into the app's settings and disable incoming chat requests from users that your child doesn't know.

STAY UPDATED

Ensure that your child knows to report any upsetting or worrying online content they might see to you. As much as possible, try to stay aware of which communities they're joining on Amino. Most of these areas are well moderated and full of innocent conversation about common interests, but on any platform of this breadth, there's always the potential for chats to veer off into potentially harmful places.

MEMBERSHIP MEDIATION

If your child asks for an Amino+ membership but you're not entirely comfortable with that, be prepared to explain your decision in depth. Young people's sense of injustice can naturally become inflamed when their friends have things that they don't. Parents of older teens, meanwhile, might actually decide to agree to the membership request but continue to monitor their child's activity on the app.

MONITOR SCREEN TIME

If you haven't already, you might want to consider setting up controls such as Family Sharing (on iOS devices) or Family Link (on Android) so, from your own device, you can keep an eye on how much screen time your child is having – and what apps they're spending it on. This can be extremely useful with regard to platforms such as Amino, which can be quite addictive and reward repeated use.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is editor in chief of gaming and esports site GOREcon.com and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent who understands the value of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and games, his articles have been published on influential sites including [IGN](http://IGN.com) and [TechRadar](http://TechRadar.com).



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Source: <https://www.dailyrecord.co.uk/news/scottish-news/mum-horrified-after-daughter-10-18773339>



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