



Clare Davies (Head teacher and DSL)  
Kere Ascot & Sharon Bisby (DDSL)  
Robert Oxborough (Safeguarding Gov)  
7<sup>th</sup> November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers.

We have had a wonderful week back following the thoroughly well-deserved half-term break and well I could not be prouder of how well our learners have hit the ground running, demonstrating our school values in abundance. The amount of 'Amazing work that I have had the pleasure of being presented with is testament to the determination by our learning community to move things up a gear with accelerated progress across the board in all subject areas. It has been so encouraging to hear how our team are demonstrating our recent focus of Perseverance both in school and in their home lives. It has been truly wonderful to hear how they have persevered with personal challenges both in their extracurricular endeavours and of course with their application to their daily task work.

Thank you for all your support with the Diary entries over half-term the staff and I have really enjoyed sharing these with the children and are in the process of compiling a folder to publish these in. I will share the Extreme Reading entries in assembly on Monday, please share any outstanding entries with me over the weekend.

This week we welcomed Miss. Guest who is undertaking her final teaching practice of her 3-yr Bed degree with Plymouth University. She will be full-time until the 30th of January.

Finally, this week I have had the immense pleasure of showing round 5 prospective families at our first Open Morning this week. I am always so incredibly proud of our offer and the calm, purposeful learning environment. All the families shared how impressed they were and were very keen to understand the application process. Following the visit one of our prospective families even took the time to email me; *Thank you so much for showing us around your school today, it is such a wonderful place for children to learn and flourish. We were delighted to have the opportunity to meet with some of your children and hear how happy they are. Your offer really is incredibly special. We appreciate that we currently live out of catchment, but we can now see why you are the school of choice in West Devon –*

What a simply wonderful way to end the week – thank you for all your care and support.

### Diary Dates:

- 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> Anti- Bullying week
- 10<sup>th</sup> – **Odd sock day** – send you child/ren to school in colour ODD socks !!
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Remembrance Service at the war memorial in Mary Tavy from 11am. Prefects to lead service.
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Mr..Simber Teaching and Learning review  
Open Morning for new Reception families 26  
Flu vaccinations
- 13<sup>th</sup> – Castle Drogo XCountry competition KS2
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Children In Need – wear something spotty
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Willow workshop 7pm
- 21<sup>st</sup> – Funky Socks Day -Fill a mug.
- 24<sup>th</sup>- Funky Hair Day- Chocolate donation
- 26<sup>th</sup> – Forest School for Class 2
- 27<sup>th</sup> – Mrs. Higham Sustainability Conference  
Class 3 Theatre Trip
- 28<sup>th</sup>- Christingle @ St Mary's Church Mary Tavy  
Wreath Making 7pm

### December

- 2<sup>nd</sup>- Indoor athletics KS2
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Forest School Class 3
- 5<sup>th</sup> – Dickensian Evening
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Santa Run in aid of Children's Hospice SW
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Whole School Nativity
- 11<sup>th</sup> – Xmas Jumper Day
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Class 1 Theatre Trip - AM  
Christmas Fair – 3:15pm
- 16<sup>th</sup> – Nativity Performance 2:15pm
- 17<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Lunch
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Nativity Performance 2:15pm
- 19<sup>th</sup> – Break up for Christmas
- 20<sup>th</sup> – PTFA Breakfast with Santa 9- 12pm

### Intent Drivers – Our Core Values

Perseverance

Aspiration

Respect

Collaboration

## Headteacher Award's

In Celebration assembly today we celebrated all our children for their immense confidence in projecting their voices to the whole school. ALL our children from Reception through to Year 6 clearly articulated who they wanted to be when they grew up.

I am incredibly proud of ALL our children for their developing confidence and for simply giving it their all.

A tremendous well done also to our wonderful parents/carers for all your efforts and creativity. It really does mean the world to the children to proudly display all the effort that has gone into their costumes.

Thank you .



Enjoy, Learn, Succeed **Reading** is to the mind, as exercise is to the body,

The more you **read**, the more you know, the more you learn, the more place you go – *Dr Seuss*

'Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world '*Nelson Mandela*

# Our Tor House System

Our Tor House System promotes a positive and inclusive culture. The system is embedded to promote our School Values and promote a caring and supportive environment; where all are valued and can demonstrate loyalty and allegiance while contributing to the success of their House.

This week there will be a roll over due to the postponed celebration for Doe Tor on their success last half term. We are hopeful that next week we will have an opportunity to get up to the field for their well earned celebration.

| House           | Captain and Vice-Captain | Highest earners This week: | Points this Week | Points total |
|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Hound Tor House | <b>Iona</b>              |                            |                  |              |
| Doe Tor House   | <b>Elizabeth</b>         |                            |                  |              |
| Fox Tor House   | <b>Harrison</b>          |                            |                  |              |
| Hare Tor House  | <b>Lottie</b>            |                            |                  |              |

We continue with our values education project this term. **Our house system is based on our Core Values** The values that make up our intent drivers are **Aspiration, Respect, Collaboration, Perseverance**

Our Tor House System promotes a positive and inclusive culture. The system is embedded to promote a caring and supportive environment; where all are valued and can demonstrate loyalty and allegiance while contributing to the success of their House

Launching the next value in our values education project, **Aspiration**. We define Aspiration as being full of hope for something better and working hard to make it happen. To go out into the world and make the best of the gifts they have been given and to use them for good. Some examples of behaviours that demonstrate this value are:

- Having ambitions including careers and dreams
- Aiming high!
- Setting targets
- Knowing what to do to achieve a target.
- Not giving up, showing persistence and resilience
- Looking positively for solutions
- Being hopeful that difficult situations can be made better.
- Being aspirational for others

Please could you discuss 'Aspiration' with children at home and explore ways to reinforce.

As a parent/carer, your hopes and aspirations for your children include them: being healthy and happy. having skills and confidence to explore and venture out into the world to play and learn. ... to develop a degree of strength and resilience as well as problem solving skills for those times when life presents a challenge. Next week the Head teacher awards will be given to those children who have been aspirational.

| Mary Tavy and Brentor House System 2025-26   |   |   |  |
|--|---|---|--|
| <b>Fox Tor</b>   |   | <b>Hound Tor</b>  |  |
| Harrison<br>Aston<br>James<br>Leo<br>Reuben<br>Charlotte J<br>Tayah<br>Persephone<br>Harriet<br>Henry C<br>Ammanuel<br>Dexter<br>Andri<br>Archie | Emmeine<br>Ember<br>Max<br>Darcy<br>Beth<br>Edward<br>Avel<br>Millie<br>Rosie<br>Daphne<br>Connie N                       | Alisa-Mai<br>Iona<br>Berlie<br>Emma<br>Otto<br>Eleanor<br>Loren<br>Rafferty<br>Florence LR<br>Jack<br>William H<br>Niamh<br>Emmy                | Sebastian<br>Louis<br>Lottie H<br>Elowen<br>Freddie CC<br>Elizabeth H<br>Rosie<br>Logan<br>Mia<br>Sophia<br>Matthew<br>Isabella  |
| 25   |   | 25  |  |
| <b>Hare Tor</b>  |   | <b>Doe Tor</b>  |  |
| Lottie<br>Thomas<br>Harry<br>Ruby<br>Bill<br>Caleb<br>Charlotte G<br>Woody<br>Anni<br>Evel<br>Bobby<br>Lily<br>Savannah                          | Rax<br>Aaron<br>Thomas<br>William F<br>Ollie<br>Maya<br>Freddie D<br>Annabelle<br>Zachary<br>Reuben A<br>Willow<br>Gracie | Rupert<br>Elizabeth<br>Theo<br>Violet<br>Frederick<br>Henry M<br>Florence B<br>Anya G<br>Cameron<br>Albie<br>Luna<br>Joseph<br>Finley<br>Baelyn | Roseanna<br>Freddie S<br>Connie J<br>Elsie<br>Bodhi<br>Charles<br>Sophie<br>Sienna-Grace<br>Lily-Rae<br>Jack<br>Sybil<br>Elsbeth |
| 25   |   | 26  |  |

## Tips to achieve your Aspirations



Have ambitions and aspirations, including careers and dreams



Aim high



Set targets

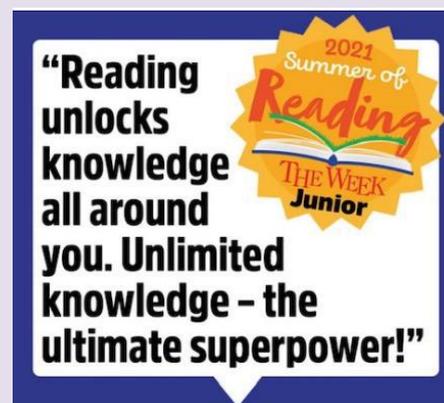
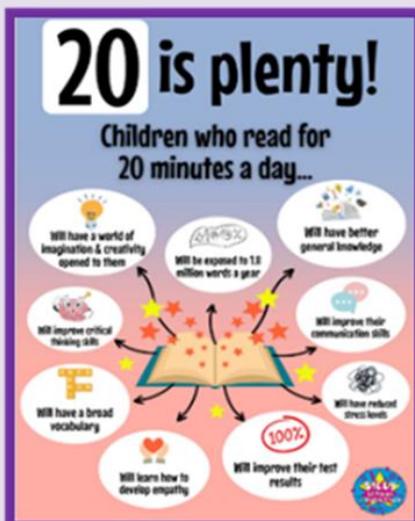


Know what to do to achieve your target

Thank you to all parents/carers who are supporting our drive to reading excellence in school. Our amazing SAT results proved we are a 'Reading School' Please do try to keep up the rigour and sustain the daily reading. We cannot emphasise enough how vitally important it is that the children read with you for **at least 20mins** daily!!



At Mary Tavy and Brentor we believe that all pupils should have the opportunity to be fluent, confident readers who are able to successfully comprehend and understand a wide range of texts. We want to foster a love of reading exposing children to a good knowledge of a range of authors. We want our school to be a place where children are read to, enjoy, discuss and work with high quality books.



What awesome Extreme Reading entries I have received this week. Theo (Yr5) and Max(Yr2) took there reading to the next level high above the skies of London whilst on the London Eye.

Sophie (Yr1) in true athletic Sophie style shared an image of herself upside down whilst reading.

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'Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world' *Nelson Mandela*



# Remembrance Day



The Royal British Legion have once again provided us with a variety of poppies and poppy appeal goodies.

If children and parents would like to purchase items our Chair and Vice Chair will be selling poppies in the courtyard at drop off and pick up on Monday.



We hope as many of you as possible will join us at the War Memorial in the village on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November for a service of remembrance and thanks at 11am. We will be placing our felt poppies and willow wreaths at the memorial in honour of those service personnel who gave their tomorrows.

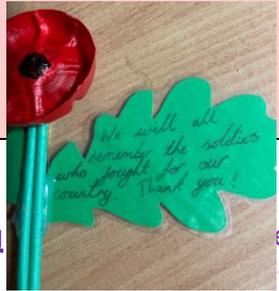


## 2024



## 2022

## 2023



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'Nelson M

# We are mathematicians.



Mathematician

Please do encourage your child/ren to spend time each week accessing our online platforms. It is vitally important that they have this additional time consolidating their 'quick fire' mental math's recall.

**We will be introducing weekly times table test from Year 2 and would encourage you to support your children with learning these at home. It is vital that they know all their timetables to 12 – quick-fire as in year 4 they will undertake a National Assessment against the clock.**

It is imperative that all children continue to learn and practice their times tables; recall is a skill that the children must continually practice. Please do support your child/ren to access the <https://www.timestables.co.uk/multiplication-tables-check/> and another site Math Frame has many free math's games linked to the National Curriculum <https://mathsframe.co.uk/> I would encourage all children from year 2 to access these and to test themselves on the multiplication –tables check.

It is vitally important that they have this additional time consolidating their 'quick fire' mental math's recall.

## Who will be on our leader board next week??????

**Numbots highest user:**

**Reception: Elowen**

**Year 1: Joseph**

**Year 2: Harry**



**Rockstars highest user**

**Class 1: Reuben**

**Class 2: Freddie. D**

**Class 3: Thomas**



"Pupils should be taught to recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to  $12 \times 12$ ."

GOV.UK

**Annually in June the Year 4's sit the Multiplication test.** This is a randomised test of 25 times tables up to 12.

**Aspiration** we aspire to get a 100% pass rate. In order to achieve this, **we need you** to practice times tables daily.

Children in Reception and Yr.1 should be accessing this platform for at least 10min per week. Logins in your child's reading record

Children in all years from Yr. 1 should be accessing the TTRS platform weekly for at least 20min. Children in Yr. 1 need to know their 2's, 5's and 10's timetables and children in Yr. 2, need to know their 2's, 5's, 10's, 3's, and 4's times tables by the end of the year.

It is imperative that from Yr 1 upwards that you practice their times tables at home with them to ensure that they commit these to their long-term memory. **Please make this as fun as possible for maximum success.**

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## Curriculum Enrichment 3:15-4:30pm

Autumn 2 2025 / 26

| Monday | Tuesday  | Wednesday                        | Thursday  | Friday   |
|--------|--|----------------------------------|---|--|
|        | 1:1 Music lessons with Dan Hilman AM<br><br>Plymouth Argyle football Club<br>Year 1 +<br>£6.60 | <b>Bell Ringing – Mr. Hinton</b> | Craft<br><br>Computer Club<br><br>Yoga<br>Dodgeball | <u>Cross Country Club –</u><br><u>Lunchtimes</u><br><br>Yr 2 3,4,5,6 |

**Wrap Around Care.** Breakfast Club daily is available from 7:45-8:45am at a cost £4:00 before 8:15am and £1:50 after 8:15am  
 Our After School Provision 15:15- 17:30 is available at a cost of £9:50  
 Please contact the admin team if you would like to book your child onto either of these last minute as I wish for the provision to be as helpful as possible to our families. For those who know their requirements in advance please complete the parent mail form that is sent out a week in advance.



Mary Tavy and Brentor Primary School

Are you looking for a community school with a nurturing and child centred approach?

- Breakfast and afterschool provision
- An aspirational curriculum & learning excellence
- Outdoor learning on the edge of Dartmoor
- A caring and inclusive school community

Perseverance, Aspiration, Respect, Collaboration



Its Odd Sock Day on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November! 🧦

We're standing up to bullying by celebrating what makes us unique! Pupils and staff at MTB are encouraged to wear their boldest, brightest and most mismatched socks to show that being different is something to be proud of. 🌈



**“UNEXPECTED KINDNESS IS THE MOST POWERFUL, LEAST COSTLY, AND MOST UNDERRATED AGENT OF HUMAN CHANGE.”**

Bob Kerrey



Please remember if non-uniform day is next Friday – we ask the children wear something spotty.

Please continue to support and drive home our Positive Behaviour Policy, three warnings on the board will lead to reflection time either in a parallel class or with myself. The children complete a reflection sheet to assist with de-escalation, regulation and engagement.

## MTB's 3Rs Reflect, Reset, Ready to Learn

### We are Musicians.

Dan delivers 1:1 music lessons on a Tuesday morning weekly.

We love our mornings when Dan is in to deliver the 1:1 music lessons as part of our Music Wider Opportunities Offer. Our Musician in Residence Dan Hillman is currently providing Flute, Piano, Guitar and Clarinet. Lessons. Dan is a multi-instrumentalist specialising in saxophones, clarinet, EWI and flute with over 11 years' experience in the music industry. He has both classical and jazz training.

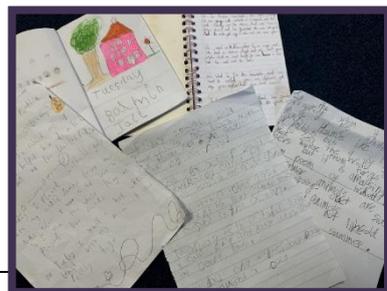
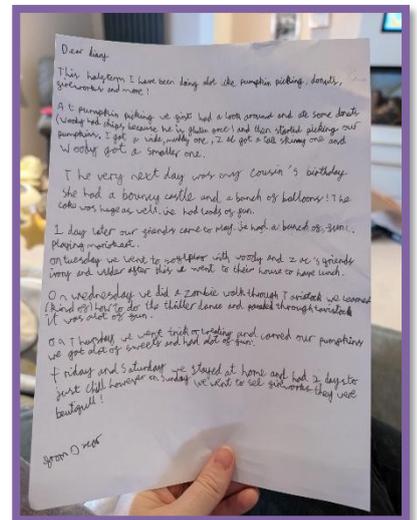
As a teacher, Dan is on the faculty of colleges and schools in Devon teaching individuals and classes. He freelances for the Tavistock Area Learning Community as a class instrument tutor.



Musician

# Half term diaries

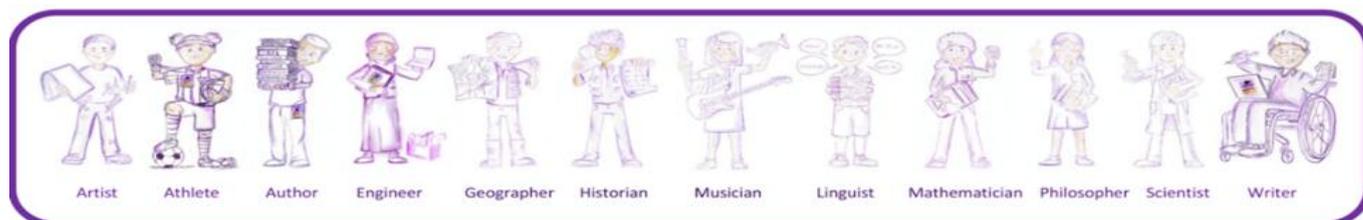
Thank you to all those parents/carers who supported their child/ren to complete a diary over the half term. I have been completely blown away with the care and thoughtful presentation. I will return them to the children to keep as a keepsake. Each child who wrote a diary was awarded 10 house points.



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What we know about how children learn, is that when we teach children skills and knowledge in isolation, like punctuation in English, they rarely make links to other subjects. Even when they are writing about Brunel in History or how plants grow in science, they tend to forget how to apply the same English skills. This is in part because the information stored in the brain is locked up in the 'English folder', and why would they open that box when they are in History or Science?

We believe States of Being move away from content in subject folders and uses clusters of knowledge that can easily be applied between subjects. By learning how to punctuate as an Author, they can use this knowledge when they are being Scientists as they start to understand that Scientists also need to write to convey what they have discovered. Please remember to ask your child As a Historian, Engineer, Mathematician what have you been discovering today????



## MTB's 3Rs Reflect, Reset, Ready to Learn

Please continue to support and drive home our Positive Behaviour Policy, three warnings on the board will lead to reflection time either in a parallel class or with myself. The children complete a reflection sheet to assist with de-escalation, regulation and engagement.

# MTB Community News



ON Wednesday Niamh (Yr3) attended her first session at 'Girls do Football'. She really got stuck, persevered and aspired to really gave it her all, so much so they sent her home with a trophy!  
To say she was pleased and proud of herself was an understatement and she's so excited to go back next week.  
Well done, Niamh we are all so incredibly proud of you at TeamMTB

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# Team MTB PTFA



MTB Cake Raffle Congratulations to Daphne (Rec) on winning the most fabulous Chocolate Fredo Cake and to Ruby, William, Evie and their mum Millie for kindly making it.



**Chairs:** Kayleigh Goodman and Millie Bickell

**Treasurer:** Gemma Insole

**Secretary:** Janna Sanders

*Involvement, help and support in any capacity will be welcomed at any time throughout the year. We have decided that for each event planned in our calendar we will have a Working Party for parents/carers to volunteer their time to organise and run these events. The next event is the Team MTB Pumpkin Patch. Please do come forward to offer your time and support to enable this event to be truly memorable.*

MARY TAVY & BRENTOR PRIMARY SCHOOL

## Christmas Fair

Raffle with amazing prizes

Food & Drink

WINTER WONDERLAND GROTTO WITH FATHER CHRISTMAS

Fun & Games including a kids craft station

Visit our Christmas Farm

Market Stalls & Wrapping

**12th**  
DECEMBER  
3:15 PM - 5:30 PM

MEET SANTA IN HIS GROTTO & RECEIVE A GIFT. £4 PER CHILD. VIA PARENTMAIL OR CALL 07787 994220

MARY TAVY & BRENTOR PRIMARY SCHOOL PL19 9PR

Enjoy, Learn, Succeed  
The more you read  
'Education is the m

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# PTFA EVENTS

PLEASE BOOK VIA PARENTMAIL

NETS OF LOGS £5 EACH  
COLLECTION FRIDAYS 3-4PM  
FROM SCHOOL

WILLOW WORKSHOP 18TH  
NOVEMBER 7PM AT SCHOOL

WREATH WORKSHOP 28TH  
NOVEMBER 7PM AT SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS FAIR 12TH  
DECEMBER 3.15PM

BREAKFAST WITH FATHER CHRISTMAS  
20TH DEC AT CORONATION HALL 9-12



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VISIT FATHER CHRISTMAS IN HIS GROTTTO  
RECEIVE A GIFT

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20TH  
DEC.

## Breakfast with Father Christmas

**BREAKFAST, DRINKS & RAFFLE**

MARYTAVY CORONATION HALL 9AM-12PM

[Milliebickell@outlook.com](mailto:Milliebickell@outlook.com)

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## Mary Tavy and Brentor Community Primary School



Are you looking for a community school with a nurturing and child centred approach?

COME AND VISIT US !



Wrap around care - breakfast and afterschool club.



An aspirational curriculum & learning excellence.



Outdoor learning on the edge of Dartmoor. Forest School for ALL at our school field



A caring and inclusive school community.

Open Mornings: 5<sup>th</sup> October, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> November

Tel: 01822 810384 | email: admin@marytavyandbrentor.devon.sch.uk



We are a school who love to read!  
2024-25  
100% achievement in:  
Reading KS1 & KS2



## Mary Tavy and Brentor Primary School Perseverance, Aspiration, Respect, Collaboration

Please join us for a tour of our wonderful little school where all our children are nurtured and their passions and interests enhanced.

We are proud of our exciting, ambitious, creative and challenging curriculum. Our extensive extra-curricular activities include: Chess, Cross country running club, Bike club, STEM club, Musical Theatre, Coding, Choir and much, much more.

We pride ourselves on academic, sporting and artistic excellence.

Discover the MTB approach at our Open Mornings :

Tel: 01822 810384 or

email: admin@marytavyandbrentor.devon.sch.uk



# Admissions September 2026

Online applications open for a place in next year's Reception on the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2025 for children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022. The deadline for Reception applications is Saturday 15 January 2024

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/children-families-education/education/school-admissions/>

I will be hosting visits to our wonderful little school in the coming weeks for parents of children due to begin Reception in September 2026. If you have a child who is due to begin school in September 2026, please book onto one of the open mornings. Also, if you have any neighbours or friends who would be interested, do let them know what a wonderful school we are! We have fliers that we can share with you to give to local nurseries or drop through doors – please like and share our social media pages to spread the news far and wide.

## We are athletes

Please ensure your children have their PE kit in school every day as we have decided to be a little more responsive to the weather forecast and will take the runners out mid-week if the weather forecast looks to deteriorate come Friday. It is essential to enable us to offer this level of flexibility that ALL runners have their PE kit in school every day to ensure they do not miss out on ad hoc extra running sessions.



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# And finally.....

To launch the third of our Values this term Aspiration, today our wonderful team came to school dressed as a vision of themselves in their chosen careers. From vets, to farmers, to supermarket managers, to chefs, to police officers, to engineers, to professional cyclist, to singers, to fishermen, to tree surgeons, to teachers, to underwater scientists, to artists, to mechanics, to lorry drivers, to a Japanese teacher, to activists, to horse riders, to a boxer, to a professional footballer, to a fashion designer, to an environmentalist, to an inventor, to a zoo keeper, to an author, darts player, professional golfer, scuba diver, to a volunteer, to a pilot, soldier, zoo keeper, businessman, football manager, , surfer, archaeologist, tennis player to an Olympic gymnast- what a truly wonderful wide variety of professions did we aspire to be – When I grow up.....



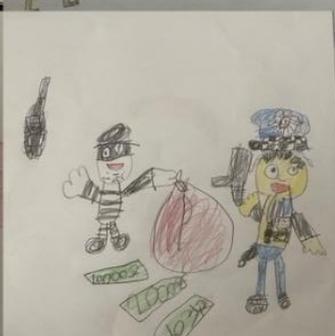
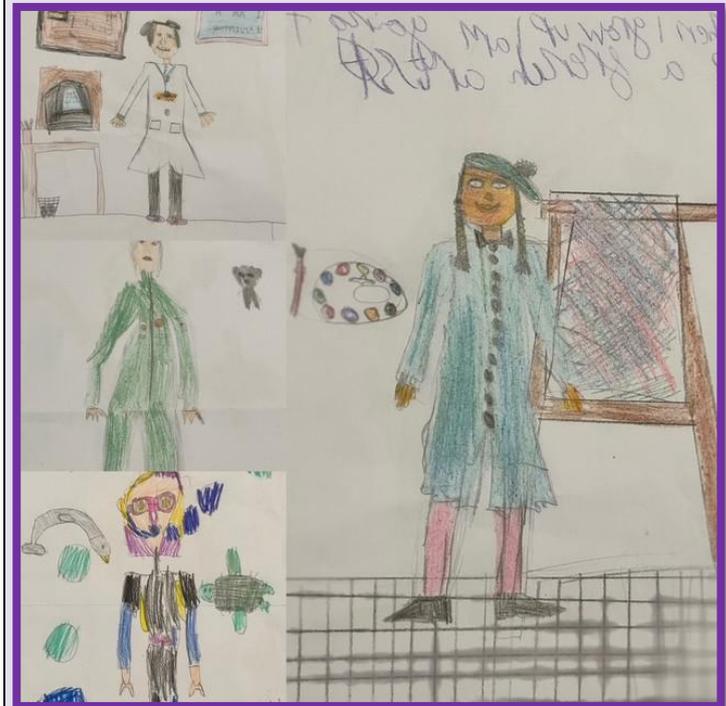
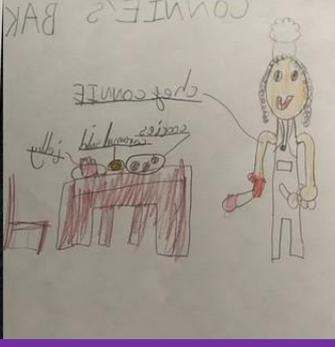
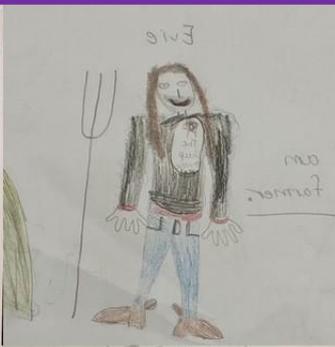
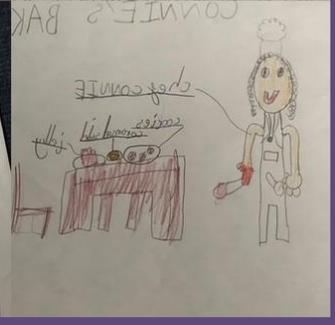
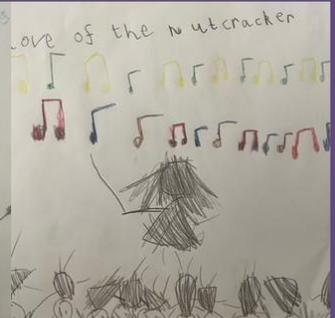
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Enjoy, Learn to the mind, and  
 The more you know, the more  
 'Education is the most powerful weapon you can use'



I grow up I would like to be a  
teacher because I am learning  
in a family but with my  
love watching films about Japan  
I would one day love  
to Japan.



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