



Clare Davies (Head teacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead) Kere Ascot & Sharon Bisby (Deputy Safeguarding Leads) Robert Oxborough, Sharon Claridge (Safeguarding Governors)

9th January 2026



Dear Parents and Carers. 🌟 Welcome Back Team MTB 💜 🌟 We hope you all had a restful and joyful break! As we kicked off the spring term in true MTB style it has been so lovely to see our little school filled with energy and enthusiasm once again.

What a wonderful first week of the new year we have had, the children are an absolute delight in school with our school values on constant display and their collaboration in the playground in particular really is truly heartwarming.

It has most definitely been a week to remember as we navigated the weather warnings of snow and ice and the freezing temperatures that we experienced. With true MTB grit and determination, we showed our true MTB spirit in abundance as we collaborated to make our school site safe every morning. Thank you to the parents/carers who volunteered their time to assist with this and of course to Mr. Hinton who really did go above and beyond to clear the playground. Without a site manager we welcome all your support greatly – thank you. 💜 This term is set to be filled with incredible opportunities, new challenges, and plenty of successes

👏. To all our wonderful pupils, let's make the most of this term, supporting one another and striving for the very best in everything we do! Our whole MTB community parents/ carers, staff, governors, volunteers and PTFA are behind you. Please remember that education is a TEAM effort as parents/carers you have a duty to support us to enable your child to have the very best start in life and to afford them the opportunity to forge their path in whatever direction they choose. By choosing not to support them at home with reading practice or homework you limit your child's chances to fulfil their potential. As educators we simply cannot do this in isolation we need your support to achieve our aspirations for your child/ren. 💜

Diary Dates:

- 12th – Swimming KS2
- Muddy Monday for Reception
- 13th – Mrs Ascot SATS briefing
- 14th – Mrs Ascot out all day CPD SATs Forest School Class 2
- Mrs. Ascot KS2 SATs briefing
- 15th – Parliament outreach team to deliver workshops with Classes 2 and 3
- 16th – Hound Tor celebration – Forest School collection from the school field.
- 19th – Class 2 swimming
- 20th – PTFA coffee, cake and chat 1:45pm. ALL are so welcome to come along.
- Nora Dennis (Yr4) joins TeamMTB
- 21st – Devon LA finance team in. Forest School Class 3
- 23rd – Mrs. Ascot attending Improving Oracy strategy.
- 26th – Mrs Davies at Devon head's locality meeting at Buckfast Abbey.
- 28th- Forest School Class 1
- 29th – Mrs Ascot Year 6 writing moderation
- Full Governing Board Meeting 4pm
- 30th – Student teachers' last day

Intent Drivers – Our Core Values

Perseverance

Aspiration

Respect

Collaboration

Headteacher Award's

Reception: Lily – Rae – For increased confidence and a willingness to have a go demonstrating perseverance and aspiration across the continuous provision but most profoundly in your writing.

Class 1: Lottie – For your eagerness to and motivation to embrace ALL aspects of school life. Lottie arrives at 7:45am raring to go and throws herself full on to ALL that we have on offer. Lottie you are in every way a true MTB team advocate who demonstrates our school values in all that you do. You are a true character whose positivity and happy disposition are qualities that are infectious – well done Lottie!

Class 2: Baelyn- For a simply exceptional week, your engagement and aspiration across all aspects of the curriculum has been commented on by all staff who pass through your classroom. You are demonstrating aspiration by seeking to always get onto the reasoning in maths which is finally demonstrating your abilities. Baelyn this week you have chose to spend time at breaktimes and lunchtimes to write sharing with your peers your wider knowledge gained through experiences outside of school which has been enlightening and is so appreciated by your peers. Well done Baelyn on such a fabulous start to the term you really should be soooo proud of yourself.

Class 3: Charlotte J- as a quieter more reserved member of the class you can constantly be relied upon to be doing the right thing at the right time and always demonstrating aspiration and perseverance across all aspects of the curriculum. You have returned Charlotte after the break with a determination to have your voice heard and your confidence and constant happy chatter is really such a joy to see – your developing confidence really is such a pleasure to see a- well done Charlotte.

Special Headteacher's Award to

💜 A huge MTB welcome also to our new newest Team Member Toby who has commenced his learning journey with us this week transferring to us from Whitchurch – I can't wait to see you shine 💜

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

Bob Kerrey

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	Iona	Rec: Sophia C1- Logan C2- Florence C3- Alaia- Mai	168	168
Doe Tor House	Elizabeth	Rec: Elspeth C1- Sophie C2- Joseph C3- Theo	184	184
Fox Tor House	Harrison	Rec: Connie C1- Axel/ Edward C2- Ammanuel C3-Aston	111	111
Hare Tor House	Lottie	Rec: Gracie C1- Maya C2- Bobby C3-Thomas	174	174

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**

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Launch of Cooperation value

Our first value of this term is really supporting us as we navigate the first week of term and the return to the routine. Co-operation is a key driver of our success here at MTB and we are immensely proud of the way our children negotiate disagreements and show acceptance to achieve a common goal

Some examples of behaviours that have demonstrated this value recently are

- *Listening * Assertiveness to speak out/ being willing to share opinions.
- *Sharing *Using own skills/talents/abilities for others * Taking turns *
- Willingness to sacrifice own views/ thoughts for others.** * Teamwork *
- Positivity – spotting good in others * Awareness of others and their needs
- *Negotiation *Empathy * Patient, reconciliatory, solution-focused, compromising *Helping and encouraging others.

Mary Tavy and Brentor House System 2025-26			
Fox Tor		Hound Tor	
Harrison Aston James Leo Reuben Charlotte J Tayah Persephone Harriet Henry C Ammanuel Dexter Andrii Archie	Emmaline Ember Max Darcy Beth Edward Axel Milla Rosie Daphne Connie N	Alaia-Mai Iona Berla Emma Oto Eleanor Lorien Rafferty Florence LR Jack William H Niamh Emmy	Sebastian Louis Lottie H Elovin Freddie CC Elizabeth H Rosie Logan Mia Sophia Matthew Isabella
25		25	
Hare Tor		Doe Tor	
Lottie Thomas Harry Ruby Bill Chloe Charlotte G Woody Anni Evie Bobby Lily Savannah	Rax Aaron Thomas William F Ollie Maya Freddie D Annabelle Zachary Reuben A Willow Gracie	Rupert Elizabeth Theo Violet Frederick Henry M Florence B Anya G Cameron Abbie Luna Joseph Finley Baelyn	Rosanna Freddie S Connie J Elsie Bodhi Charles Sophie Sienna-Grace Lily-Rae Jack Sybil Elspeth
25		26	

Cooperation
...everyone working together for the greater good of all

- *I will play fairly
- *I will share responsibility in a group
- *I will be inclusive

Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.
-Helen Keller



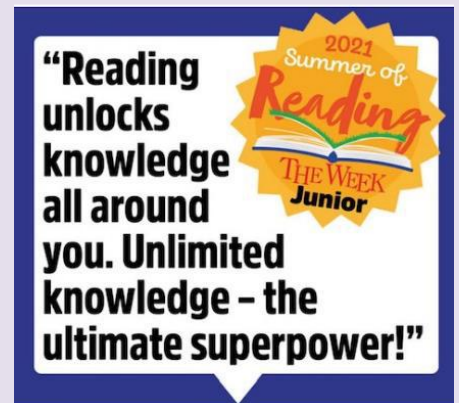
Education is the most powerful weapon...

you go on Monday

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.



Child Protection and Safeguarding

Safeguarding Leads and contact information

Members of staff who are Safeguarding Leads are as follows:

- Mrs Clare Davies
sendco@marytavyandbrentor.devon.sch.uk
- Mrs Kere Ascot : Deputy Safeguarding Lead and Online Safety Lead
kascot@marytavyandbrentor.devon.sch.uk
- Mrs Sharon Bisby : Deputy Safeguarding Lead.
admin@marytavyandbrentor.devon.sch.uk

Safeguarding Governors who are responsible for overseeing the management in school of safeguarding are

- Mrs Robert Oxborough roxborough@marytavyandbrentor.devon.sch.uk
- Mrs Sharon Claridge sclaridge@marytavyandbrentor.devon.sch.uk

If **any** parent has a safeguarding concern or query about **ANY** child within our community, please email for advice.

If you are worried that a child may be at risk = If you think it, you have a duty to report it **CALL MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub)**

You can contact them via the Devon Safeguarding Children Partnership

<https://www.devonscp.org.uk/>

<https://www.devonscp.org.uk/make-a-request-for-support/further-info/>

"If you are worried about a child or young person in Devon and want to speak to someone, or if you are a child or young person worried about your own safety, please contact Devon Children's Front Door : on **0345 155 1071** or out of hours weekends/ bank holidays **0345 6000 388** and give as much Information as you can. Calls are confidential and you can choose to remain anonymous"

Devon Safeguarding Children Partnership



Curriculum Enrichment Spring 1 2025 / 26- Commence 12.01.26

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3:15-4:30	Tag- American Football Mr. Finnimore KS2	Plymouth Argyle Year 1 +	Choir - 8:20am	Craft – Miss Porter Coding/ Microbits Mrs Ascot – KS2 Netball - Miss Vallance Yoga – Mrs Davies	Lunchtime 12pm Cross Country Club Yr. 3,4,5,6 Mrs Davey Mr Hinton Mr Finnimore
Lunchtime Prefect Led Clubs	Book Club			Choir whole school with Mrs Higham	Lego Club

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



Musician

We are Musicians

Dan will commence 1:1 music tuition again next week.

For those who are yet to sign up this, it is an amazing opportunity for your child to learn an instrument during the school day.

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 the Devon teaching individuals and classes. He freelances for the Tavistock Area Learning Community as a class instrument tutor. Please do check out Dan's promotional video following the link

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FEgZuX3I3aKzg0red_mLt3iDzxQhoKit/view?usp=sharing

Tel: (01208) 833070 | Mon to Thu 9am-4.30pm & Fri 9am-2pm

wovina

School Uniform

Thank you for all your help in ensuring your children are wearing the correct uniform and that they are looking super smart and ready to learn. Please follow the link below to order new uniform.

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

**Affordable
uniforms are
now the law.**

No parent should
be kept up at
night by worries
about their
child's uniform.



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

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NUMBOTS highest user

- Reception: Sybil
- Year 1: Maya
- Year 2: Thomas



Rockstars highest user

- Class 1: Elizabeth
- Class 2: Finnley
- Class 3: Charlotte J



"Pupils should be taught to recall multiplication and division facts for multiplication tables up to 12 x 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 **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)



that they commit these to their long-term memory. **Please make this as fun as possible for**
maximum success.



Team MTB PTFA



MTB Cake Raffle Congratulations to Axel on winning the cake raffle today. A huge thank you to Toby (Yr3), and his mum Claire for generously donating the Monster cupcakes. To say Axel was delighted is an understatement!!!



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 events.

We have arranged a Coffee, Cake and Chat meeting details below. We warmly welcome ALL families to attend. To come into school for a chat with Mrs Davies and the PTFA committee to enable us to share in an update from the Autumn term and to plan for the remainder of this academic year. This really will be an opportunity to bring together our wider school family to plan for this coming year. PLEASE do save the date and make every effort to attend. For those of you with younger siblings we will have the mats and a selection of toys out for them to enjoy. We really are trying to remove barriers to attendance so that as many of you as possible can attend. If you are unable to attend but have an idea or suggestion, please pop it in the box by the window in the office and we will ensure it is included. We can't wait to see you there.



PTFA Meeting

1.45pm

20th January

School Hall





MARYTAVY & BRENTOR
PRIMARY PTFA
UNWANTED GIFT
DONATIONS PLEASE

We are collecting
Unwanted gifts to support
our fundraising efforts
throughout the year

We'd be delighted to receive any
unwanted gifts dropped into
school 19th - 23rd January

Millie 07787994220

STAY & PLAY AT BRENTOR
VILLAGE HALL

BABIES & CHILDREN 0-5YRS
9AM-11AM

£1 PER PERSON

EVERY MONDAY FROM
NOV 10TH

MILLIEBICKELL@OUTLOOK.COM

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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: 5th October, 12th, 19th, 26th 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 15th of November 2025 for children born between 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022. The deadline for Reception applications is Saturday 15 January 2026

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

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.



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Swimming Lessons KS2



On Monday Class 2 and those children in Class 3 who have not yet met the national curriculum standards will begin their swimming lessons at Meadowlands. As outlined in the parent mail sent to relevant families, these sessions will run every Monday afternoon until Monday 30th March 2025.

🕒 Timings:

Children will travel by coach at 1:30pm with swimming lessons starting at 2pm

Parents/ carers need to collect from Meadowlands 3pm - 3:10pm

🎒 Please ensure your child brings:

- ✓ Swimwear
- ✓ A towel
- ✓ Goggles (optional)
- ✓ A hat if they have long hair

👕 Children will put their uniform on afterwards so no tights if possible on swimming days.

We're really looking forward to seeing the progress they make.

The National Curriculum requirements are that children can swim 25m in at least 3 strokes. They also need to be able to jump into the pool and climb out safely.



Tavy 13- Primary School Challenge



Every week you run 1 mile. The challenge is to try and reach an overall total of 12 miles before running your final mile at the home of Tavistock Athletic Club on Sunday 26th March.

13 miles, HALF MARATHON DISTANCE

The final celebration mile of the 13-mile half marathon challenge

ALL children are invited to take part. Parents need to enter your child/ren following the links and then complete the 12 miles before the 29th of March. <https://www.entrycentral.com/Tavy13PSC>

On the 29th of March children then complete their final mile in front of proud friends, and, of course, parents. This is a spectacular event and will take place at Tavistock athletics track. Over 500 children from local Primary Schools complete the final mile of their own half marathon. There is a medal for all finishers and a T shirt £11 Start time: 10:00. Registration will open at 08:45

We will continue to take entries up to the 26th of March.

See our website www.tavistockathletics.co.uk and our Facebook page for all the latest news.



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This event is supported by OCRA www.ocrasport.org.uk
If you have any questions please email mhairi@ocrasport.org.uk

Medical Needs update

Please note that we need to know by the **16th of January** if your child has a medical need and if you would like us to administer Calpol/ Ibruprofen.



8th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

To support the health and wellbeing of our pupils during the school day, we are seeking your consent to allow the school to administer Calpol (paracetamol) or Brufen (ibuprofen) to your child when necessary. It has become increasingly common for parents and carers to ask if we can administer it as a first response before they have to come and collect their child and having reviewed our procedure and processes would like to formally request your consent to do so.

These medications would only be given in line with recommended dosage guidelines, appropriate to your child's age and weight, and only when deemed necessary to relieve mild pain, discomfort, or fever. Medication will be administered by our qualified first aiders, and a record will be kept of any medication given. Parents and carers will be informed prior to their child receiving medication and any subsequent doses.

If consent is not provided, we will not administer these medications under any circumstances.

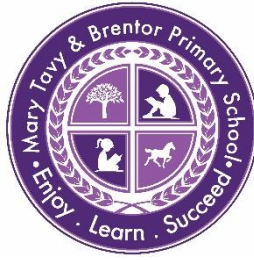
Should you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please contact the school office.
Please email the school office to inform us of your consent.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Team MTB

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8th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to inform you that the school has recently completed a review of our Medical Needs Policy. As part of this process, we are ensuring that our records are accurate and up to date so that we can continue to support the health, safety, and wellbeing of all pupils in our care.

To help us do this, we are requesting updated medical information for any child who has:

- A diagnosed medical condition
- A chronic or ongoing illness requiring management during the school day
- Allergies (including food or environmental allergies)

We kindly ask that you provide relevant information from your child's GP surgery or healthcare professional, including details of the diagnosis, any required treatment or medication, and guidance on managing the condition while your child is at school.

For those children with asthma – please provide a copy of an up-to-date asthma plan from the asthma nurse at your GP surgery.

This information will allow us to review the medical care plans in place, to ensure staff are well informed, and respond effectively in the event of a medical need or emergency.

If your child does not have any medical needs, no action is required currently. An updated list of children with medical needs will be compiled from the information that is provided. We are acutely aware that children's medical needs change over time. It is important that we review the information we hold periodically and this will now be done termly.

Should you have any questions or need support in providing this information, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. Please email relevant details attaching a copy of the letter from your child's surgery.

Thank you for your cooperation and continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Team MTB

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Fun in the snow



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And finally



Our final festive trip to the theatre was to the pantomime with Class 2.

Our young ambassadors made us so incredibly proud, always being incredibly respectful whilst interacting with members of the public.

They had the very best time laughing, clapping and of course interacting with the show. What a fantastic way to end our first week back!!!

Our school family firmly back together and enjoying the very best opportunities that we can provide for them.

School days really are the very of times and we will continue to seek out opportunities to enrich our curriculum in the year ahead.



Enjoy, Learn, Succeed **Rea**

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