



Clare Davies (Head teacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead)
 Kere Ascot & Sharon Bisby (Dep Safeguarding Leads)
 Robert Oxborough, Sharon Claridge (Safeguarding Governors)
 16th January 2026

Dear Families,

What a wonderful first full week of the term we have had. Our swimmers on Monday all demonstrated their perseverance as they started a new endeavour together. Thank you to all those who are supporting their children out of school to learn to swim either through attendance at swimming lessons or through teaching your child/ren yourself. This is a life skill that **ALL** must develop to keep them safe both now and in the future. This week it has been an absolute pleasure to spend time in classes both observing and scaffolding our learners as they access our curriculum. Our focus this term is on writing and developing an efficient script that enables our learners to record their fantastic ideas with pace, stamina and eligibility – our handwriting scheme supports this **but extra support** at home is essential. Please support our focus by developing fine motor skills at home through the completion of mazes, patterns and dot to dots.

Finally, it is with immense pride that I share that we are full in Reception next year. This really does reflect the very special environment that has been created here. Our ambassadors are at the heart of all that I set out to achieve here, and they remain the only reason that we do what we do. We currently have wait lists in 4 of our classes and today I showed round another family, with children in years 1 and 3 who have now put their children down on the waiting list extending the number of families willing to wait for a space to become available. I wish to make it clear that the popularity of the school is indicative of the daily lived experience of our school community. It is the commitment I make to all of you for your child to flourish and to be the very best version of themselves when they leave us. It is this level of integrity and transparency that is our **'Business as Usual'** Thank you for all your continued care and support, it really does make the difference – we are a partnership, and our school family is very special to us all.

Diary Dates:

- 19th – Class 2 swimming
- Class 3 curriculum enrichment to The Plymouth Aquarium
- 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.
- National measurements height and weight for Reception and Yr6.
- 26th – Mrs Davies at Devon head's locality meeting at Buckfast Abbey.
- Swimming for Class 2
- 28th- Forest School Class 1
- 29th – Mrs Ascot Year 6 writing moderation
- Full Governing Board Meeting 4pm
- 30th –Student teachers' last day
- February
- 4th – Forest School Class 2
- 5th- Mrs Bisby Support Services
- Conference Devon CC
- Methodist assembly
- Full Governing Board Meeting
- 9th- 13th Mental Health Week
- 10th – Mrs Davies out at Devon strategic
- Leaders committee meeting
- Safer Internet Day
- 11th- Forest School Class 3
- 12th – 1st X Country race at Tavistock meadows Yr. 3/ 4 team and Yr 5 /6 team.
- 13th- Break up for Half Term

Intent Drivers – Our Core Values

Perseverance	Aspiration	Respect	Collaboration
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Headteacher Award's

Reception: Rosie – you epitomise all our school values in all that you do. You are a truly wonderful friend to all both those in your class and within our wider school family. Your constant perseverance and aspiration to give 100% in all that you undertake is most definitely noted by all the staff – well done Rosie.

Class 1: Sienna –For showing increased motivation and perseverance in all her work. We are incredibly proud of how you have challenged yourself Lottie to be the first to complete a task and to execute it to the very best of your ability, ensuring that you are meeting the LO and setting the example to your peers. for working hard and fostering her independence in Maths and English this week

Class 2: Evelyn- For showing increased motivation and perseverance to produce work which demonstrates your potential. You have aspired this week to complete all daily task work and has challenged yourself to get on to the reasoning question demonstrating understanding. Your intrinsic desire to persevere with your learning is commendable. We are incredibly proud of how quickly Evelyn is rising to the challenge of the MTB curriculum.

Class 3: Theo and Harry – For really being the very best version of yourselves, always keen to help across all aspects of school life both staff and fellow pupils without hesitation they volunteer to support the daily functioning of school life. In addition to these qualities Theo and Harry are deeply kind children who are empathetic to their peers and look out for those that need more support. Well done boy's for living out our school values in all that you do and for being role models to the wider school team- we are so proud of 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	Iona	Rec: Sophia C1- Logan C2- Florence C3- Alaia- Mai	247	415
Doe Tor House	Elizabeth	Rec: Elspeth C1- Sophie C2- Joseph C3- Theo	236	420
Fox Tor House	Harrison	Rec: Connie C1- Axel/ Edward C2- Ammanuel C3-Aston	193	304
Hare Tor House	Lottie	Rec: Gracie C1- Maya C2- Bobby C3-Thomas	284	455

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 weeks 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	Emmeline 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 Elwyn 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

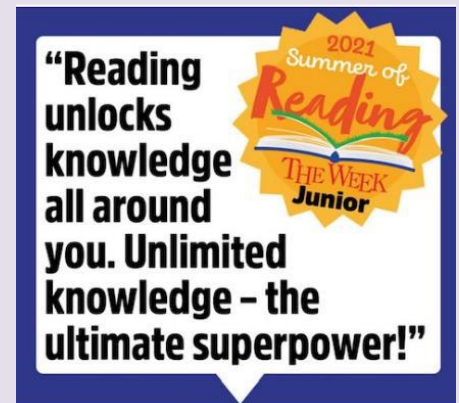
Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.
-Helen Keller



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 +	Chess – Mr Hinton KS2	Craft – Miss Porter Coding/ Microbits Mrs Ascot – KS2 Netball - Miss Vallance Yoga – Mrs Davies	Lunchtime 12pm XC team 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/1FEgZuX3l3aKzg0red_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.

<https://uniformsales.co.uk/school/mary-tavy-and-brentor-primary-school/>

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**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.

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

Numbots highest user:

Reception: Sybil

Year 1: Millie



Rockstars highest user

Class 1: Maya

Class 2: Evie

Class 3: Charlotte J



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

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.**



Enjoy,
The m
'Educa



Artist Athlete Author Engineer Geographer Historian Musician Linguist Mathematician Philosopher Scientist Writer



Team MTB PTFA



MTB Cake Raffle Congratulations to Sybil on winning the cake raffle today. A huge thank you to Elizabeth (Yr6), and her mum Janet for generously donating the chocolate wonderfully choccywokydoodah cake it really did make the office smell wonderful today.



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




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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



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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.



Swimming Lessons KS2



On Monday Class 2 and those children in Class 3 who have not yet met the national curriculum standards began their swimming lessons at Meadowlands.

🕒 Timings:

Children 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.

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. There is a medal for all finishers and a T shirt £11 Start time: 10:00. Registration will open at 08:45 They will continue to take entries up to the 26th of March.

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

This event is supported by OCRA www.ocrasport.org.uk

If you have any questions please email mhairi@ocrasport.org.uk

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Our new playground Equipment



Wow !!! what a wonderful week we have had playing with our new equipment kindly donated by the Tavistock Lions Charity via of course Father Christmas. The children have made us so proud in their collaboration. Sharing the equipment and supporting one another to develop the skills needed particularly with the space hoppers!



Enjoy, Le
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'Educatio

Democracy in action

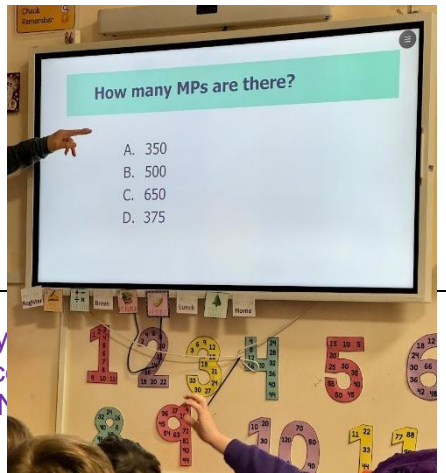
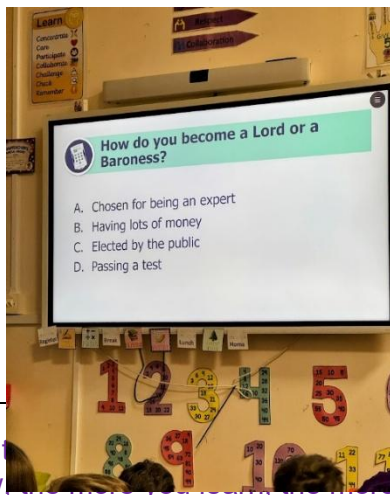
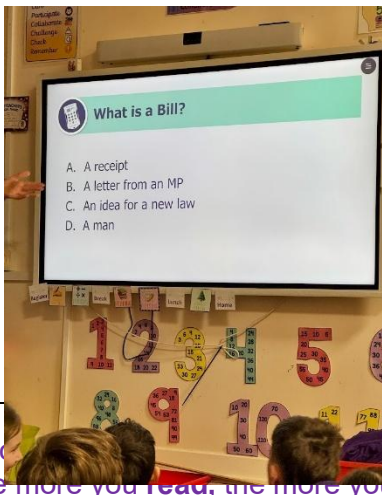
♥ Yesterday we invited Tom into Classes 2 and 3 . Tom works for the UK Parliament. He spoke to us about how new laws are proposed and debated. We learnt about The Houses of Parliament and how some of the old traditions can still be seen.

Our ambassadors made us so incredibly proud with both their behaviour and their responses. After coming up with a whole list of possible new laws they proposed a bill that - Children under 12 should not go on mobile phones.

The majority rejected it but did make an amendment that children under 12 should not go on the internet and download Apps.

Our bill then went to the House of Lords where we asked experts on child development to offer guidance. It was an incredibly interesting debate, and the children offered insightful thoughts and opinions both for and against. They have made us soo proud.

Please see if they can remember the answers to the questions at the end of the presentation at home this evening 🙌🙌🙌🙌



Enjoying reading is to everybody
The more you read, the more you know
'Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world'

And finally

Congratulations Hound Tor 🏆
♥️ What a truly wonderful afternoon we have had celebrating being the winning house of last half term 🌲 ♥️ 🌲



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