



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

Dear Families, 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026

As we come to the end of another fantastic week at MTB, we are thankful for all the opportunities that make our offer unique. As our intrepid Xcountry team went off in the pouring rain to train for the upcoming races today, it really resonated how committed our staff team are to ensure our children have the very best offer, not only running in quite frankly deplorable conditions but then to dry themselves off and return to delivering the most demanding and aspirational curriculum offer.

Within our wider school life, we have continued this week to focus on supporting all our children to 'use their words' when expressing themselves. Developing Oracy is integral in our offer and is a priority in our School Development Plan. Mrs Ascot is undertaking CPD over the remainder of this academic year to support this drive. Please support us at home by encouraging your child/ren to 'use their words' to express themselves.

Finally, today we have celebrated Miss Guest and Miss Mackenzie's completion of their final placements with us. It has been such an honour to watch them grow and to afford them the opportunities to develop their practice during their time with us. Both students immersed themselves in the TeamMTB ethos of having our children at the heart of all that we do. The outpouring of appreciation from our school community really was indicative of this with flowers, homemade cards, chocolates, treats being given to the students as a sign of how much they will be missed. At times like these it is really a time to reflect on our special offer and I received the following sentiments from Miss Guest 'I would like to say a massive thank you for allowing me to be a small part of the MTB school family. The foundation that you have built here is truly unique. I wish everyone all the success for whatever comes your way. The MTB way' really does set your pupils up to be proud of who they are and what they believe in.'

**Diary Dates:**

- February 2<sup>nd</sup> – Swimming / Muddy Monday
- 4<sup>th</sup> – Forest School Class 2
- 5<sup>th</sup>- Mrs Bisby Support Services Conference
- Methodist assembly
- Full Governing Board Meeting
- 9<sup>th</sup>- 13<sup>th</sup> Mental Health Week
- 9<sup>th</sup>- Swimming/ Muddy Monday
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Mrs Davies out at Devon strategic Leaders committee meeting
- Safer Internet Day
- 11<sup>th</sup>- Forest School Class 3
- PTFA Valentine's Disco**
- 13<sup>th</sup>- Break up for Half Term
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – All back -new student teacher Miss Sarkar in Class 3
- Swimming and Muddy Monday
- 24<sup>th</sup> – Parent/ Teacher meetings
- 25<sup>th</sup> – Devon finance budget planning Parent/Teacher meetings
- 26<sup>th</sup> – Mrs Ascot out at Math's CPD Parent/Teacher meetings
- XCountry race at Meadowlands
- 27<sup>th</sup> – Mrs Ascot out improving Oracy Project
- March**
- 2<sup>nd</sup>- Swimming& Muddy Monday
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Reception vision screening Reception PTC
- Class 2 residential meeting with Encompass
- 4<sup>th</sup> – Parent Teacher meetings
- 5<sup>th</sup> – World Book Day – Children to dress up as a character from a book**
- Cross Country race at Whitchurch
- 9-13<sup>th</sup> Science Week
- 17<sup>th</sup> – TAG rugby tournament
- 21<sup>st</sup> – KS2 to sing at Exeter Cathedral
- April - 2<sup>nd</sup> – Break up for Easter.**

**Intent Drivers – Our Core Values**

Perseverance	Aspiration	Respect	Collaboration
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**Headteacher Award's**

**Reception: Sophia:** For always being the very best version of yourself and displaying our school values at all times in all that you do. In addition to demonstrating behaviours for learning that ensure that Sophia is able to flourish across all aspects of the continuous provision it is her kindness and thoughtfulness that ALL staff comment on. Sophia's mum at drop off always reminds her to be kind,' when she says goodbye and honestly it is so lovely to be able to present Sophia with this award, in recognition of the impact that these small words have had on the way she conducts herself in her daily life in school. Well done to Sophia and her wider family on embedding and displaying the most powerful of human values.

**Class 1: Freddie. C** For showing increased independence, motivation and perseverance when collaborating with his peers. We have seen a real shift in Freddie's confidence to explain his thinking without prompting and for generally aspiring to achieve highly across all aspects of the curriculum. We are so proud of your progress.

**Class 2: Archie-** for always in all aspects of school life demonstrating above all perseverance and aspiration. Archie this week has demonstrated perseverance across the curriculum always producing work that meets the Learning Objective and is better than his previous work. Mr Finnimore commented on how motivated Archie is to learn and aspires to achieve his very best. Archie you are a role model to your peers we are so proud of your behaviours for learning. This week your commitment to your learning during your comprehension, spelling, writing and reading has been noticeably exceptional, and you should be incredibly proud of yourself and your progress.

**Class 3: Henry** – For your greatly improved perseverance and respect across all aspects of school life. Henry has demonstrated this week a more mature attitude to his learning which has impressed all staff members – well done Henry.

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>	Rec: Sophia C1- Rosie C2- Rafferty/ Jack C3- Alaia- Mai	253	903
Doe Tor House	<b>Elizabeth</b>	Rec: Sybil C1- Connie C2- Finnley C3- Elizabeth	217	800
Fox Tor House	<b>Harrison</b>	Rec: Daphne C1- Beth C2- Dexter C3-James	195	823
Hare Tor House	<b>Lottie</b>	Rec: Gracie/ Ruben C1- Maya C2- Bobby C3-Harry	259	807

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 our Respect value

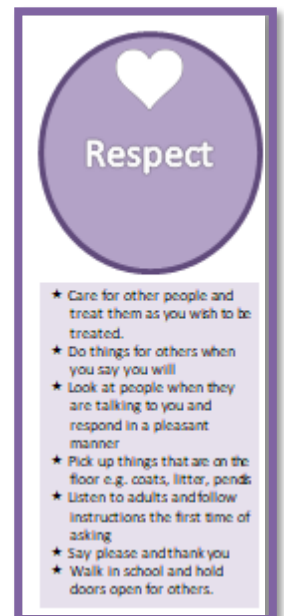
### Aspiration, Respect, Collaboration, Perseverance

This coming week children will receive house points for demonstrating **RESPECT**.

Our school ethos is value driven with good values taught integrally in all that we do. We want all our children to grow up valuing themselves, others and the environment. Our Values are the principles that guide our behaviour. At MTB all adults are encouraged to model our values and to give time for reflective practices. We believe that this empowers individuals to be effective learners and good citizens. We promote and teach these values to our children.

Please could you discuss **'Respect'** with children at home and explore ways to reinforce it.

We show respect and tolerance for everyone in our community. We respect ourselves and others alike, taking care of friends, family, our community and the environment. We value what others say and do, and we enjoy learning about different beliefs and cultures. We respect one another and share our opinions, skills,



Enjoy, Learn, Succeed **Reading**  
The more you **read**, the more you  
'Education is the most powerful w

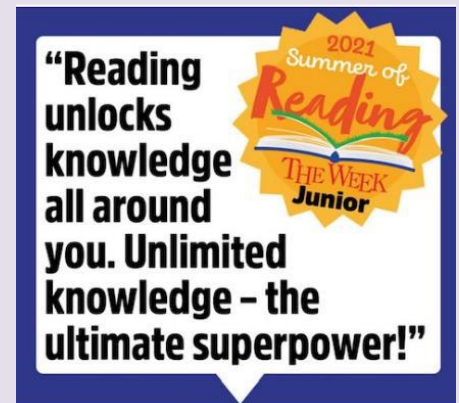
to the body,  
more place you go – *Dr Seuss*  
the world 'Nelson Mandela

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](mailto:sendco@marytavyandbrentor.devon.sch.uk)
- Mrs Kere Ascot : Deputy Safeguarding Lead and Online Safety Lead  
[kascot@marytavyandbrentor.devon.sch.uk](mailto:kascot@marytavyandbrentor.devon.sch.uk)
- Mrs Sharon Bisby : Deputy Safeguarding Lead.  
[admin@marytavyandbrentor.devon.sch.uk](mailto: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](mailto:roxborough@marytavyandbrentor.devon.sch.uk)
- Mrs Sharon Claridge [sclaridge@marytavyandbrentor.devon.sch.uk](mailto: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-

	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



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](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: Matthew**

**Year 1: ???**



**Rockstars highest user**

**Class 1: Emmeline**

**Class 2: Finnley and Woody**

**Class 3: Lottie and Harrison**



"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.

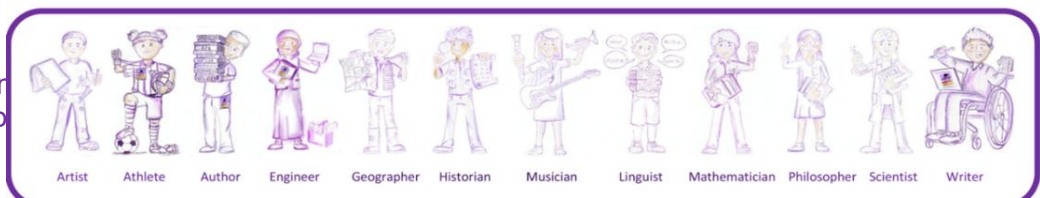
**Aspiration** we aspire to get a 100% pass rate. In order to achieve this, **we need you** to practice times tables daily.

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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'Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world'





# Team MTB PTFA



MTB Cake Raffle Congratulations to Ember on winning the cake raffle today. A huge thank you to Freddie, D and his mum Becky for generously donating the gooiest chocolate brownies. They smelled delicious



**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.*

*Our next event is the highly anticipated MTB Valentine's Disco.*



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## MTB VALENTINE'S PARTY

### 11TH FEBRUARY

KS1 4:30-5:45 PM

KS2 6:00-7:15 PM

**£4 PER CHILD - INCLUDES A DRINK & SNACK**

**BOOK ON PARENTMAIL**



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# Community News



A local resident has been in touch to ask if there are any families who have a passion for music. The resident is looking to donate her late husband's baby grand pian to a family who will cherish and care for it. Please contact Mrs. Bisby if you would like to be considered.

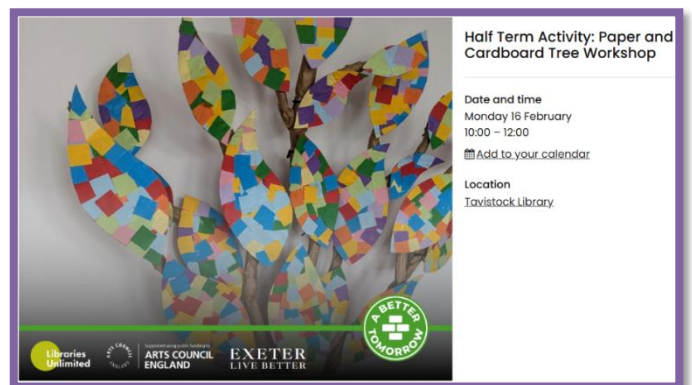


Half Term Activity: Paper and Cardboard Tree Workshop

Date and time  
Monday 16 February  
10:00 – 12:00

[Add to your calendar](#)

Location  
Tavistock Library



**SOUP & CRUMBLE LUNCH**  

**SUNDAY FEB 1st**

**BRENTOR VILLAGE HALL**  
(PL19 0LR)

**FOOD SERVED BETWEEN 12:00 & 2:00**

 **COMBINE WITH A WALK**

**SOUP WITH BREAD £3**

**CRUMBLE & CUSTARD £2**

**HOT DRINKS £1** 

**FREE WIFI**

**CARD PAYMENT ENCOURAGED**

Half Term Activity Painting from Nature

Date and time  
Tuesday 17 February  
10:00 – 12:30

[Add to your calendar](#)

Location  
Tavistock Library



<https://discover.librariesunlimited.org.uk/whats-on#/events/72cf7e39-bab6-4ee6-afb1-319f202a9099?q=tavistock>

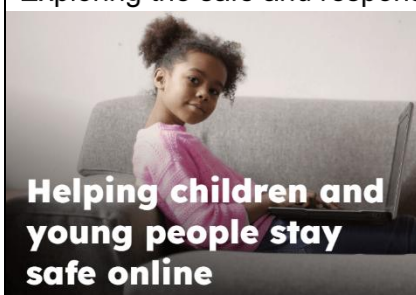
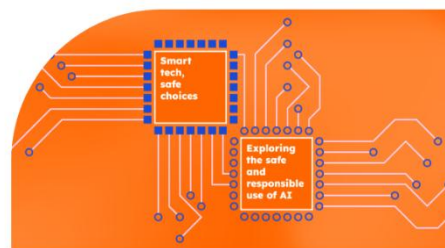
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# Safer Internet Day



Safer Internet Day  
2023 'Together for

a better internet' will take place on the 10th February 2026, with celebrations and learning based around the theme with celebrations and learning based around the theme 'Smart tech, safe choices – Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'.



.Coordinated in the UK by [UK Safer Internet](https://saferinternet.org.uk) The celebration sees thousands of organisations both in the UK and across the 170 Countries worldwide get involved to promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people. At MTB Primary we are celebrating by putting our children's voices at the heart of the day. We are asking parents/ carers, to take time to listen and make positive change together.

The main goal of Safer Internet Day is to raise awareness and start a conversation about online safety, particularly with young people who may not be fully equipped with how to stay safe when using the internet. Unfortunately, one company alone cannot make the whole internet safe, but lots of people working together can have a big impact. The aim is to make a safer and better internet for everyone, children and adults alike! If you would like additional resources to scaffold conversations at home, please follow the link below.

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2026/top-tips-for-parents-and-carers>

## 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 29<sup>th</sup> of March. <https://www.entrycentral.com/Tavy13PSC>

On the 29<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.tavistockathletics.co.uk) and our Facebook page for all the latest news.

This event is supported by OCRA [www.ocrasport.org.uk](http://www.ocrasport.org.uk)

If you have any questions please email [mhairi@ocrasport.org.uk](mailto:mhairi@ocrasport.org.uk)

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# Forest School Class 2



This week at Forest school Class 1 explored how to build a strong campfire and how to be safe around a campfire. Once they had built their own, they enjoyed smores around the fire circle.



The children then explored the area for signs of habitats and found frogspawn in our pond. The children took great delight investigating the frogspawn and talking about what it would turn into. Some of the children felt the texture of the frogspawn and described what it felt like!



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# And finally,



I am absolutely delighted to share with you that we have booked for Reception and KS1 to go to the Theatre Royal Plymouth to see the stage adaptation of Judith Kerr's well-loved story of The Tiger Who Came to Tea Direct from the West End, the Olivier Award nominated smash hit show.

The doorbell rings just as Sophie and her mummy are sitting down to tea. Who could it possibly be? What they certainly don't expect to see at the door is a big, stripy tiger!

Our wonderful ambassadors will be attending the morning performance on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2026. A payment item will be in the shop on Parent mail shortly for a contribution towards the cost. The PTFA committee have kindly agreed to make a significant contribution towards the cost.



In addition to the trip above we have booked for KS2 to watch the stage adaptation of Annie on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June 2026. This will be the afternoon performance and with an expected ETA at school at 6pm.

Once, again there will be a ticket item in the shop shortly which is highly subsidised by our PTFA committee. Annie is the classic story which has been transformed into this amazing production. Set in 1930s New York, brave young Annie is forced to live a life of misery at Miss Hannigan's orphanage. Her luck soon changes when she's chosen to spend a fairytale Christmas with famous billionaire, Oliver Warbucks. Meanwhile, spiteful Miss Hannigan has other ideas and hatches a plan to spoil Annie's search for her true family...

With its Tony® award-winning book and score, including the unforgettable songs It's The Hard-Knock Life, Easy Street, I Don't Need Anything but You and Tomorrow, you can bet your bottom dollar that they are going to absolutely love it!

Enjoy  
The  
'Edu

you go – Dr Seuss  
on Mandela