



Clare Davies (Head teacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead)
 Kere Ascot & Sharon Bisby (Dep Safeguarding Leads)
 Robert Oxborough, Sharon Claridge (Safeguarding Governors)
 Dear Families, 6th February 2026

As I sit here at the end of another bonkers week at MTB, I am truly grateful to you all for all the care and support I receive. A huge thank you to Amy and Louella for the making the courtyard look so inviting following its makeover, to the governors who volunteer their time; with last night's meeting taking three hours and finishing late into the evening, to the amazing staff team here at MTB who are simply the very best and deliver more than I could ask for. To the PTFA who volunteer their time to provide enrichment opportunities that ensure that the children have the very best time at school. From theatre trips to the wonderful whole school trip to Dartmoor Zoo to bring to a close our highly anticipated Science Week 2026. I make no apologies for striving for educational excellence for our children at MTB. Our children deserve the very best and I will always ensure that this is the beating heart of all that we do here.

I This week I received the most wonderful email from a year 7 parent whose child made that transition from MTB to KS3 *I had the first parent's evening at Tavistock College yesterday. I wanted to let you know that XXX is doing really well and XX teachers were all full of praise for xx work ethic, the standard of hxx work and the care she shows in delivering it. In a number of subjects, the comparison of hxx work to that of hxx peers is outstanding and xx is already working at Year 8 standard. It was such a positive experience and reaffirmed for us what an amazing start to hxx schooling xx has had at Mary Tavy & Brentor Primary School. Without doubt, the school is providing an excellent springboard for all its pupils, and the level of academic achievement is outstanding. Thank you!*

Diary Dates:

- 10th – Mrs Davies out at Devon strategic Leaders Safer Internet Day
- 11th- Forest School Class 3
- PTFA Valentine's Disco**
- 13th- Exeter Cathedral Chorister outreach
- Break up for Half Term
- 23rd – All back -new student teacher Miss Sarkar in Class 3
- Swimming and Muddy Monday
- 24th – Parent/ Teacher meetings
- 25th – Devon finance budget planning
- Forest School Class 1
- Parent/Teacher meetings
- 26th – Mrs Ascot out at Math's CPD
- Parent/Teacher meetings
- XCountry race at Meadowlands
- 27th – Mrs Ascot out improving Oracy Project
- Exeter Cathedral Chorister outreach

March

- 3rd – Reception vision screening
- Exeter Cathedral Chorister outreach
- Reception PTC
- Class 2 residential meeting with Encompass
- 4th – Forest School Class 2
- Parent Teacher meetings
- 5th – World Book Day – Children to dress up as a character from a book**
- Cross Country race at Whitchurch
- 9-13th Science Week
- 10th – Mrs. Higham Early Years Music Conference
- 11th – Annual Egg mobile race
- Forest School Class 3
- 13th – Whole School trip to the Zoo – paid for by the PTFA
- 17th – TAG rugby tournament
- 21st – KS2 to sing at Exeter Cathedral
- 25th – Cross Country race Yelverton

Intent Drivers – Our Core Values

Perseverance

Aspiration

Respect

Collaboration

Headteacher Award's

Reception: Isabella: For her increased confidence in maths and with her reading. Isabella has been applying her knowledge of phonemes to orally segment and blend to read as well as matching numbers to 10 -well done Isabella we are so proud of you.

Class 1: Rex- has risen to the challenge of being a Year Two. Rex is now working at his true potential always producing work that is better than his previous work – well done Rex keep it up.

Class 2: Dexter- for showing increased independence, motivation and perseverance. Dexter has demonstrated to himself most importantly that he can do it and is shifting her narrative from I can't. I 'm not sure, to, I am going to give it a go, I am really going try to do this – this shift in mindset is admirable and testament to all the support he has received to help him overcome his doubts and anxieties – well done Dexter we are so incredibly proud of you

Class 3: -Flo- For settling in so well to TeamMTB, for always displaying our Core Values in all that she does and for doing this with a smiley disposition and a truly positive attitude to all that she undertakes. We are soo pleased that you have joined us Flo and that you are embracing our offer with such a positive attitude.

Special Headteacher award to – Reception for ALL taking part in the Big Schools Birdwatch

“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: Mia C1- Rosie C2- Rafferty C3- Alaia- Mai	244	1147
Doe Tor House	Elizabeth	Rec: Sybil C1- Sienna C2- Joseph C3- Elizabeth	207	1027
Fox Tor House	Harrison	Rec: Daphne C1- Beth C2- Archie C3-Aston	150	973
Hare Tor House	Lottie	Rec: Zach C1- Otilie C2- Aruvi C3-Ruby	202	1009

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**

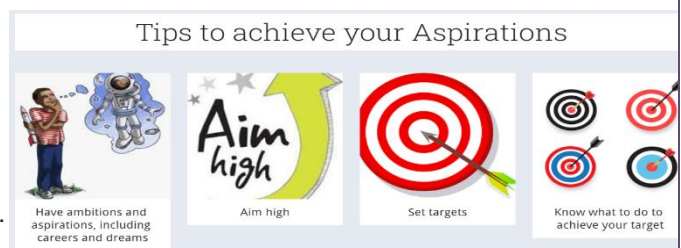
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Launch of our Aspiration value

Aspiration, Respect, Collaboration, Perseverance

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.



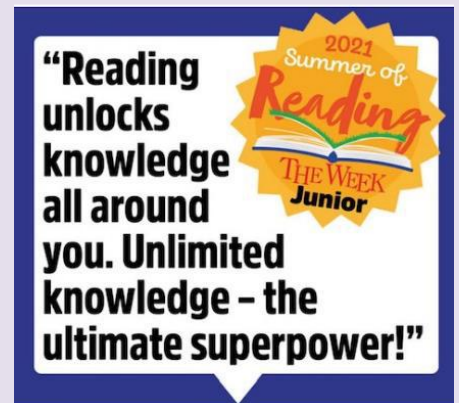
Enjoy, Learn, Succeed **Reading** is to
The more you **read**, the more you know
'Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world' Nelson Mandela

you go – Dr Seuss

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-

	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

Language Acquisition - NELI

One of our areas of School Development this year is around Oracy – the children's ability to communicate and be confident in sharing their voice.

Through the Department of Education, we have been recognised in a research project around Early Language Intervention. This is a program that has been developed by the Nuffield Foundation. The Nuffield Early Language Intervention (NELI) is a program for children in Reception (4-5 years) and is proven to improve children's language and early literacy skills.

Our place is fully funded by the Department of Education. The program involves targeted small groups and one-to-one support for children who would benefit from additional support with their language and early literacy skills. Next week, the Department of Education is sending three advisors to TeamMTB to see this intervention in action and to hear from both our staff and ambassadors about the impact it is having on their language and literacy skills. I am so looking forward to sharing with you their feedback from the visit. This is a truly very prestigious opportunity for us to showcase all that we have on offer here at TeamMTB.



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/>

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 Man

**Affordable
uniforms are
now the law.**

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



Reception Book Hook

💜 🌱 ✨ Reception Book Hook! ✨ 🌱 🚀 Space Tortoise by Ross Montgomery 🌱

🌱 On Monday our Reception class were truly overwhelmed to welcome some new temporary class members into their classroom! 💜 Our guest Debbie Walsh from @tavistock.pet.emporium - kindly brought in three of her pet tortoises to meet the excited children. Debbie shared all her knowledge of these wonderful reptiles, which sparked great conversations between our children regarding their own observations as they grew observed the tortoises moving around the carpet. 💜 To make the morning even more special Debbie encouraged the children to handle the tortoises. 🌱 Our ambassadors were so incredibly gentle and welcoming - Debbie was truly soo impressed with their respectfulness and collaborative ethos 💜 🌱 #spacetortoise #receptionbookhook #powerofreading #earlywriting 🖍️



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

We are mathematicians.

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.



Mathematician

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

Numbots highest user:

Reception: Matthew

Year 1: Sienna

Year 2: Darcy



Rockstars highest user

Class 1: Lottie

Class 2: Finnley

Class 3: Harrison



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



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



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



Team MTB PTFA



MTB Cake Raffle Congratulations to Lorien on winning the cake raffle today. A huge thank you to Rosie and her mum Rebecca for generously donating the Chocolate Fudge Cake – it looks absolutely 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

AT MTB PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Community News

BRENTOR VILLAGE HALL
COFFEE MORNING



SATURDAY FEB 7
10:30 to 12:00



Freshly Brewed Coffee
 Bacon Rolls, Cakes & Tea

JIGSAW SWAP/SALE

Bring unwanted / finished puzzles for others to enjoy



West Devon Explorer Scouts will be selling homemade cakes to raise funds for an expedition. Please support them

LOCAL PRODUCE ON SALE - PORK, CHICKEN, SAUSAGES

EVERYONE IS VERY WELCOME TO JOIN US !

PL19 0LR
 Card payment encouraged

STAY & PLAY AT BRENTOR VILLAGE HALL

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

£1 PER PERSON
 EVERY MONDAY FROM NOV 10TH

MILLIERICKELL@OUTLOOK.COM

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

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND EXETER LIVE BETTER A BETTER TOMORROW

Half Term Activity Painting from Nature

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

Add to your calendar

Location
 Tavistock Library

ONE SMALL STEP FOR MAN, ONE GIANT LEAP FOR HIGH 5!

GALAXY EXPLORERS
 @MOUNT KELLY PREP SCHOOL
 MONDAY 16TH - FRIDAY 20TH FEBRUARY 2026

AWARDED
 ★ BEST CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY PROVIDER IN THE SOUTH WEST
 ★ BEST SUMMER CAMP IN SOUTH WEST

SCAN TO BOOK NOW

MARTIAN MONDAY	EXTRATERRESTIAL TUESDAY	OUT OF THIS WORLD WEDNESDAY	MILKY WAY THURSDAY	FLYING SAUCER FRIDAY
Deep Space Dodgeball	Deep Space Dodgeball	Space Jam Basketball	Moon Ball Tennis Masterclass	Space Jam Basketball
Cosmic Cricket	Halo Hockey	Deep Space Dodgeball	Halo Hockey	Deep Space Dodgeball
Space Jam Basketball	Cosmic Cricket	Zero Gravity Inflatables session: including zorb wars	Deep Space Dodgeball	Cosmic Cricket
Neon Dodgeball Tournament	Zero Gravity Inflatables session: including zorb wars	Wet Welly Space Explorers	Zero Gravity Inflatables session: including zorb wars	Fluro Dance Party
Starship Fun Swim	Wet Welly Space Explorers		Wet Welly Space Explorers	Starship Fun Swim

DAILY COSMIC CRAFTING - SEND THEIR IMAGINATIONS OUT OF THIS WORLD!

BOOK NOW @ www.high5sportscamps.co.uk

Ofsted

FIND US ON...

Enjoy,
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 'Educa

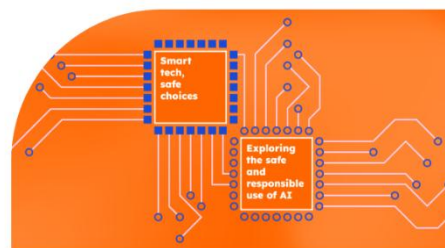


Safer Internet Day



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

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Our intrepid athletes



Our Cross-Country team are most definitely in race mode' as we prepare for the upcoming Cross Country Series of 2026.

Our teams are being put through their paces by Mr Hinton, Mrs Davey and Mr Finnimore as they tackle the various terrains that they will encounter during the races.

26th Feb - The first race is in the Meadows in Tavistock. Starting at 4pm

5th March – The second race at Whitchurch Cricket Club

25th March – the final race takes place at Yelverton which also includes a KS1 race.



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And finally..... an exciting outdoor classroom update



Truly WOW !!!! a huge MTB thank you to Team Crawford and in particular to Travis for all his efforts in getting our outdoor classroom cladded, which was a stipulation in the planning agreement with DNP within three months of installation. Honestly, we were blown away when we popped up on Monday afternoon to see it.

Travis' exceptional craftsmanship, his accuracy and his attention to detail, his dogged determination to get it finished within the timeframe he had, before he left to go back to work abroad, his truly astonishing. Not only did Travis very kindly and generously give us his time but in addition to this, he made a financial contribution of additional materials in order for him to complete it.

We are truly grateful and can now begin to finally dare to envisage what it may actually look like once we have fully landscaped the surrounding area.

With the help of AI, we have as a staff team had a little creative vision about what it may look like when finished Yyyyyyyyyy



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euSS