



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

Dear Families, 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

I can't believe we are now officially halfway through the school year!!! Well, done to our amazing children and staff for another incredibly successful half term. Thank you to all our wider supporters; Governors, Parent Volunteers, Reading Volunteers and our PTFA. Having started the half term in the snow and ice we have navigated the January blues packing in as much as is plausibly possible Theatre trip, Aquarium Trip, weekly swimming lessons, weekly running club in preparation for the upcoming races that commence straight after half term. This half term has all been about developing oracy and encouraging our children to use their words at all times to communicate. I am so delighted to inform you that with your support this really is now embedded, and I have been so impressed with the way that our children communicate both in their reciprocal interactions with each other and of course with the various adults that they interact with. Only yesterday I heard a Reception child encouraging a peer to use their words so that they could help them!!

A huge thank you to our PTFA who this week delivered the most wonderful Valentines Disco that was such a fabulous success – the comments from you all as to how much your children enjoyed it really were so appreciated and make the effort that goes into staging these events so worthwhile.

Thank you to everyone who supports and champions our very special small school.

Finally, I wish you all the most wonderful half term break and look forward to seeing you on our return, to hear all that you have been up to. I am always so appreciative of our MTB school community and all that we stand for and aspire to. It is an utter privilege to lead the school, and it is our support of each and every one of our team members that makes us so unique. Happy Holidays everyone at TeamMTB.

### Diary Dates:

23<sup>rd</sup> – All back -new student teacher  
Miss Sarkar in Class 3 Swimming & Muddy Monday

24<sup>th</sup> – Parent/ Teacher meetings

25<sup>th</sup> – Devon finance budget planning  
Forest School Class 1

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  
Exeter Cathedral Chorister outreach

### March

2<sup>nd</sup> – National Offer Day Secondary Schools

3<sup>rd</sup> – Reception vision screening

Exeter Cathedral Chorister outreach  
Reception PTC

Class 2 residential meeting with Encompass

4<sup>th</sup> – Forest School Class 2

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

### 6<sup>th</sup> - Scholastic Book Fair in school

9-13<sup>th</sup> Science Week

10<sup>th</sup> – Mrs. Higham Early Years Music Conference

11<sup>th</sup> – Annual Egg mobile race

Forest School Class 3

12<sup>th</sup> – Mrs., Davies Devon Head's meeting

13<sup>th</sup> – Whole School trip to the Zoo – paid for by the PTFA

17<sup>th</sup> – TAG rugby tournament

18<sup>th</sup> – Forest School Class 1

19<sup>th</sup> – KS2 to sing at Exeter Cathedral

25<sup>th</sup> – Cross Country race Yelverton

### April –

1<sup>st</sup> – Easter Service 2pm – Reception and Year 6 parents

2<sup>nd</sup> – PTFA Duck Race and Last day of term

## Intent Drivers – Our Core Values

Perseverance

Aspiration

Respect

Collaboration

## Headteacher Award's

**Reception: Mathew:** For your impressive wealth of scientific knowledge and for sharing your understanding with such respect and thought for your peers. This week you have really impressed us with your collaboration and respect, ensuring that you support your peers to understand more through your careful explanations and use of scientific vocabulary

**Class 1: Ottilie** Has demonstrated time and again that she can be relied upon to set the example to her peers. Ottilie is self-driven to complete her written task work with determination and pace. Her aspiration to always complete her work without distraction and to the best of her ability has been noted by all the staff working in Class 1 and we are incredibly proud of your progress Ottilie well done.

**Class 2: Aruvi-** This week Aruvi, you have impressed us with your application and aspiration to produce work that truly demonstrates your potential particularly in your writing – well done Aruvi your aspiration to achieve highly is admirable.

**Class 3: Bill-** has quickly established himself as a child who can be relied upon to live out our school values in all that he undertakes, in your determination to be the very best version of yourself in all that you do. Today Bill demonstrated resilience and perseverance when he overcame his anxiety around reading out his persuasive text to the rest of the class. Bill we are so proud of you for overcoming your anxieties – well done Bill be super 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	<b>Iona</b>	Rec: Mia C1- Louis C2- Rafferty C3- Alaia- Mai	171	1318
Doe Tor House	<b>Elizabeth</b>	Rec: Lily-Rae C1- Roseanna/Connie J C2- Anya C3- Violet	267	1294
Fox Tor House	<b>Harrison</b>	Rec: Rosie C1- Emmeline C2- Persephone C3- James	205	1178
Hare Tor House	<b>Lottie</b>	Rec: Gracie C1- William F C2- Aruvi C3-Thomas	319	1328

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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## Congratulations to Hare Tor on being the winning house this half term.

We can't wait to celebrate with you in the first week back. I will let you know the date to bring in their forest school clothes for their extra celebratory session.

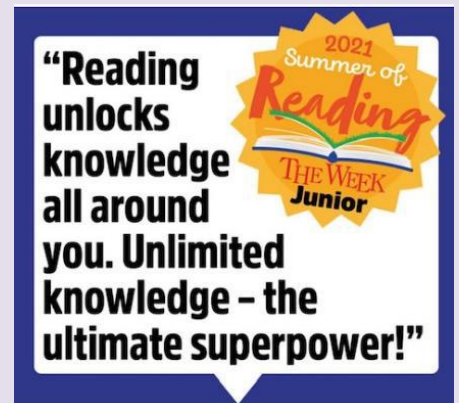
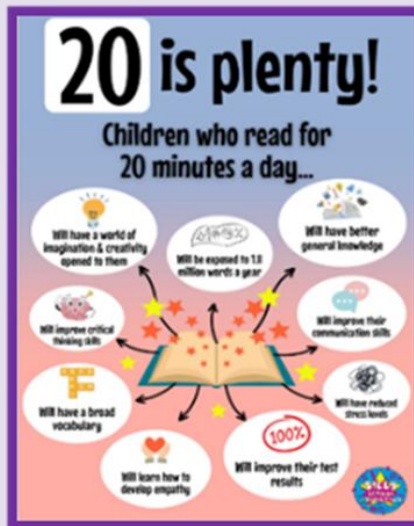


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Thank you to all parents/carers who are supporting our drive to reading excellence in school. Our amazing SAT results proved we are a 'Reading School'  
Please do try to keep up the rigour and sustain the daily reading. We cannot emphasise enough how 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 2 2025 / 26-

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3:15-4:30	Tag- American Football Mr. Finnimore  KS2	Plymouth Argyle  <b>Year 1 +</b>	Chess – Mr Hinton KS2	Craft – Miss Porter  Coding/ Microbits Mrs Ascot – KS2  Netball - Miss Vallance  Yoga – Mrs Davies	Lunchtime 12pm XC team <b>Yr. 3,4,5,6</b> Mrs Davey Mr Hinton Mr Finnimore
Lunchtime Prefect Led Clubs	Book Club	Year 4 Times table intervention		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

Tel: (01208) 853070 | Mon to Thu 9am-4.30pm & Fri 9am-2pm

**wovina**



**Affordable  
uniforms are  
now the law.**

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



## 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/>

## Team MTB success

Congratulations to Willow (Reception) and Beth (Yr.1) on completing Level 4 in their gymnastics. Both Willow and Beth attend Rebound Gym Club which takes place at Tavistock College on a Thursday evening – Well Done both of you on your achievement.



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Aston (Science peer ambassador) and I are busy planning a varied, program of science, technology, engineering, and math's activities to celebrate British Science week, **9-13<sup>th</sup> March**. The theme this year is **'Curiosity: What's your question? It is all about empowering and encouraging our children to embrace their passions, finding the answers to their most burning STEM questions.**



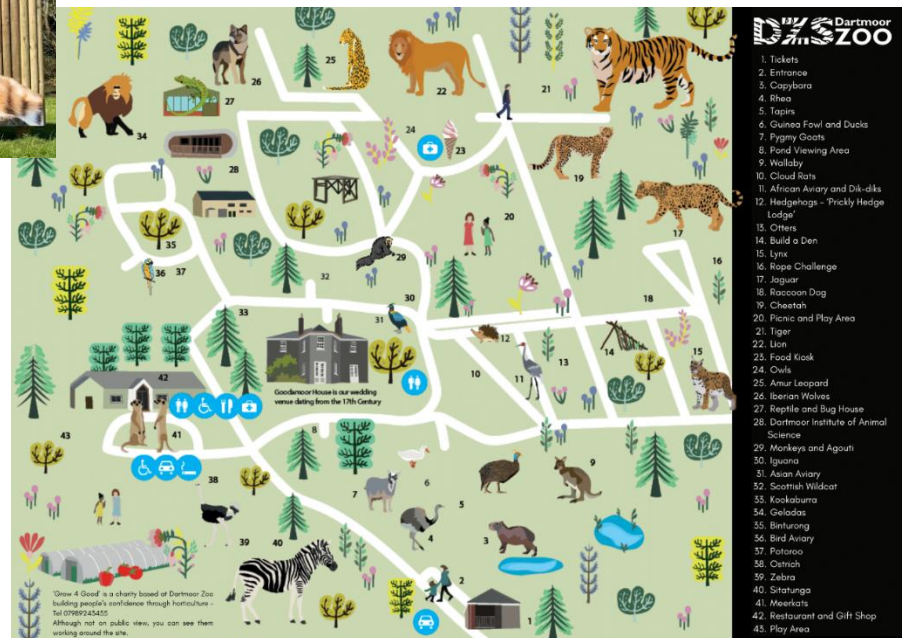
Our INTENT is to inspire and encourage our children to be excited and engage with science, to ASPIRE to become ambassadors for science, and ultimately to be empowered to challenge and influence British science in the future through their career choices.

We would like to invite parents/carers and those in our community who are in STEM careers to come into school to share their experience with the children to inspire them to follow STEM careers. Please contact [admin@marytavyandbrentor.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@marytavyandbrentor.devon.sch.uk) if you are able to come in.



This year we will kick off Science week with hands on investigations, mid-way through the week we will hold our highly anticipate Egg Mobile Race and this year we will finish the week with a visit to Dartmoor Zoo – a fully funded trip paid for by the PTFA. The visit will afford our STEM ambassador the opportunity to ask the Zookeepers the questions they have

about the animals at the zoo.



**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2026**  
 Whole school trip to Dartmoor Zoo fully funded by the PTFA.  
 The visit will be during the school day and so normal drop off and collection.  
 Please ensure your child is wearing their full school uniform with trainers.  
 Please do not book a school dinner for this day. All children will need a packed lunch and a water bottle.

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# Great MTB Egg Race Competition

I am a scientist.



As Part of our Science Week, we would like to invite you to design a mode of transport to transport an egg the greatest distance. We hope this will be one of the highlights of the school year.

Children will need to build their eggmobiles at home and bring them in to compete in the Eggitorium which will happen at the end of the spring term. The event will take the whole morning, and prize giving will happen in the afternoon.

**We challenge you to create something wonderful, something whacky, something fast, or something adventurous by way of a vehicle that will carry a hard boiled egg, just as far as a hard boiled egg can go!!!!**

## MTB Primary School Great Egg Race

### Objective

To make an Eggmobile to transport an egg from a starting line at one end of the hall.

### Prizes

3 prizes will be awarded to each class, for:  
 Furthest distance travelled.  
 Most ingenious design  
 Most beautifully made.

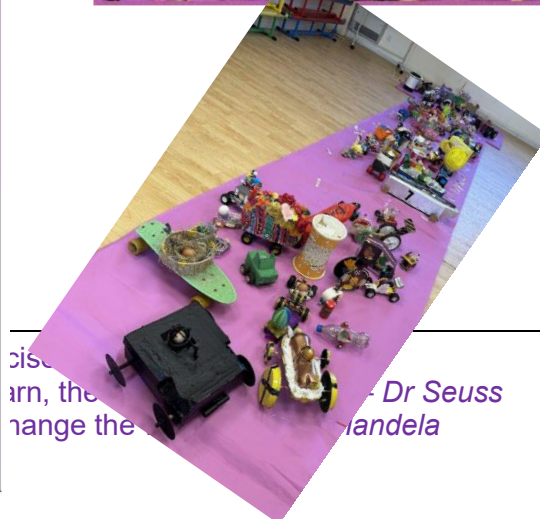
### Rules

1. The egg must be a hard boiled hen's egg. The eggmobile must be self-propelled.
2. It may be released either from the top of the ramp provided, or from the starting line on the floor.
3. It may not be pushed, thrown, flicked, or otherwise aided by human force.
4. To win the distance prize the egg must arrive intact.
5. The judges' decision will be final.
6. Distance is measured perpendicular to the start line, to the point where the eggmobile stops.
7. Joint entries will only be accepted if from the same class.
8. The eggmobile must be made by at least one of the entrants.



**WOW**  
 What a fabulous morning we had celebrating our annual Egg Mobile competition. The children had such a wonderful time both participating in and cheering on the entries. The creativity and Ingenuity of you all was truly astonishing and really did amaze us all

Exercise is to the body,  
 Learning, the more place you go – Dr Seuss  
 To change the world 'Nelson Mandela



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# 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: Sienna**



**Rockstars highest user**

**Class 1: Freddie C**

**Class 2: Anya**

**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 Sienna on winning the cake raffle today. A huge thank you to Millie and her mum for generously donating the Valentines Cake – it look 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.*



Wow what a truly fabulous time we all had at our inaugural Valentines discos. The children all look soooo incredibly smart in their disco outfits and we all had soooo much fun dancing along to the music. A huge MTB thank you to our PTFA committee who staged the event from the decorations of the hall, the preparation and serving of the food through to the lighting and music – it was an incredibly special evening and one that was most importantly memorable for all – thank you.



Exercise is to the body,  
Learning is to the mind,  
Character is to the soul – *Dr Seuss*  
To change the world 'Nelson Mandela

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DISCO



**MTB**  
**VALENTINE'S PARTY**

**11TH FEBRUARY**  
RS1 4:30-5:45 PM  
RS2 6:00-7:15 PM

£4 PER CHILD - INCLUDES  
A DRINK & SNACK

BOOK ON PARENTMAIL



AT MTB  
PRIMARY  
SCHOOL

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'Education is

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you can use to change the world '*Nelson Mandela*

# Community News



## 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



## Half Term Activity Painting from Nature

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

[Add to your calendar](#)

Location  
Tavistock Library

## Tavistock Library February Half Term

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Feb and Monday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb**

### Community craft activity

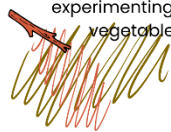
Create a paper tree with artist James Lake. Make colourful leaves and branches from paper and cardboard and help bring the children's area of the library to life - drop in, **10:00am-12:00pm** 🌳



**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb**

### Craft activity

Discover the art hiding in nature. In Nature Doodles with Megan Norris, we'll explore the creative potential of ordinary plants, experimenting with paints made from local trees and garden vegetables, and drawing with charcoal made from twigs



**10:00am-12:30pm.**

**Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> Feb**

### Book Sale



Horrabridge Primary School will be in our lobby raising funds through a book sale.

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> Feb**

### Free Drop in session



Join us for a free, hands-on workshop celebrating the wonderful world of water. Children ages 4 and up will explore aquatic habitats, discover amazing creatures, and learn why biodiversity matters, all through play and creativity **10:00am-12:00pm**



Tavistock Library  
The Quay, Plymouth Rd, Tavistock.  
Tel: 01822 612218  
tavistock.library@librariesunlimited.org.uk



Libraries Unlimited

Tavistock Library



## World Book Day

14<sup>th</sup> Feb - 6<sup>th</sup> March

### Children's costume swap



Swap your costume with one on the rail

Or, choose a costume if you haven't got



one and make a donation

Let's keep costumes circulating



Libraries Unlimited

Libraries Unlimited is a registered charity 1170092  
Supported by:

Devon  
County Council

TORBAY COUNCIL

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

# GALAXY EXPLORERS

## @MOUNT KELLY PREP SCHOOL

MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> - FRIDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2026

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



**MARTIAN MONDAY**

- Deep Space Dodgeball
- Cosmic Cricket
- Space Jam Basketball
- Neon Dodgeball Tournament
- Starship Fun Swim

**EXTRATERRESTRIAL TUESDAY**

- Deep Space Dodgeball
- Halo Hockey
- Cosmic Cricket
- Zero Gravity Inflatables session: including zorb wars
- Wet Welly Space Explorers

**OUT OF THIS WORLD WEDNESDAY**

- Space Jam Basketball
- Deep Space Dodgeball
- Zero Gravity Inflatables session: including zorb wars
- Wet Welly Space Explorers

**MILKY WAY THURSDAY**

- Moon Ball Tennis Masterclass
- Halo Hockey
- Deep Space Dodgeball
- Zero Gravity Inflatables session: including zorb wars
- Wet Welly Space Explorers

**FLYING SAUCER FRIDAY**

- Space Jam Basketball
- Deep Space Dodgeball
- Cosmic Cricket
- Fluro Dance Party
- Starship Fun Swim

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



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FIND US ON



**WHEN : Wednesday 18th February**

**TIME : 1.00pm - 3.15pm** (Suggested Donation £2.00 per family)

**FILM : THE LEGO MOVIE**

All children will need to be accompanied by an adult. Snacks provided.

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# Forest School



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# And finally.....

We have finished today our entry for the Paint the Town Garland competition 2026. This year's theme is Spring, and we are hoping that our garland festooned with spring flowers, frogs and flora and fauna will impress the judges. Please do keep an eye on our WhatsApp group for a notification as to which shop our garland will be on display in. A huge MTB thank you to our wonderful staff team who have supported the children in all classes to contribute and a particular thank you to Miss Porter and Craft club for all their creativity in producing the frogs. This is a whole team effort, and we are soooo proud of it.



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e the world 'Nelson Mandela

