



Clare Davies (Head teacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead)
Kere Ascot (Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead)
Robert Oxborough (Safeguarding Governor)

11th September 2026

Dear families.

Embracing new beginnings with open arms. We have had such a heart-warming return, welcoming you all back to our school family this week. It is such a privilege to see our young minds eager to learn, grow and make lifelong memories. Welcoming existing and new families has been so uplifting and I'm looking forward to all the fantastic contributions everyone will make to our vibrant school community this academic year.

MTB school has a unique character: our ethos goes beyond just academic excellence. It's about embracing the holistic development of every individual, fostering an environment where pupils are not mere numbers but valued participants in their unique journey.

My ultimate goal is to enable our pupils to flourish as independent, responsible global citizens who wholeheartedly embrace their diverse talents and passions. I believe in an education that encompasses academic achievements, personal well-being, co-curricular exploration, individual growth, communal responsibility, and an atmosphere of genuine nurturing.

My dedicated staff and our volunteers play an outstanding role in this journey. They're the ones who go the extra mile to ensure that your child's time here is filled with growth, learning, and a sense of belonging. This isn't just a school; it's a place where pupils become part of a tightly knit school family. This week we have welcomed back Miss. Porter who has returned on a phased return three days a week - our staff team is complete again. Her role may appear a little different over the next few weeks until she returns full-time to Class 1.

A huge thank you to you ALL for your patience as we navigate the new platforms of MCAS and the WhatsApp communities.

Remember that the entire MTB family extends a warm welcome to you all, as we commence the academic year 2026-27. We're so eager to share in your child's journey of growth, discovery, and celebrate this with you. We are so looking forward to seeing you ALL in school next week at the Class Welcome Meetings. At these meetings will be led by the Class teachers supported by the LSA's. At the meetings representatives from the PTFA will also share with you all the wonderful work that the committee do and how you can be involved this academic year. Mrs Davies



Diary Dates:

14th – Class 3 Welcome meeting 3:15pm
15th – Mrs Davies out at Devon leadership conference
Class 1 Forest School
Mr. Finnimore and Mrs. Ascot attending mastering number CPD
Reception Welcome Meeting
16th – Forest School Class 3
Class 3 Forest School
Class 1 Welcome meeting.
17th – Reception Forest School
Class 2 Welcome meeting
18th – Roald Dahl Dress up day. Please dress your child up as their favourite character. The day will be a celebration of this well-loved author.
22nd – Mrs. Davies, Mrs. Ascot and Mr. Hinton attending reading trial with Manchester University
Class 1 Forest School.
23rd – Individual photos
Forest School Class 2
24th – Mrs Bisby our at Data protection forum
Reception forest school
25th – Prefect Elections
28th – Student teacher starting in Class 3.
29th -PTFA AGM 3@15pm
30th – Forest school Class 3
October
1st Junior Life skills Yr6.Tavistock
Flu vaccinations
2nd – Prefect Macmillan Cake Sale
7th – Full Governing Board Meeting
8th – Methodist assembly
9th – World Mental Health Day- wear yellow
12th – 16th Parent Teacher Consultations

Intent Drivers – Our Core Values

Perseverance

Aspiration

Respect

Collaboration

Headteacher Award's

Reception – To all our new Reception children who have transitioned into MTB so well with sheer enthusiasm and collaboration enthused by our continuous provision. We are so incredibly proud of you.

Class One: Maya: For a fantastic start to year 2. You embody our school values in all that you do and are a fantastic role model to Year 1's.

Class Two: Rex- has made an astonishing start to the year demonstrating our school values in all aspects of school life with renewed confidence, maturity and engagement.

Class Three: Otto - Has a wonderful thirst for learning and is innately curious about the world around him. As he has settled into Year 6 this past week Otto has grown in confidence across all aspects of MTB school life and is now finding his voice to contribute to discussion and share all his knowledge. Otto you are the embodiment of our school values in all that you do and undertake, and we can't wait to see what this year holds in store for 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

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**

Our Tor House System promotes a positive and inclusive culture. The system is embedded to promote a caring and supportive environment; where all are valued and can demonstrate loyalty and allegiance while contributing to the success of their House

The aims of the of our House system are

- Promote positive self-esteem, self-identity, belonging, integrity and pride amongst all children
- Peer support to help promote positive mental health.
- Promotion of responsibility and pupil voice, teamwork, cooperation, communication and leadership skills for the prefects
- Constant and consistent encouragement for children by their peers to achieve their best.
- Develop a common goal so that children **feel more connected to and involved with the school community around them**. It facilitates discussions between the most infant and most senior of our school and foster friendly competitive spirit along the way.

 Mary Tavy and Brentor Primary House System 2026-27 													
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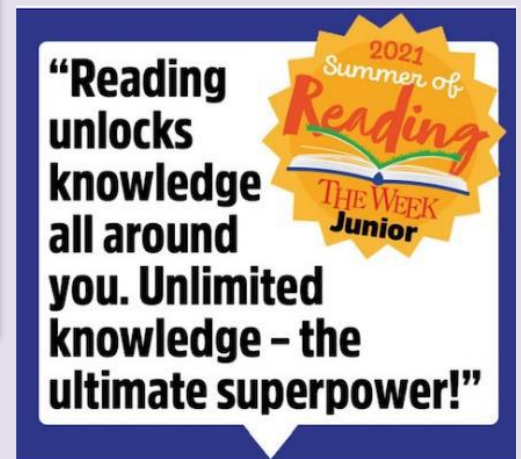
Thank you to all parents/carers who are supporting our drive to reading excellence in school. Our amazing SAT results proved we are a 'Reading School'

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!!



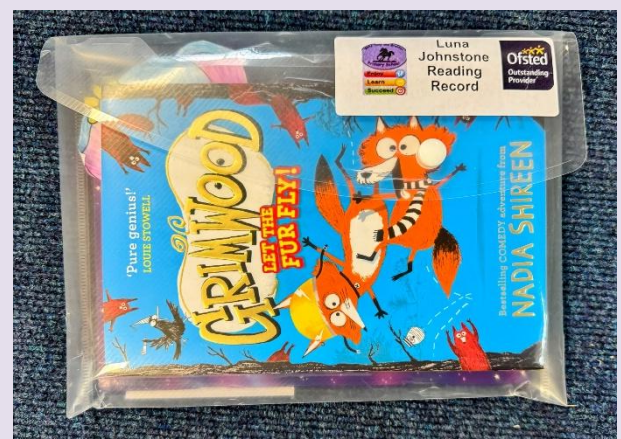
At Mary Tavy and Brentor we believe that all pupils should have the opportunity to be fluent, confident readers who are able to successfully comprehend and understand a wide range of texts. We want to foster a love of reading exposing children to a good knowledge of a range of authors. We want our school to be a

place where children are read to, enjoy, discuss and work with high-quality books.



It is incredibly important that your child does not lose their reading folder, and I ask that you are meticulous about ensuring that you keep it in a safe place at home.

Each class has its own personal reading challenge. The children will be rewarded for their incremental progress towards their 100 read aspirational total.



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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.

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



Mathematician

Numbots highest user:

Reception:

Year 1:

Year 2:



Rockstars highest user

Class 1:

Class 1:

Class 3:



"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.**

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Curriculum Enrichment 3:15-4:30pm Autumn 1 2025 / 26

The clubs sign up will be active on Monday at 6pm on MCAS.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Art Club – max 20 children.	1:1 Music lessons with Dan Hilman morning KS1 sports club – max 20	<u>Cross Country Club</u> Yr 2 3,4,5,6 Chess club Yr2 up	Choir 8:15am Yr1 up Computing Homework – Yr1 up Yoga KS2 sports club Yr3 up.	Board Games Yr 1 up.

Our school choir is open to all our children in Yr1 upwards.

We are delighted to share that we will be rehearsing a catalogue of songs to perform at a very special choral performance that we have arranged with the Tamar Valley Male Voice Choir.

This will be ticketed event and will open to the wider Community to enjoy also.

We are so looking forward to sharing our rehearsals with you as we prepare for this fantastic opportunity to showcase our talents



Together in Song!

A joint choral performance

Mary Tavy & Brentor Primary School

TAMAR VALLEY Male Voice Choir

Friday 27th November 2026

6PM

Mary Tavy Coronation Hall

£5 adults under 16 free

Tickets available to purchase from Mary Tavy and Brentor Primary School and Mary Tavy Post Office

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A Huge MTB Good Luck to all those sitting the 11+ examinations this weekend at Devonport.

We know how incredibly hard you have worked with your additional studies to sit these examinations, and we wish you the very best



KS3 Provision

KS3 provision – in this section of our weekly newsletter we will continue to bring you updates from our Alumni as they navigate the transition to Year 7 at our various feeder schools. We will also signpost you to events that we think you may be interested in. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss thoughts that you have regarding your child's future provision, I am more than happy to talk through the various local providers. I will arrange a parent meeting for parents of children in Year 6 to meet with parents' / teachers/ transition staff from local schools which are more bespoke and personal than the 'Open days' to ensure that you are armed with as much information as is possible to support your decisions.

Online applications for places to Devon secondary school are open now.
The closing date for applications is the 31st of October 2026

Tavistock College



Together we care. Together we challenge. Together we excel.

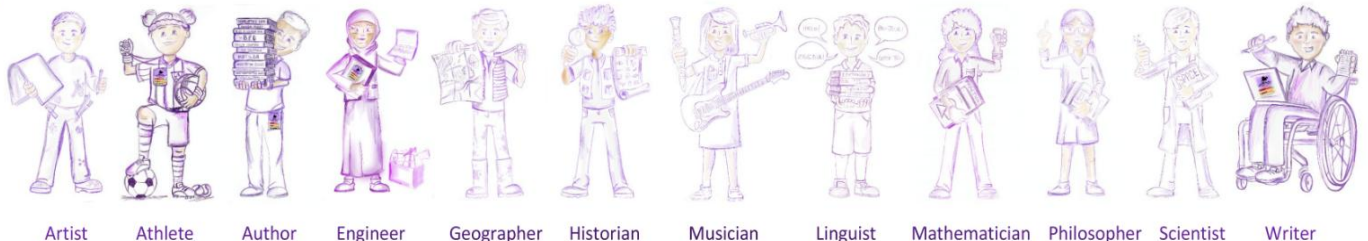
Open Evening 2026

Wednesday 23rd September
4.30 -7:00pm

Principal's Welcome Speech

5.30pm & 6.00pm
Main Hall

Our states of being



What we know about how children learn, is that when we teach children skills and knowledge in isolation, like punctuation in English, they rarely make links to other subjects. Even when they are writing about Brunel in History or how plants grow in science, they tend to forget how to apply the same English skills. This is in part because the information stored in the brain is locked up in the 'English folder', and why would they open that box when they are in History or Science?

We believe States of Being move away from content in subject folders and uses clusters of knowledge that can easily be applied between subjects. By learning how to punctuate as an Author, they can use this knowledge when they are being Scientists as they start to understand that Scientists also need to write to convey what they have discovered. Please remember to ask your child As a Historian, Engineer, Mathematician what have you been discovering today????

MTB's 3Rs Reflect, Reset, Ready to Learn

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.

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

Bob Kerrey



Team MTB PTFA



MTB Cake Raffle - most definitely the backbone of MTB – we absolutely love cake Hehe. Each week a family kindly donate a cake to be raffled in celebration assembly. If you would like to donate a cake, please can you contact the office to be added to the list.

☀ Come and Join Us! ☀

We'd love to welcome both new and familiar faces to our PTFA Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 29th September at 3:15pm in school. It's a relaxed chance to hear what we've been up to, share your ideas, and see how you can get involved (big or small!) in supporting our children and school. We hope to see you there! Xx



PTFA AGM

All Invited

3.15pm

29th September

School Hall



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MTB Forest School



FOREST SCHOOL IS BACK!

What better way to start the new academic year than getting outside, exploring and getting stuck into some Forest School fun!

Class 1 have already been enjoying their first Forest School sessions, embracing the great outdoors and taking on new challenges.

From developing confidence and independence to learning practical skills, working as a team and having plenty of fun along the way, Forest School gives our children the opportunity to learn in a completely different environment.

There's something pretty special about learning outdoors... especially when it involves getting a little bit muddy he he!

Forest School sessions this half term

Reception – Every Thursday afternoon

Class 1 – Every Friday afternoon

Class 2 – Alternate Wednesday afternoons starting on the 23/9

Class 3 – Alternate Wednesday afternoons starting on the 16/9

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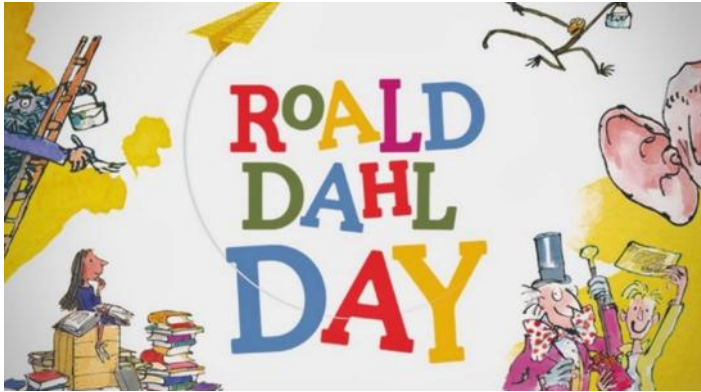
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Roald Dahl Day, this time next week we will be

celebrating the beloved children's author Roald Dahl. As always, we will commence our dress up day with a TeamMTB catwalk. We are so looking forward to seeing all your creations. We have a very special 'cake raffle' next week to compliment our theme.

Please see below our celebrations in previous years- I can't wait to share with you all the wonderful costumes next week.



"We are all different,
but there's something
kind of fantastic about
that, isn't there?"

Roald Dahl

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Class 3 adventurers

What better way to start the new academic year in Class 3 than with a day of adventure and collaboration. Our ambassadors in Class 3 both our new prefects in Year 6 and our new Year 5's demonstrated our school values in abundance whilst they undertook the enrichment opportunities. From scrambling up 'Jacob's ladder' to negotiating the high ropes, to throwing themselves off the platform in the leap of faith our intrepid ambassadors gave it their all. From collaboration to aspiration with a sprinkling of aspiration to overcome their fears they conducted themselves at all times with the TeamMTB respect and kindness for all their peers and instructors a like. A huge congratulations to all our Class 3 team for making us so incredibly proud.



And finally .

The warmest of welcomes to our newest Team members and their families. We are so incredibly proud of our 16 new Reception children. They are all settling in so well to the new routine and are forming the most wonderful relationships with both themselves and our wider school community.



Exercise
You learn
to ch