Clare Davies (Head teacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead)
Kere Ascot (Deputy DSL)
Robert Oxborough & Sharon Claridge (SGov)

18th September 2026

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



Dear families.

As we come to the end of our second full week, our school family is now firmly settled into our daily routines and are living out our school values in all that they do and undertake. Our new Reception children are fully immersed in our offer, and to hear how much they enjoyed their first Forest School session brought immense joy to our staff team.

Thank you to all those who came to the individual class welcome meetings this week. I have shared the presentations with you for future reference. I hope that the meetings along with the curriculum newsletters ensure that you are fully abreast of all that the children are learning in their classes and that the routines and expectations are explicit and that you feel empowered to support their learning at home.

Thank you, for all your efforts with the costumes as we celebrated Roald Dahl day in style today, with so many fantastic and magical costumes and surprises along the way it really did make for a memorable experience for our school family and one we will cherish, from Roly Poly Birds to 3D printed masks, to golden tickets and magical potions the children have had the very best experiences we can offer. From a Golden ticket hunt to the creation of their very own chocolate factory, Persuasive letters to Willy Wonker requesting to be the final recipient of the Golden ticket, they have explored characterisation and researched Roald Dahl with wonderful artwork to complement their texts.

Next week, we will focus on our British Values and in particular we will be thinking about what living in a Democracy means. We will be holding our in – class elections for our School Council representatives and I encourage you to support your child to put themselves forward for nomination. We will hold our first round of elections for our new Civic Leaders our Chair and Vice Chair. I am so looking forward to seeing who will bravely put themselves forward as candidates to stand in our election. The candidates will be preparing their manifestos to share with the school community in Friday's celebration assembly. It really is such a vital role in helping to shape MTB this academic year. In addition to the Chair and Vice Chair roles. I will be also appointing curriculum ambassadors to support our States of Being work. Our curriculum leaders who will drive our curriculum forward supporting the work of the subject lead teachers. Thank you for all your care and support, we are a fantastic school community, and it is an absolute pleasure to serve you all in my role as your Headteacher – Clare Davies

Diary Dates: Enrichment Clubs start.
22nd –Mrs. Ascot and Mr. Hinton attending reading trial with Manchester University.
23rd – Individual photos
Forest School Class 2
24th – Mrs Bisby-Data protection forum CPD
SEND Governor visit
25th – Prefect Elections
School Council Elections
28th – Student teacher starting in Class 3.
Whole School Live assembly on Allergies
29th – Upper KS2 Mixed Football tournament
PTFA AGM 3:15pm

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
15th- – PC Peart to discuss criminal responsibility with Class 3.
16th - Harvest Festival – Reception and Yr6 parents are warmly invited to attend
PTFA Halloween Disco in the Coronation Hall
22nd – Mental Health Team coffee morning for parents
PTFA Pumkin Patch extravaganza in the field 3pm
Break up for half term.

November 3rd – All back
4th – PC Heart discussing online safety Cl 2 and 3
5th – Mrs. Doubtfire Royal Theatre Class 3.

Intent Drivers – Our Core Values

Perseverance	Aspiration	Respect	Collaboration

Headteacher Award's

Reception – **Hazel –** What an amazing start to TeamMTb you have made with your quiet determination complete all the wonderful opportunities on offer in the provision. Hazel is loving our Little Wandle daily phonic lessons and always is keen to participate and demonstrate her understanding. We are soo proud of you, Hazel, and can't wait to witness your progress with us.

Class One: Freddie D- For a fantastic start to year 2. Your excellent effort across all aspects of learning, from your daily task work to your amazing presentation, is truly exceptional and most importantly your personal pride in completion of your tasks' work has been noted by all the staff team in Class 1. Well, done, Freddie

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

Class Three: Bill - For rising to the challenge of Yr.6 and demonstrating both Perseverance and Aspiration to achieve. Bill this week has really embraced all the opportunities with maturity and positivity, and it really has been such a privilege to see him asking for roles and responsibilities that can assist the day-to-day working of our school family.

Enjoy, Learn, Succeed **Reading** is to the mind, as exercise is to the body,
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'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.

House	Captain and Vice-Captain	Highest earners This week:	Points this Week	Points total
Hound Tor House	**To be announced**	Rec: Izaria C1- Matthew C2- Niamh C3- Elanor	249	249
Doe Tor House	**To be announced**	Rec: Arabella C1- Elspeth C2- Roseanna C3- Henry M	174	174
Fox Tor House	**To be announced**	Rec: Poppy C1- Beth C2- Archie C3- Charlotte. J	161	161
Hare Tor House	**To be announced**	Rec: Evie-Gracie C1: Gracie & Maya C2- Savannah C3- Charlotte. G	210	210

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.

Launch of Cooperation value

Our values education project is aimed at teaching our children four values through the school year through assemblies, stories and lessons, and having a reward system to praise children who adhere to these values. Our first value for this term is Cooperation. Some examples of behaviours that demonstrate this value are:

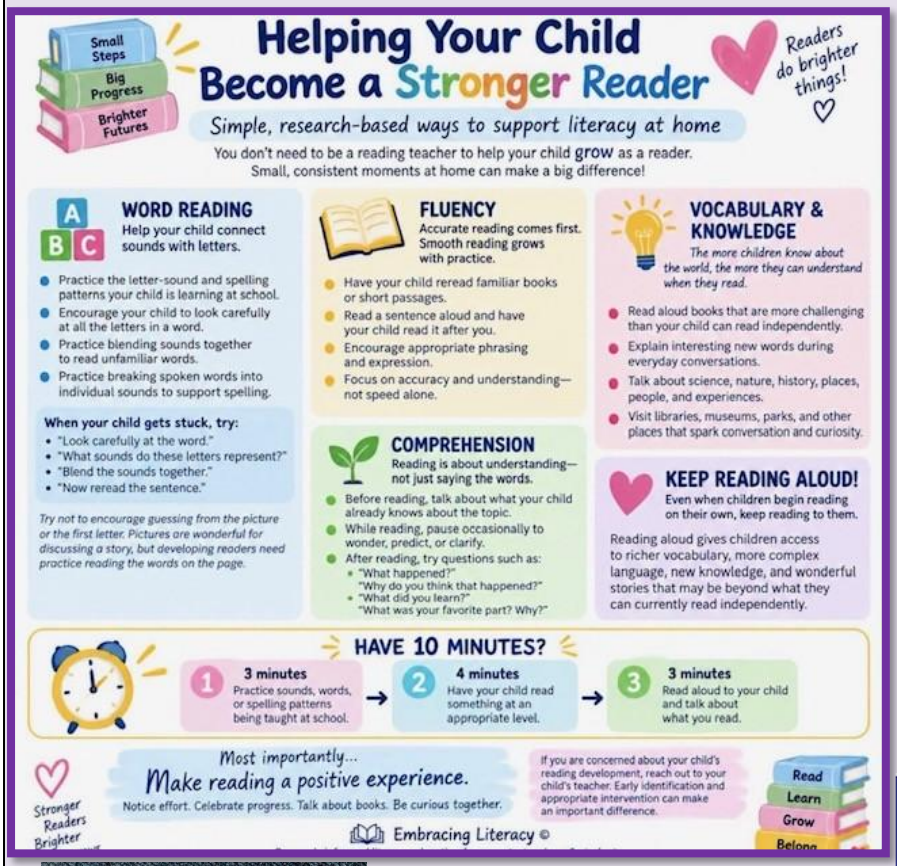
- ✓ Listening Assertiveness to speak out/ being willing to share opinions.
- ✓ Sharing.
- ✓ Using own skills/talents/abilities for others.
- ✓ Taking turns, willingness to sacrifice own views/ thoughts for others.
- ✓ Teamwork, positivity – spotting good in others. Awareness of others and their needs Negotiation
- ✓ Empathy, patient, reconciliatory, solution-focused, compromising.
- ✓ Helping and encouraging others. Please could you discuss **'Cooperation'** with children at home and explore ways to reinforce it.

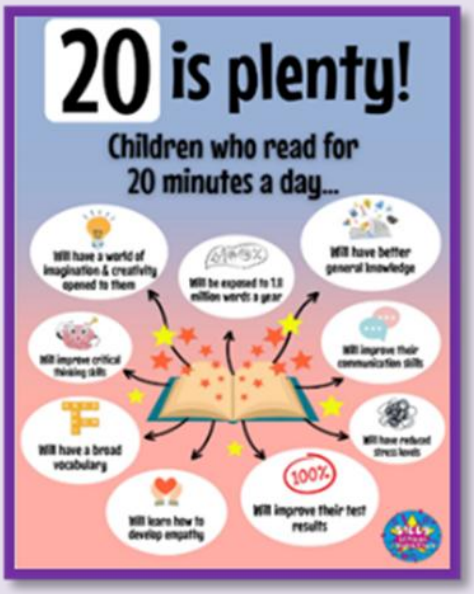
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'Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world 'Nelson *Mandela*

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!!



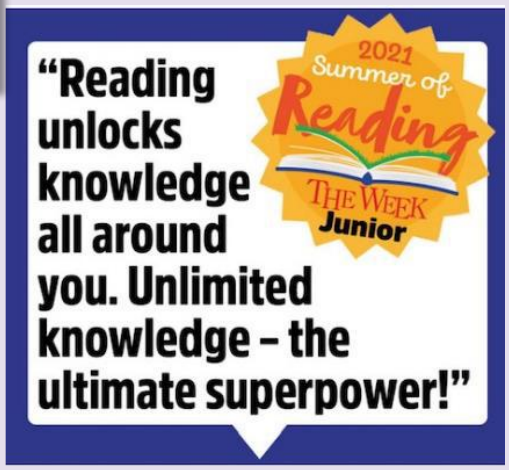
At Mary Tavy and Brentor we believe that all pupils should have the opportunity to be fluent, confident readers who are able to successfully comprehend and understand a wide range of texts. We want to foster a love of reading exposing children to a good knowledge of a range of authors. We want our school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











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.

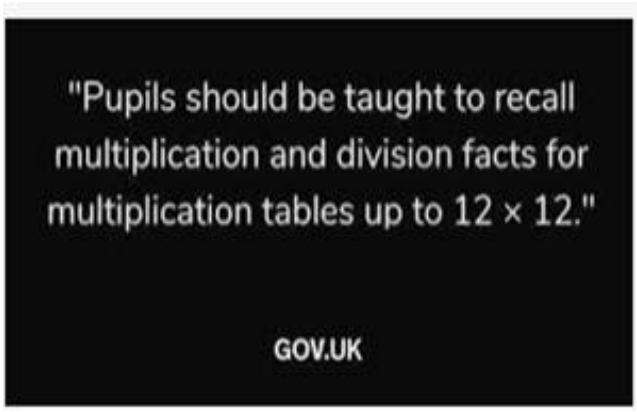
Who will be on our leader board next week??????

Numbots highest user:
Reception: Starting next week
Year 1: Matthew
Year 2: Rosie E-R



Rockstars highest user
Class 1: Rosie E-R
Class 2: Freddie S
Class 3: Woody





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

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Art Club – max 20 children.	1:1 Music lessons with Dan Hilman morning KS1 sports club – max 20	Cross Country Club 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 from 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



Homework- Sent out on a **Thursday** to be returned completed on a **Tuesday.**

Please contact your child's class teacher if you have any concerns.

Homework plays an integral part in ensuring that we collectively support your child to achieve their very best whilst with us. It provides a window into what they are learning in school and affords you as parents/carers direction in how you can support them to achieve.

I am aware that you all have very busy lives and that for many the children have a full calendar of extra-curricular commitments e.g. swimming, rugby, cycling, football etc. but I really do encourage you to spend time with your child completing their homework activities. I know that staff have prepared activities that your child can access and for some with additional support, but it is imperative that this additional time to consolidate their learning takes place if we are to commit their learning into their long-term memory.

If you need additional support, please do not hesitate to contact my team.

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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



Parent / Carer Teacher Consultations



Please save the date for our first PTC of this academic year on the **12th, 13th, 14th 15th 16th October 2026 15:30- 17-00**

You will be able to book in for your 10-minute slot via the MCAS in due course.

At these meetings you will have an opportunity to look through your child/ren's daily evidence books and of course to discuss their academic progress with their teacher.

As always please do not wait for these meetings if you have a concern or question regarding your child. As a staff team we work in collaboration with you to enable your child/ren to flourish and to surpass their potential. Please do not hesitate to contact the office if you would like to arrange a meeting with your child's class teacher at any time of the year

We are Musicians.

Dan delivers 1:1 music lessons on a Tuesday morning weekly.

We love our mornings when Dan is in to deliver the 1:1 music lessons as part of our Music Wider Opportunities Offer. Our Musician in Residence Dan Hillman will again this academic year be providing Flute, Piano, Guitar and Clarinet. Lessons. 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 Devon teaching individuals and classes. Please do check out Dan's promotional video following the link

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FEqZuX3I3aKzq0red_mLt3iDzxQhoKit/view?usp=sharing



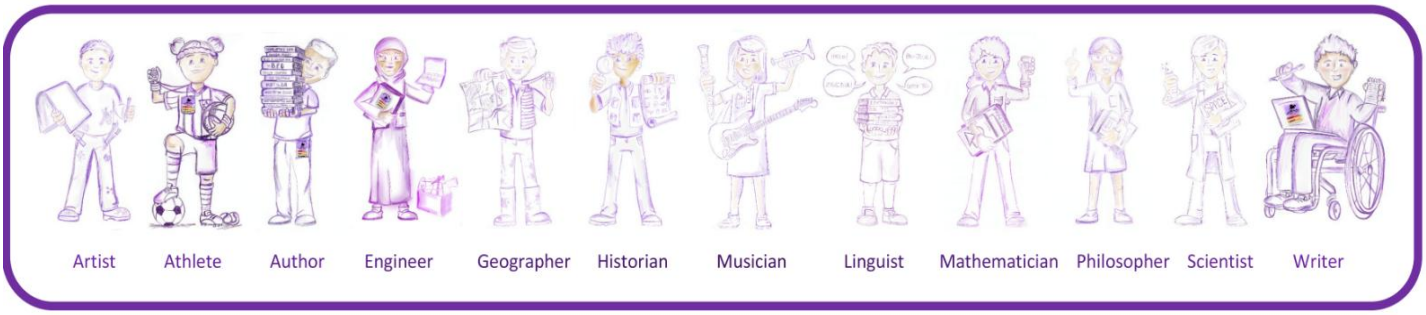
Musician

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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 *R*eflect, *R*eset, *R*eady 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.

Normal Magic Personal Wellbeing Service

Normal Magic offer free personal wellbeing conversations to the parents or carers of children in this school.

Normal Magic are here to discuss **any** concerns you may have for your child's emotional wellbeing.

We are thrilled Normal Magic are in our school and working with us!

Simply scan this QR code and complete the request for contact form. We will contact you within 2 working days to arrange an appointment.



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

Bob Kerrey

Team MTB PTFA



What at truly spectacular cake we had to raffle today in celebration of Roald Dahl Day. An immense thank you to Darren, Sienna- Grace (Yr.2) dad who kindly donated the most fabulous Bruce Bogtrottor's chocolate cake for our Roald Dahl Day.







Thank you to all those who purchased Wonka Bars – we sold around 150 bars which is absolutely incredible. For those of you who were the lucky recipients of the golden tickets. Please bring them in on Monday morning Yayyyyyy

Dear Families,

On behalf of the Parent-Teacher-Family Association (PTFA), we would like to take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to all families, both new and returning to TeamMTB. The PTFA is a collaborative organisation made up of parents, teachers, and family members who work together to support and enhance the educational experience for our children/pupils at TeamMTB.

As you know, the current PTFA committee are holding an AGM on the 29th of September

The mission is to foster strong relationships between families and staff while organising events, activities and fundraisers that will help enrich our children's school life. As a committee we are committed to ensuring every parent and family member feels connected and heard. Throughout this term, we plan to hold a Halloween disco, Pumkin extravaganza, movie night, and of course the highly anticipated Christmas Fair, with more exciting events to come – these are provisional, and more details will follow.

ALL funds raised go directly to enhancing our offer to the children from subsidising theatre trips to whole school trips to fundraising for whole school projects like the Outdoor Classroom we work with the school to enrich the children's opportunities throughout the year.

Whether you can attend meetings, volunteer for events, share ideas, or support us in other ways, every contribution makes a difference in raising valuable funds to strengthen our school community. We will be truly grateful for any involvement, big or small. Please feel free to reach out with ideas/suggestions or questions, and together, we can make this year truly exceptional for our children. Thank you for being part of our school community, and we look forward to working with you all. TeamMTB PTFA

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🌟 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



Tickets will be available on MCAS from Monday.



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MTB Forest School

What a fantastic first week of our Forest School schedule we have had. Reception took their first Welly Walk up to the field stopping to spot signs of Autumn as they made their way over the bridge. Whilst up in the field they had fun exploring our classroom under the sky, looking for shapes in the natural environment.





Class 1 had the most wonderful time in our orchard enjoying harvesting our apples. It has been soo lovely to hear how much the children enjoyed eating them. An extra special email came in from Rosie (Yr1) mum to say how much they had enjoyed making a crumble with the apples she had picked.





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KS2 artists

Exploring Art at Devon Open Studios

Our Key Stage 2 children had a wonderful time visiting an artist's open studio as part of Devon Open Studios. They enjoyed meeting the artist and finding out more about how they created their artwork. The children explored beautiful watercolour paintings and discovered sculptures made from found and recycled objects. They were fascinated to see how everyday items can be turned into something creative and special!

This visit will help the children develop their own art skills, knowledge and ideas as we explore Recycled Art and Street Art in our classes. We hope the visit will inspire them to experiment, think creatively and see art in the world around them.





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Roald Dahl Day 2026

What a wonderful day had by all at #TeamMTB 💜 celebrating Roald Dahl Day!
💜 Fantastic effort by all with brilliant outfits. We've had a great day dressing up as our favourite Roald Dahl characters, beginning the school term sending our imaginations whizzing and igniting our passion for reading! 📚✨
Roald Dahl's writing has delighted children and adults alike across the world for decades! His writing promotes absolute fun, the quest for magic in our daily lives, and (perhaps most importantly) the never-ending love of reading.
'So Matilda's strong young mind continued to grow, nurtured by the voices of all those authors who had sent their books out into the world like ships on the sea. These books gave Matilda a hopeful and comforting message: You are not alone.'
On #RoaldDahlDay, this message rings most true.
At #TeamMTB we set our pupils up to become voracious readers, fostering a lifelong love of books as they enjoy titles including George's Marvelous Medicine, Matilda and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory









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Leo(Yr6) delighted us all with a ‘George’s Marvellous Medicine’ experiment in our celebraiton assembly.







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