

Clare Davies (Head teacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead)
Kere Ascot (Deputy DSL)
Mr. Oxborough & Mrs. Claridge (Safeguarding Governors)

6th November 2026

Dear families.

We have had a wonderful week back following the thoroughly well-deserved half-term break and well I could not be prouder of how well our learners have hit the ground running, demonstrating our school values in abundance. The amount of 'Amazing work that I have had the pleasure of being presented with is testament to the determination by our learning community to move things up a gear with accelerated progress across the board in all subject areas. It has been so encouraging to hear how our team are demonstrating our recent focus of 'Perseverance' both in school and in their home lives. It has been truly wonderful to hear how they have persevered with personal challenges both in their extracurricular endeavours and of course with their application to their daily task work.

Finally, this week I have had the immense pleasure of showing round seven prospective families at our first Open Morning this week. I am always so incredibly proud of our offer and the calm, purposeful learning environment. All the families shared how impressed they were and were very keen to understand the application process. Following the visit one of our prospective families even took the time to email me; *Thank you so much for showing us around your school today, it is such a wonderful place for children to learn and flourish. We were delighted to have the opportunity to meet with some of your children and hear how happy they are. Your offer really is incredibly special. We appreciate that we currently live out of catchment, but we can now see why you are the school of choice in West Devon*

What a simply wonderful way to end the week – thank you for all your care and support. I can't wait to welcome our School Family back together on Monday morning. Clare Davies

Diary Dates:

November

9 & 10th PTFA Willow Lanterns whole school
11th – Remembrance Service at the war memorial in Mary Tavy from 11am. Prefects to lead service. Class 2 Forest School
12th – Castle Drogo XCountry competition.
13th – Miss Vallance's last day before maternity leave.
16th – 20th Anti- Bullying Week
16th – FLAG competition Yrs 4,5,6
17th – Odd Sock Day
18th – Class 3 Forest School
20th- Funky Hair Day – donations for the Xmas fair Wine and Chocolate
PTFA Willow workshop 6:30pm
23rd – 27th Parliament Week
26th – Methodist Assembly
27th – Mrs. Jackman and Mrs. Davey math's CPD
6pm KS2 music concert supported by the Tamar Valley Male Voice Choir
28th – PTFA MTB Wreath Making 6:30pm
W/C 30th Assessment Week whole school

December

1st – PTFA Pyjama Day followed by PTFA movie Night at the Coronation Hall
2nd – Christingle 2pm Christ Church in Brentor Rec and Yr.6 parents are warmly invited to attend
4th – Dickensian Evening – All children invited join us on stage for this celebration of TeamMTB
7th & 8th- KS1 Christmas Production 1:30- 3pm
10th – Class 2 to the pantomime at the Theatre Royal.
11th- Christmas Jumper Day
PTFA Christmas Fair after school.
14th – CHSW Santa Run in our school field.
16th – School Christmas Lunch
18th – Break Up for Christmas

January – 5th ALL Back

Intent Drivers – Our Core Values

Perseverance	Aspiration	Respect	Collaboration

Headteacher Awards

Reception: Poppy – For your amazing writing this week. Poppy demonstrated her exceptional flair and creativity in a vivid description of the Witch from Room on the broom. Poppy applied her newly acquired phonic knowledge to make phonetically plausible attempts when recording her ideas. Well, done Poppy for your independent work it was truly wonderful to read.

Class One: Isabella – For persevering in her work with increased independence. Isabella has struggled in the past with resilience both in her learning and in particular in the production of work that reflects her level of knowledge but this week she persevered even when things became tricky. Isabella has done incredibly well to use the manipulatives available independently to support her learning – we are so proud of your progress Isabella.

Class Two: William – For making the most wonderful start to the half term. Your motivation to succeed has been commented on by all staff who have seen renewed perseverance and developing confidence. Well, done William on your incredible progress – you should be rightly proud of all that you are achieving we can't wait to see what the year has in store for you.

Class Three: Reuben – has returned to school after half term with renewed vigor and motivation. Reuben is persevering with all tasks that he undertakes and demonstrates his potential. Well, done, Reuben, most notably this week you have blown us away with your command of Long Division.

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.

House	Captain and Vice-Captain	Highest earners This week:	Points this Week	Points total
Hound Tor House	**Otto** 	Rec: Charlotte C1- Rosie ER C2- Douglas	127	127
Doe Tor House	**Frederick** 	Rec: Arabella C1- Sienna C2- Joseph	137	137
Fox Tor House	**Leo** 	Rec: Grace C1- Connie C2- Emmeline	116	116
Hare Tor House	**Chloe** 	Rec: Agnes C1: Freddie C2- William	120	120

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.

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 goals to achieve
- ✓ 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.

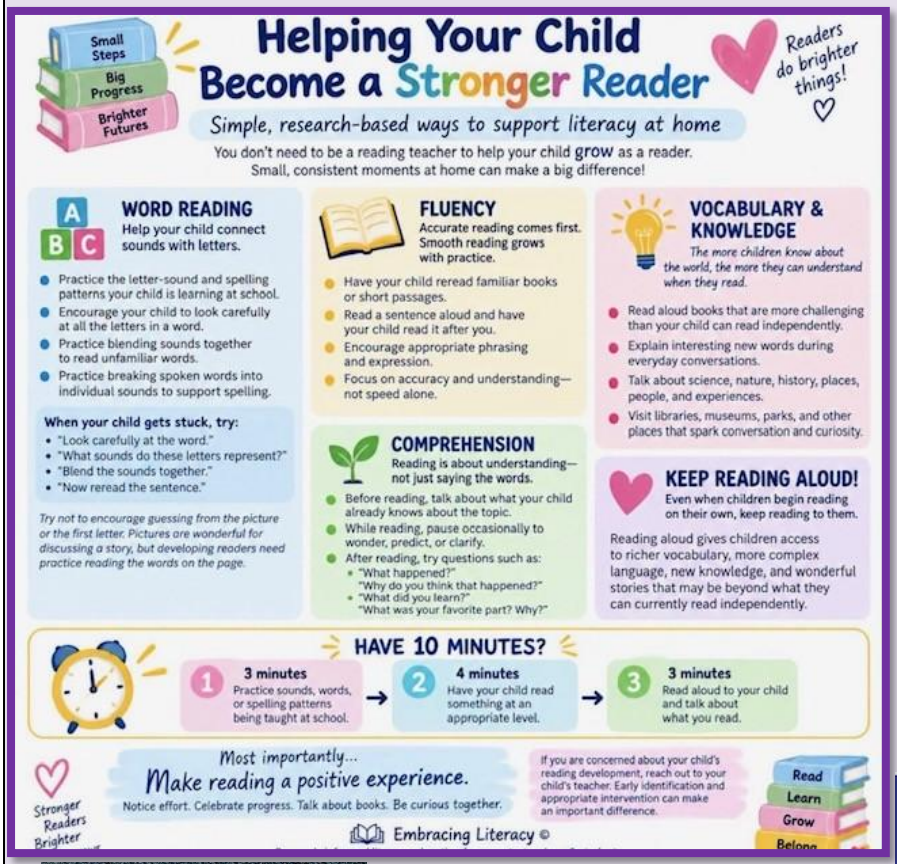
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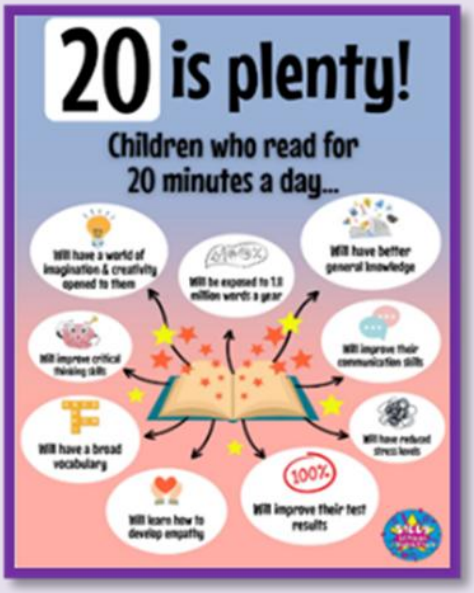


Thank you to all parents/carers who are supporting our drive to reading excellence in school. Our amazing SAT results proved we are a 'Reading School'
Please do try to keep up the rigour and sustain the daily reading. We cannot emphasise enough how vitally important it is that the children read with you for **at least 20mins** daily!!



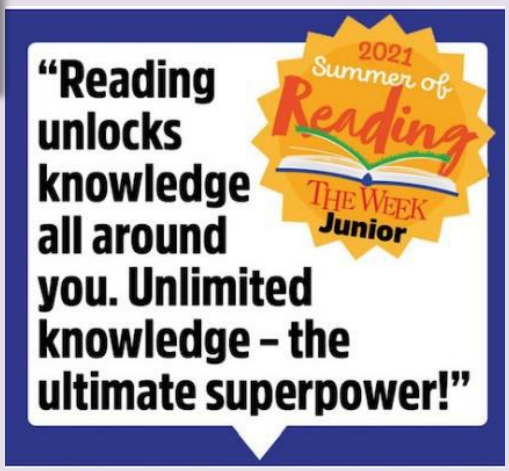
At Mary Tavy and Brentor we believe that all pupils should have the opportunity to be fluent, confident readers who are able to successfully comprehend and understand a wide range of texts. We want to foster a love of reading exposing children to a good knowledge of a range of authors. We want our school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

It is with the utmost pleasure that I have the joy in sharing with you news of our newest team member. Following a rigorous recruitment process which our school council took a very active role in asking questions that they had written themselves. I am able to share with you that I have appointed Mrs. Victoria Kinger to cover Miss. Valance's maternity leave. Mrs Kinger will assume the leadership roles of EYFS/ KS1 and Reading lead.

I am incredibly fortunate to have recruited a new team member who has the wealth of experience in senior leadership that Mrs. Kinger has, and I can't wait to start working with her to build on our offer. Mrs Kinger will be with us next week for her final week of induction and handover with Miss. Vallance before she commences her maternity leave on Friday 13th November. Welcome to our School Family Mrs. Kinger.

Dear TeamMTB School Family,

I would like to say a very warm hello to everyone.

My name is Mrs Kinger, and I am delighted to have now officially joined the wonderful community here at Mary Tavy and Brentor Primary School this term as the new EYFS/Key Stage 1 and Reading lead.

Before joining the team here, I spent over 18 years at Lifton Primary school in a similar role. I am incredibly passionate about the early years and creating a joyful, inspiring and inclusive classroom where all children feel confident to ask questions, take risks and reach their full potential.

I am really looking forward to getting to know all of the children throughout the school and their parents and carers.

Out of work I enjoy a variety of exercise classes and have recently taken part in 'Mission Unbreakable' and the 'Plymouth half marathon'.

Please do come and say hello if you see me in the playground or around school. I can't wait to see you all.

Mrs Kinger



Enjoy, Learn, Succeed

The more you **read,** th

'Education is the most

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.

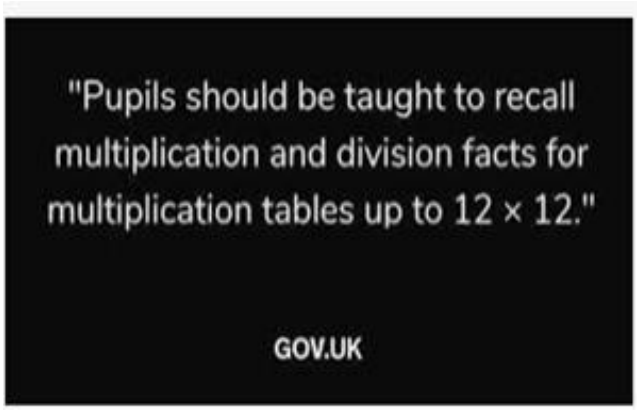
Who will be on our leader board next week??????

Numbots highest user:
Reception: Arabella
Year 1: Reuben
Year 2: Rosie ER



Rockstars highest user
Class 1: Freddie D
Class 2: Douglas
Class 3: Florence





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.**

I am delighted to share with you some more fantastic news.
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. We have once again commenced the NELI intervention course with our Reception children. This is a programme that has been developed by the Nuffield Foundation. The Nuffield Early Language Intervention (NELI) is a programme for children in Reception (4-5 years) which has been found to improve children's language and early literacy skills. I The programme involves targeted small group and one-to-one support for children who would benefit from additional support with their language and early literacy skills.









Remembrance Day





The Royal British Legion have once again provided us with a variety of poppies and poppy appeal goodies.
If children and parents would like to purchase items our Chair and Vice Chair will be selling poppies in the courtyard at drop off and pick up on Monday.
We hope as many of you as possible will join us at the War Memorial in the village on Wednesday 11th November for a service of remembrance and thanks at 11am. We will be placing our felt poppies and willow wreaths at the memorial in honour of those service personnel who gave their tomorrows.



2025



2024











2022





2023







Admissions Se 2026

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The more you **read,** the more you
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change the w

Dr Seuss
Mandela

Online applications open for a place in next year's Reception on the 15th of November 2026 for children born between 1 September 2022 and 31 August 2023. The deadline for Reception applications is Saturday 15 January 2027
https://www.devon.gov.uk/children-families-education/education/school-admissions/
I will be hosting visits to our wonderful little school in the coming weeks for parents of children due to begin Reception in September 2026. If you have a child who is due to begin school in September 2027, please book one of the open mornings. Also, if you have any neighbours or friends who would be interested, do let them know what a wonderful school we are! We have fliers that we can share with you to give to local nurseries or drop through doors – please like and share our social media pages to spread the news far and wide.





Curriculum Enrichment 3:15-4:30pm Autumn 2 2026 / 27

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Art Club – max 20 children.	1:1 Music lessons with Dan Hilman in the morning KS1 sports club – max 20	Cross Country Club Yr 2 3,4,5,6 **Bell ringing club with Mr. Hinton in preparation for our Christingle Service Yr2 up**	Choir 8:15am Yr1 up Computing Homework – Yr1 up Yoga KS2 sports club Yr3 up.	Board Games Yr 1 up.

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Its Odd Sock Day on Monday 16th November!
We're standing up to bullying by celebrating what makes us unique! Pupils and staff at MTB are encouraged to wear their boldest, brightest and most mismatched socks to show that being different is something to be proud of.





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

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.

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Joint choral performance



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

Mary Tavy and Brentor Primary School
Mary Tavy, Tavistock,
Devon, PL19 9PR
Tel: 01822 810384
Email: admin@marytavyandbrentor.devon.sch.uk
www.marytavyandbrentorpri.co.uk
Headteacher: Mrs C Davies

Dear Families,

TeamMTB and Tamar Valley Male Voice Choir Joint Concert

We are delighted to share some exciting news! Our children from Yr1 up have been given a wonderful opportunity to take part in a special joint concert with the **Tamar Valley Male Voice Choir**.

This promises to be a fantastic experience for the children, giving them the opportunity to perform alongside an established choir, share their musical talents and be part of a very special community event. The children will showcase songs they have been working on in school in singing assembly before performing several joint pieces with the male voice choir. Following an interval where mulled wine and mince pies will be served, Tamar Valley will treat everybody to a selection of pieces fit for the festive season.

The details of the concert are as follows, children will need to be in full school uniform and dropped to the hall for 5:45pm.

Date: Friday 27th November 2026

Concert Time: 6.00pm – 7:30pm

Venue: Coronation Hall

Ticket price: £5

We would like to invite all children in Year 1 to Year 6 to participate. We hope that as many children as possible will be able to take part in this exciting event. It will be a lovely opportunity for them to showcase their hard work, build their confidence and enjoy the experience of performing to a live audience.

We would love to see lots of family members and friends there to support the children and help make the evening a memorable occasion. There will be a maximum of 100 tickets available, and these will be sold on a first come first serve basis. There will be a payment item on MCAS. The tickets will also be available to the wider community to purchase from the shop.

Further information about rehearsals and arrangements for the evening will be shared in due course.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are really looking forward to what promises to be a very special evening of music!

Kind regards,
Team MTB

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'Education is the most



Next week is a Pudsey Themed Cake raffle

Team MTB PTFA



What a wonderful turn out we had at our PTFA meeting this week. We have so many wonderfully festive things planned.
Next week we will be revealing a very special TeamMTB surprise …… we can't wait to share it with you.

Chair: Kayleigh Goodman (Mum to Anya (Yr5)
Vice Chair: Natalie (Mum to Freddie Yr1 and Emmy Yr4)
Treasurer: Gemma Insole (Mum to Leo (Yr6) and Max (Yr3)
Secretary: Mel Mansell (Mum to Jack Yr.4)
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 these events.





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Tickets available on Monday

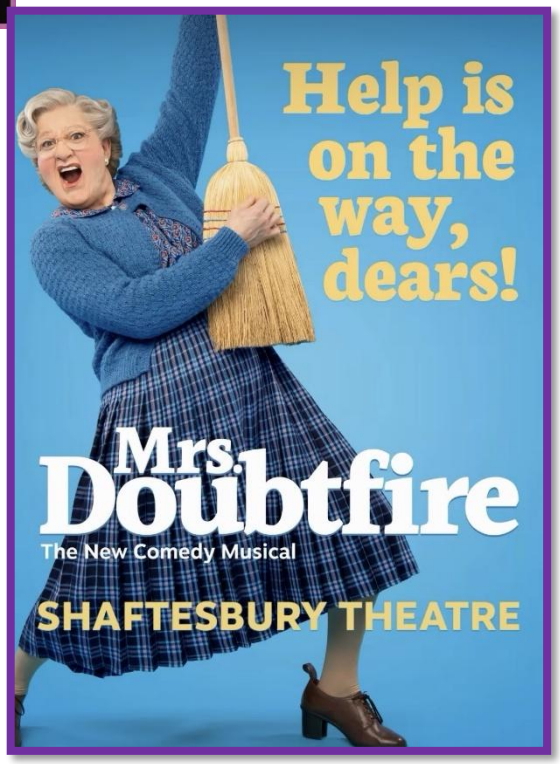
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Class 3's Theatre Trip



HELLOOOOO, POPPETS! Help is on the way, dear!
What a wonderful treat our Class 3 had on Thursday afternoon at the matinee performance of Mrs Doubtfire. It was packed with laugh-out-loud comedy, fabulous choreography, brilliant vocals and a whole lot of heart, this much-loved family favourite has made a wonderfully entertaining transition from screen to stage!
Our Class 3 absolutely loved it was just brilliant!
All the iconic moments from the film and Gabriel Vick as Daniel/Doubtfire was incredibly talented!! We loved all the Plymouth jokes that were thrown in as well
Mrs. Doubtfire UK #ks2enrichment #SchoolDayMemories





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

Bob Kerrey

And finally our curriculum leaders 2026/7



Henry
Maths
Lead



Bill
Forest School
Lead



Otto
Forest School
Lead



Elanor
English
Lead



Florence
Art
Lead



Frederick
PE Lead



Emma
DT Lead



Leo
Maths Lead



Charlotte
Humanities
Lead



Chloe
DT Lead



Reuben
PE Lead

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'Education is the

Our prefect leadership curriculum leaders for this academic year. Congratulation to all our amazing prefects it is truly going to be a wonderful year ahead for our MTB curriculum. I am so looking forward to welcoming them into school on Monday proudly wearing their lanyards.