

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

Dear families. *13th November 2026*

What truly bonkers week we have had in school, to say we have packed soo much in is an understatement. From visiting musicians on Monday, to our Remembrance Service at the War Memorial on Wednesday, to a teaching and learning review, to an open morning, to our celebration of World Kindness Day, to our first Cross County competition on Thursday, we concluded the week with our Field Fun Friday in the beautiful Devon autumnal sunshine, it really has been an exceptional week!!!

As always, our children are our greatest ambassadors and relish the opportunity to share their love of learning with visitors to our school be they school advisors to prospective families attending both our Open Mornings and diarised personal visits. The calm purposeful nature of our learning environment is always the first observation.

The children's pride at being members of TeamMTB is also indicative of their sense of belonging and togetherness and this was demonstrated in abundance at the Xcountry race. I had the absolute pleasure in receiving a correspondence from a parent that read 'to hear all the children cheering for them as they ran towards the finish line was incredibly emotive. You have built a very special school community'

As part of our commitment to fostering kindness, tolerance and respect towards one another next week I will be appointing our Anti – Bullying Ambassador 26/27 and they in turn, will be recruiting their new team of Peer Mediators to support our drive towards empowering our children, towards self-advocacy.

Diary Dates:

November 16th – 20th Anti- Bullying Week
16th – FLAG competition Y5,6
PTFA Willow Lantern making KS2
17th – Odd Sock Day
PTFA Willow Lantern making KS1
19th- Reception Forest School
18th – Class 3 Forest School
20th- Funky Hair Day –
donations for the Xmas fair Wine and Chocolate
PTFA Willow workshop 6:30pm School Hall
23rd – 27th Parliament Week
25th -Forest School Class 2
26th – Methodist Assembly
Mufti Day – fill a mug donations for the Xmas fair.
27th – Mrs. Jackman and Mrs. Davey math's CPD
6pm TeamMTB 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
2nd – Christingle 2pm Christ Church in Brentor
Rec and Yr.6 parents are warmly invited to attend
1st – PTFA PJ Day followed by PTFA movie Night at the Coronation Hall
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
11th- Christmas Jumper Day PTFA Fair
14th – CHSW Santa Run in our school field.
16th – School Christmas Lunch
18th – Break Up for Christmas

January – 5th ALL Back

Finally, this week has been a celebration of kindness, and I believe this is a golden thread at TeamMTB. It was therefore an incredibly poignant moment that a parent of one of our Reception children approached me to say *that she wanted to share that her child had volunteered how much she simply loves school, and when asked why her child had shared because everyone is so kind, everyone takes care of me and makes sure I am happy. The mum concluded this is testament to the culture of love and care is fostered at TeamMTB and as a new mum who has no prior experience of schooling this is all that she needed to know – thank you.* What a simply wonderful way to end the week – kindness in abundance

Intent Drivers – Our Core Values

Perseverance	Aspiration	Respect	Collaboration

Headteacher Awards

Reception: Wilbur – For your exceptional number knowledge in the provision. Wilbur is always so incredibly enthusiastic and curious about all that is on offer and is always so keen to share all that he is doing. We are so incredibly proud of your progress with us Wilbur and are so looking forward to seeing your progress with us.

Class One: Sybil – For a fabulous week truly demonstrating your potential and always ensuring you are persevering and aspiring to produce work of this highest standard. Well, done, Sybil, for your commitment to your learning it is commendable.

Class Two: Noah – For always demonstrating our school values in all that you do and undertake. Noah, you have demonstrated aspiration across all aspects of the curriculum this week and your perseverance to overcome challenges has truly impressed us all – well done Noah

Class Three: Charlotte- For always living out our school values in all that you do and for your determination and perseverance to always challenge yourself to produce work that is indicative of your aspiration to succeed. This week in particular you demonstrated your creativity and technical ability selecting exact vocabulary that sharpens imagery, emotion, whilst developing atmosphere through descriptive imagery. Charlotte your love of reading is having a significant impact on your own creative writing and we can't wait to read more of your work as the year progresses – well done Charlotte.

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- Lottie C3 Lorien	229	356
Doe Tor House	**Frederick** 	Rec: Arabella C1- Sophie C2- Joseph C3- Florence & Frederick	225	362
Fox Tor House	**Leo** 	Rec: Grace C1- Axel C2- Archie C3 – Charlotte / Tayah	216	332
Hare Tor House	**Chloe** 	Rec: Agnes C1: Maya C2- Noah C3- Aruvi	206	326

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.

For the second week we focus on Aspiration as part of our values project. 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.

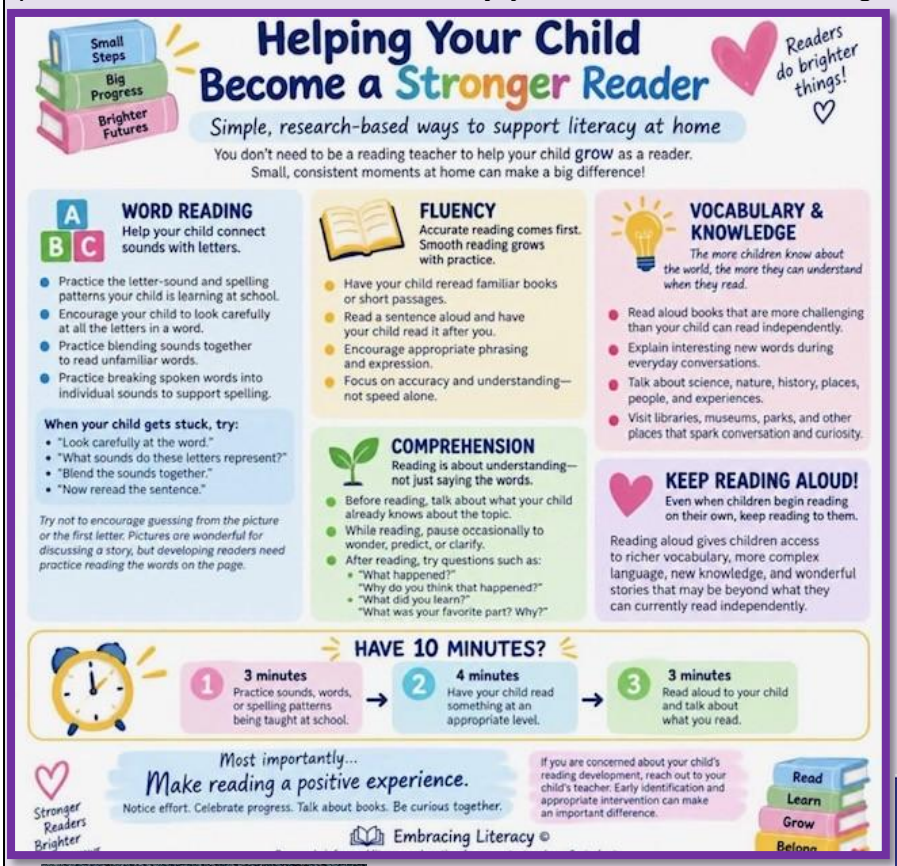
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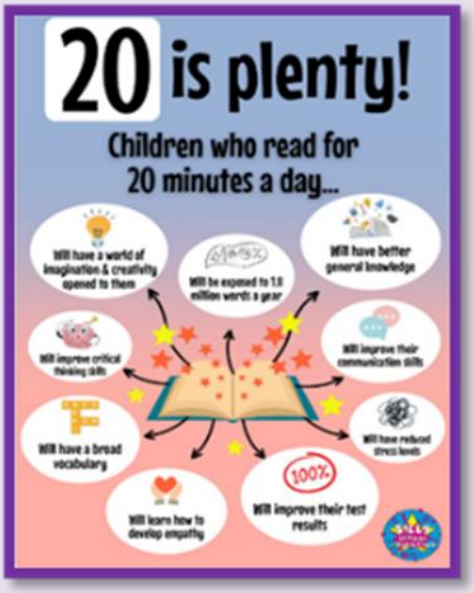


Thank you to all parents/carers who are supporting our drive to reading excellence in school. Our amazing SAT results proved we are a 'Reading School'
Please do try to keep up the rigour and sustain the daily reading. We cannot emphasise enough how vitally important it is that the children read with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



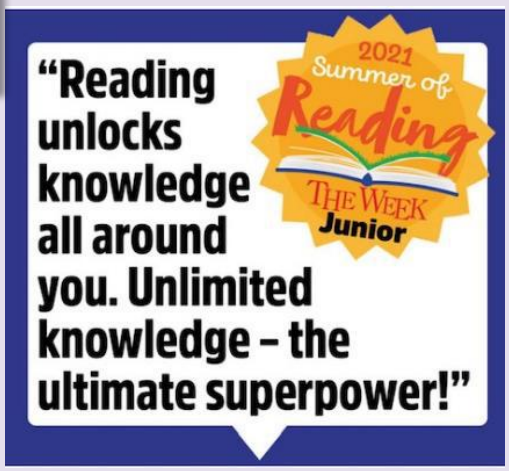
At Mary Tavy and Brentor we believe that all pupils should have the opportunity to be fluent, confident readers who are able to successfully comprehend and understand a wide range of texts. We want to foster a love of reading exposing children to a good knowledge of a range of authors. We want our school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

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*

We are musicians

A Musical Afternoon of Song and Laughter!

Key Stage 2 pupils were treated to a fantastic musical experience when Elfyn Jones and Kip Pratt from **Sonopera** when they visited the school to deliver a lively and entertaining concert this week
The children were captivated by the duo's wonderful singing, musical talent and engaging performances. The concert provided a fantastic opportunity for pupils to experience live music, enjoy a variety of songs and discover the joy of singing together.
There was plenty of audience participation, with pupils encouraged to join in, sing along and get involved in the fun. Elfyn and Kip's enthusiasm and energy created a wonderful atmosphere, ensuring that everyone was thoroughly entertained.
The concert was not only great fun but also an inspiring opportunity to celebrate music and performance, helping to bring learning beyond the classroom.
A huge thank you to Elfyn Jones and Kip Pratt from Sonopera for sharing their talents with us and giving Key Stage 2 such a memorable musical experience!







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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.

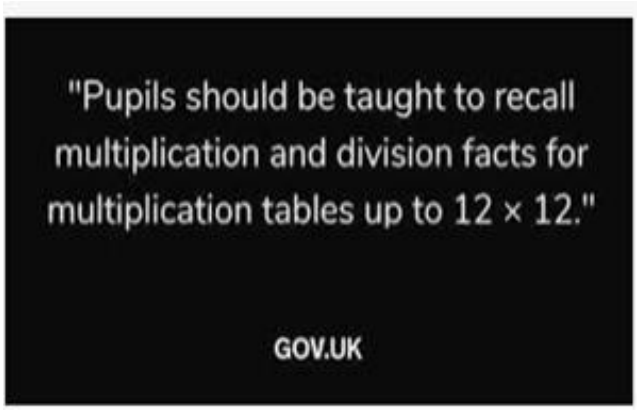
Who will be on our leader board next week??????

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



Rockstars highest user
Class 1: Ottilie
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



On Wednesday, we paused to remember 🌺

On this Remembrance Day, our school family came together to honour the courage, sacrifice, and service of all those who have served, and continue to serve.

“They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, We will remember them.

Our school family paid our respect at our service led by Lay Preacher Sandra Dodd, before we observed the 2-minute silence. Following this our proud prefects read poems of remembrance before every member of our school family lay their own poppy at the memorial and gave thanks. Their poppies had been created earlier in the week with a local artist Amy Crawford who sourced the materials and led the workshop with each class. It was an incredibly beautiful service of thanksgiving with all our children from Reception through to our prefects taking part.

For our tomorrow, they gave their today - we will remember them

Lest we forget. 🌷 #remembranceday #poppyappeal #lestweforget 🌺 #royalbritishlegion









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Admissions September 2027

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 Tuesday 17th 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/1FEqZuX3I3aKzg0red_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.

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

Bob Kerrey

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



Team MTB PTFA



Congratulations to Charlotte (Yr6) who won the cake raffle on Friday and a huge TeamMTB thank you to Albie (Yr5) and Connie (yr3) and their talented mum Hannah for the amazing Pudsey Cake. All monies raised in this week's raffle have been donated to Children In Need. We are delighted to share that we were able to donate £85 which is an incredibly achievement. Thank you to all those who took part in aid of this wonderful cause.

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.

What a wonderful reveal we had yesterday of our bespoke TeamMTB Advent Colouring Book lovingly illustrated by Amy Crawford mum to Baelyn (Yr4)
These are a unique gift with each picture having been painstakingly hand drawn by Amy in celebration of TeamMTB. ALL proceeds will go to enriching the opportunities of our children. Our books cost £5 and are available on MCAS.





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We are athletes.

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Congratulations to our amazing athletes who competed in the first competitive Cross-Country event of the 26/27 season.

This is by far the most grueling of courses - with steep elevations and far more ascents than descents !!

200 competitors took part, which made navigating the course a challenge.

Once again, this year for the second time we selected athletes in Yr3&4 along with the Yrs 5&6's who traditionally entered this competition and oh boy did they all do so well

Congratulations to all our amazing athletes who demonstrated courage, determination, perseverance and TEAM work - Well done 💜 Team MTB 💜

A special mention to our girls who won a silver team medal overall 🥈💜🥈

Thank you to our Running Club Coaches Mrs Davey, Mr Hinton and Miss Miller whose commitment and passion drives our ambition to be a school who love to run.

We are incredibly fortunate to have a committed team of supporters who champion our small school. As you are aware our running club has grown significantly in number with over 25runners taking part weekly from Yr2 up. .









Enjoy,

The mo , as exercise is to the body,

'Educa e you learn, the more place you go – *Dr Seuss*

use to change the world 'Nelson *Mandela*

And finally ……

This week we said a very fond farewell to Miss Vallance as she commences her maternity leave and to Miss Miller who has taken a position at her daughter's school. We wish them both the most wonderful time as they embrace their next chapters and will miss them dearly in school. A huge TeamMTB thank you to them both for their commitment to our children and our wider school family. We very much look forward to seeing them very soon when they visit us.





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