

Diary Dates: November
23rd – 27th Parliament Week
25th -Forest School Class 2
26th – Methodist Assembly
Mufti Day – fill a mug Xmas fair.
Reception Forest School
27th – Class 1 Forest School
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
3rd – PTFA PJ Day followed by PTFA movie night at the Coronation Hall
4th – Dickensian Evening – All children invited to join us on stage for this celebration of TeamMTB
7th & 8th- KS1 Christmas Production
10th – Class 2 to the pantomime.
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

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

Dear families *20th November 2026*

What a truly wonderful week we have had. Life at TeamMTB is most definitely never dull hehe In school this week there is a tangible feel of festive magic in the air as the children are busy rehearsing for our very special and highly anticipated inaugural Music Concert with the Tamar Valley Male Voice Choir next Friday evening, our annual performance at Dickensian Evening on the 4th of December and of course our memorable KS1 Christmas Production on the 7th and 8th of December. The children in KS1 are busy learning their lines and the whole school are enjoying learning the songs. We can't wait to share it with you. Christmas crafting has started in earnest with the PTFA leading a Lantern making workshop with the whole school and of course organising the Christmas cards – the school has been a hive of glistening lights and excitement and as if that wasn't enough, we have taken receipt of our Rotary Christmas Tree. From art club to lunchtime crafting, we can't wait to see the tree transformed into a celebration of TeamMTB with a sparkle of Christmas magic.

Our open morning for prospective parents has once again been well attended. I am always struck by how impressed families are with our offer and also how keen they are to share their appreciation with me afterwards. This week I received the following email *'It was so lovely to meet you Thank you again for welcoming us into your school. It was a pleasure to see the children so incredibly happy, confident, and clearly enjoying their education – it is an offer that we hope our child will be able to take advantage of. It is a very special place that you are rightfully so incredibly proud of - your honesty and above all your passion to deliver the best education for the children in your care was so refreshing to hear and has most definitely confirmed all that we have heard in the wider community regarding TeamMTB'.*

I am currently making the final arrangements for the Sponsored Santa Fun Run in aid of SW Children's Hospice. The children will be running a route around our school field. The Hospice Outreach team will be in attendance to celebrate the children over the finish line. They are also hoping that there will be a very special guest making an appearance too. Please do sponsor your child following the link within the newsletter – the monies raised really do go directly to support families during the most unimaginable time in their lives.

Finally, I love standing on the gate morning and night hearing all that you have been up to out of school to hear how our school values are lived out in our children's wider experiences is so incredibly rewarding. Plans are gathering pace for Christmas and please check the newsletter and school website for details of Christmas events.

Thank you for all your commitment to and your belief and trust in our MTB family it is so gratefully receive.

Intent Drivers – Our Core Values

Perseverance	Aspiration	Respect	Collaboration

Headteacher Awards

Reception: Joshua – for your amazing writing in the provision. For always demonstrating the utmost care and persevering to ensure that your letters are formed correctly with the correct size and orientation. It is such a pleasure to see how proud you are of your work and to hear you reading back all your ideas with enthusiasm. I can't wait to read all your ideas next week as you explore your new whole class text 'Stickman'

Class One: Sophie – can always be relied upon to do the right thing and lives our school values in all that she undertakes. In her day-to-day life in school Sophie strives to be the very best version of herself and is not only a role model but deeply thoughtful and hardworking. Well done, Sophie

Class Two: Elsie – For your aspirational approach to the MTB curriculum. This week Elsie has persevered with column addition and has demonstrated that her aspiration to succeed will ensure that whatever challenges she faces initially can be overcome – well done Elsie we are incredibly proud of your progress.

Class Three: Lorien- For your enthusiasm and engagement in all aspects of school life. Lorien's love of learning is infectious and her smiley disposition as she perseveres to aspire to produce work of the highest quality is admirable. Well, done Lorien on demonstrating your passion for learning with such positivity that is most definitely contagious.

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: Izaria/ Ayda C1-Freddie C2- Douglas C3 Rafferty	100	456
Doe Tor House	**Frederick** 	Rec: Lyra C1- Sophie C2- Elsie C3- Frederick	98	460
Fox Tor House	**Leo** 	Rec: Noah C1- Edward C2- Archie C3 – Tayah	78	410
Hare Tor House	**Chloe** 	Rec: Wilbur C1: Maya C2- Noah C3- Evie	134	460

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.



Our next value is Respect. Some examples of behaviours that demonstrate this value are:

We show **respect** and tolerance for everyone in our community. We **respect** ourselves and others alike, taking care of friends, family, our community and the environment. We value what others say and do and we enjoy learning about different beliefs and cultures. We **respect** one another and share our opinions, skills, knowledge and talents.

Please could you discuss **'Respect'** with children at home and explore ways to reinforce it.







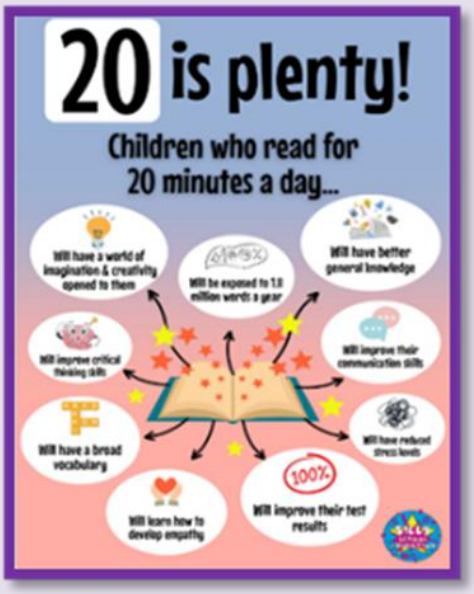
E he m ody,
T the more you learn, the more place you go – *Dr Seuss*
'E you can use to change the world 'Nelson *Mandela*

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!!



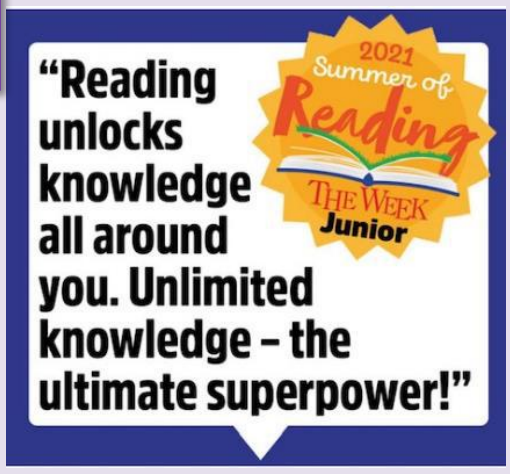
At Mary Tavy and Brentor we believe that all pupils should have the opportunity to be fluent, confident readers who are able to successfully comprehend and understand a wide range of texts. We want to foster a love of reading exposing children to a good knowledge of a range of authors. We want our school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

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*

CHSW Santa Run 26











Our annual Santa Run in aid of CHSW is on the 14th of December 2026. Please ensure your child wears a Christmas outfit and has a Santa Hat for this very special occasion.
Please do sponsor your child via the link below:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/mary-tavy-and-brentor-community-primary-school-2?utm_campaign=lc_frp_share_transaction_fundraiser_page_launched&utm_content=e012d8f9-f015-42b8-8c98-4bad27c5c309&utm_medium=email&utm_source=postoffice&utm_term=1795190912999

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 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.

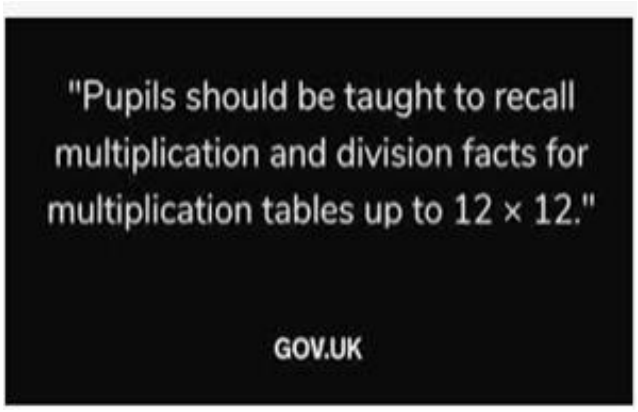
Who will be on our leader board next week??????

Numbots highest user:
Reception: Arabella
Year 1: Matthew
Year 2: Freddie D



Rockstars highest user
Class 1: Freddie CC
Class 2: Emmy
Class 3: Reuben





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.







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.

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

Bob Kerrey

Anti- Bullying week.

🎉 💜🌈🧦💜🌈🧦💜🌈🧦💜🌈🧦💜🌈Today, we celebrated Odd Socks Day by coming to school in our oddest , brightest, boldest odd socks, showcasing how wonderfully unique we are.
Alongside the fun, we also had the chance to share our community voices, providing valuable feedback to help shape our school's antibullying policy. At TeamMTB we are proud to support AntiBullying Week, and one of the ways we celebrate this is by taking part in Odd Socks Day! At TeamMTB, we recognise that each and every one of our pupils is different and unique, and we always aim to promote the acceptance of difference.
As always our little school is full to the brim with kindness and laughter, and today a splash of colour and individuality. Wearing our odd socks reminds us that it's okay to stand out, to be different, and to celebrate what makes each of us unique.
We spent the day spreading kindness through thoughtful and spontaneous acts.
A wonderful reminder that it's great to stand out - and even better to stand up for kindness a reminder that we're all unique and that kindness matters. 💜A huge thank you to everyone who joined in and filled the school with colour, smiles, and positivity 💜💜💜💜#oddsocksday #antibullyingweek #beyourself









exercise is to the b
u learn, the more p
'Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the worl



We are Musicians.

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



Musician

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/1FEgZuX3I3aKzg0red_mLt3iDzxQhoKit/view?usp=sharing

Joint choral performance

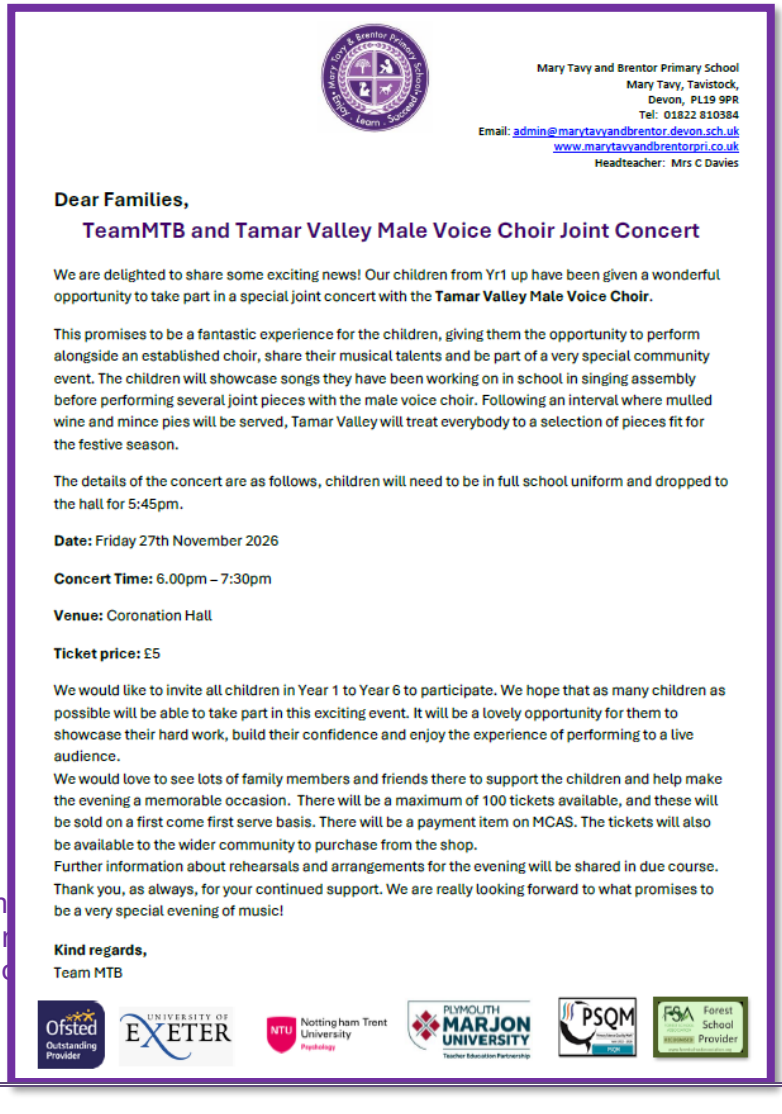
Our school choir is open to all our children from Yr1 upwards.

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

Enjoy, Learn, Succeed **Reading** is to the m
The more you **read,** the more you know, the
'Education is the most powerful weapon you



Team MTB PTFA



Huge congratulations to Sophia (Yr1) on winning the cake raffle today and a warm MTB thank you to Anya (Yr5) and her wider family for their kind donation of the delicious Biscoff cookies. Sadly, poor Anya was unable to be with us in school today and so her dear friend Jack (Yr4) kindly stepped in to present Sophia with her delights.

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.



Thank you for all your incredible efforts for Funky Hair Day and of course your generosity for the school Xmas fair. Next Thursday it is Mufti Day for Fill a Mug. Please bring your filled mugs into school on arrival to pop in the crate. All the Christmas Card orders have been placed, and we look forward to distributing these shortly.







Enj as exerci
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*





PTFA Dates and Fundraisers

Thursday 27th Mufti Day for Fill a Mug

Saturday 28th Wreath Workshop.
We have around 50 people signed up but have room for a couple more if there is anyone yet to purchase a ticket.

Thursday 3rd December – Movie Night and PJ Day

Friday 11th December – Xmas Fair with a very special Lantern Parade.

Please do remember to collect your TeamMTB Xmas advent colouring books from the office. There are still a few available for those yet to purchase them. Please purchase on MCAS and pop into the office to collect.



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 TeamMTB EYFS



Our EYFS have had another wonderful week at TeamMTB as they embrace all that is on offer demonstrating our school values in abundance. From potion making, to broomstick crafting to exploring our Forest School, to being number detectives. Our EYFS have been building their pre-requisite foundational skills for learning through self- exploration and enhanced play. It was an absolute pleasure for me to spend Thursday afternoon in the provision sharing all the opportunities with them. Under my guidance we practiced drawing in the prone position, a powerful developmental activity for children. Propping up on their elbows while drawing builds foundational physical strength, fine motor precision, and sensory focus that directly prepare them for sitting at a desk and handwriting. From the monkey bars and the wider trim trail to the climbing of trees and the zip wire, to the prone position these opportunities build the necessary gross motor skills that enable our fine motor skills to develop the stamina to be a TeamMTB writer. 💜💜💜💜💜💜











mind, as exercise is to th
e more you learn, the mo
u can use to change the v



And finally ……

It was an absolute privilege to invite Jodie (Mum to Charlotte (Yr6) into school this week for a very special lantern making workshop with our whole school community. Jodie very kindly and generously donated her time and expertise in preparation. Preparing the willow so that the KS2 could build their lanterns and by making all the lanterns for EYFS and KS1 to decorate. To say Jodie went above and beyond is an understatement, as I am aware that she was working through until the early hours on consecutive nights in preparation. The children had the most amazing time creating their lanterns and are SOOO looking forward to proudly displaying them at our Lantern Parade. We hope to start the parade at 4:45 pm on the Friday 11th at our Xmas Fair.









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*