
Torre Times – April 2017



Pray, Praise, Potential, Pride, Persevere

Dear Families

I hope you all enjoyed a happy Easter and that the children all managed to spend some time outside while they were off school making the most of the beautiful weather.

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Thomas back from maternity leave. She will be teaching the Octopus class on Thursdays and Fridays and Mrs Irvine will go back to being part-time. Huge thanks to Mrs Irvine for increasing her hours whilst Mrs Thomas has been off.

We have a busy term ahead with lots to look forward to, including some fantastic opportunities for the children. They will have the opportunity to work with Google for the day on a project called 'Google Expeditions'. There are also lots of additional PE sessions happening this term with local clubs and coaches making the most of the outdoors.

Mrs Julyan

Trips, visits and experiences

Warren Barn

For the first-time ever, our Year 3 children experienced a two-night, 3-day residential visit to Warren Barn in Cockington. They all had a fabulous time doing lots of fun activities and experiencing some new things. The children did a fabulous job – especially those who had never been away from home without their parents before. Lots of growing up was done and new friendships made. We really hope to be able to offer this trip again to next year's Year 3's. A big thank you to Miss Chew, Miss Irving and Miss Browse for taking them.

At Warren Barn you get to do lots of activities such as: blindfold challenge, making a fire, a night walk (we saw six toads and a bat) and we made a shelter.

Written by Taisha Dodoo, Lena Tomlins and Amber Dicken



Torre C of E Academy

Upcoming Events

22nd May

Parent/Carer and resident forum:
Parking and road safety

5th June

INSET day – school closed

5th June

Y6 leave for London residential

8th June

School closed for polling day

26th June

Parent/carers forum: School Improvement Planning - your chance to have a say

w/c 3rd July

Transition week (mornings only)

12th July

2.15pm: Year 5/6 show for Y5 parents/carers

13th July

6:00pm: Year 5/6 show for Y6 parents/carers

14th July

Sports Day at TA (EYFS & KS1 morning & KS2 afternoon)

20th July

Party day, muffin, bring a party snack

21st July

Toy day

21st July

2.15pm: Y6 leavers' assembly

PTA Events

16th June

Summer Fayre

23rd June

Woodland's camping weekend

12th July

Summer disco (to be held outside weather permitting)

Every Friday after school – ice pops for sale! All help appreciated thanks.

Sing Around the Bay

Octopus class are going to taking part in this special concert with Wren Music and Spires College later this term. It will feature world music and new compositions and will be performed at the Princess Theatre in June.

World Book Day

Thank you so much for helping your children to create a costume for World Book Day. The boys and girls all looked great and enjoyed coming into school dressed as a book character.

The Shakespeare workshops were great and the children got a lot out of putting together their own Shakespeare play. It was a great way to celebrate World Book Day.

Most classes also did a piece of art work inspired by a popular author, which Mrs Beard will display somewhere around the school.

Prayer Meeting

Please don't forget to attend Father Peter and Mrs Sandeman's prayer meeting, which takes place fortnightly on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at lunchtime. We have had great feedback from those attending so far.

School Meals

Donna and her team cooked a lovely meal for the children for Easter. We hope to be able to invite parents in again soon to enjoy a meal with their children.

PE and Sport

Octopuses, Penguins and Sharks have all recently taken part in sports festivals at TBGS and were beautifully behaved representing the school very well. Well done children!

Tennis

This term pupils in Years 1- 4 will be experiencing a block of tennis lessons taught by a tennis coach from Torquay Tennis Club. This is a great opportunity and is fully funded by school via the PE grant. Teachers will also attend these sessions to enable them to brush up on their own tennis teaching skills.

Cricket

This term pupils in Year 5 and 6 will be having cricket lessons with a qualified cricket coach from Torquay Cricket Club. Again, this is funded by the PE grant.

Swimming

Year 3 and 4 continue to take part in swimming lessons at Plainmoor as part of their curriculum this term.

Reception are also having swimming lessons this term, which is funded by the PE grant. It would be great if we could get all of them swimming by the end of the summer term. As parents/carers, if you can take them swimming yourselves too, this will help the children to grow in water confidence, which of course, is so important living by the sea.

Netball

The Year 5/6 netball squad have completed an amazing two terms of matches, tournaments and competitions.

Church and RE

Eucharist

4th May – (Thursday)

8th June – (Thursday) – This will be changed due to polling day...

Prayer Board

Please remember to check out the prayer board at All Saints' Church where some of our children's prayers are displayed.

Important Announcements

Please can you ensure that your children DO NOT pick or damage the flowers in the school grounds. It takes a lot of time to maintain the flower beds and we want to keep the school looking nice and tidy.

Please do not walk through the school car park. Staff do not expect pedestrians to be walking through.

Thank you for your support with this.

League matches:

These started with a tournament in the autumn term at PCSA, with the children playing extremely well against other teams from around Torbay. They then competed in a second tournament in the spring at Cuthbert Mayne and fought hard against some very experienced teams. Our players were praised throughout by the organisers and other coaches for their team spirit, fair play and enthusiasm.

A special mention to our amazing 'B' team who had to play all 'A' teams in both tournaments- beating 2 of them! Overall we came 3rd and all the players were awarded with Bronze Medals.

Cup Competition:

In the first round of the Cup Competition we beat Ellacombe 9-0, then won against Oldway 8-3. This put us into the semi-finals against Homelands at Cuthbert Mayne which we won 9-8 in the final seconds – you can imagine the excitement!

For the first time we were in the Cup Final. This put us against St. Marychurch (they won their semi-final 21-0) thus giving us a huge challenge. Parents, grandparents and squad members supported our team at PCSA and the team played very well, trying all the different tactics they could and giving 100%. St. Marychurch played exceptionally well and eventually won the Cup with us coming second out of 16 teams.

Again our whole squad was praised by the organisers and the 10 Players involved in the Cup Matches received their Silver Medals.

I would like to thank Becci Edwards who has helped and supported me since September, the club couldn't have run without her.

Thank you as well to Mr. Wallace-Fisher and Mrs. Hole who have set up another netball club on a Friday and given more children a chance to enjoy playing netball.

Staffing and classes next year

- Nursery: Mrs Beard
- Aquarium: Mrs Newton and Mr Vernon (Miss Burt will be returning to the Reception team after her maternity leave)
- Starfish: Miss Lewis
- Turtles: Miss Cheeseworth
- Clownfish: Mrs Wain/Mrs Smith (Mrs Smith will be covering Mrs Bigrig's maternity leave)
- Octopuses: Mr Cowling (a new experienced teacher will be joining our Y3/4 team in September)
- Stingrays: Miss Irving
- Rainbowfish: Miss Chew
- Penguins: Mrs Cowell
- Sharks: Mrs Crompton
- Swordfish: Mrs Irvine/Mrs Smith (a new teacher will be joining our Y5/6 team to job share with Mrs Irvine)

Mrs Thomas will be joining The Harbour Team.

Mrs McClymont will continue to teach maths to Years 1/2 and Years 3/4.

Mrs Kendell will not be class based next year and will have more time to spend on her duties as Deputy Headteacher.

Years 1 and 2 and Years 3 and 4 will continue to be organised in three parallel mixed-age classes, but with Mrs McClymont continuing to teach maths to enable us to teach maths to single age year groups.

We will be keeping our current Year 5 children as a class of Year 6s for the mornings only. This means that our current Year 4s will form two classes of Year 5s next year. During the mornings, the three classes in the upper school (two Year 5 classes and one Year 6 class) will rotate around the three classrooms and be taught by:

Maths – Mrs Crompton

Writing – Mrs Cowell

SOLE (including science, history, geography, history), RE, PE – Mrs Irvine/Miss Smith

In the afternoons, we will create three parallel mixed-age Year 5/6 classes. The remaining subjects will be taught by the 'home-base' teacher during this time.

The current Year 5 and 6 classrooms will remain and the IT suite is going to be converted to a classroom over the summer holidays to form the third Year 5/6 classroom.

Like last year, school staff will organise pupils into their classes and teaching groups. Many factors are considered when doing this. In some year groups, there will not be many changes. If your child is moved, rest assured that it will be done with his/her best interests in mind. We will be having a transition week during the week beginning 3rd July, where children will spend the mornings with their new class teacher (where possible) and also with their new classmates.

Community Partnership

This week, we have hosted a meeting for Play Torbay about the designing of a new play park at Torre Marine. Thanks to those families who attended. It is great that these local organisations are listening to what we want as a community and that they are acting on our suggestions.

Attendance

Our whole school attendance is currently 95.96%, which is below the national average. This is slowly coming up after a bout of illnesses, including chicken pox, so hopefully, this figure will continue to rise over the term.

The best class is Rainbowfish, with 98.1%, which is AMAZING! Well done Rainbowfish!

We currently have 34 children with 100% attendance who will be eligible to be in the prize draw at the end of the school year, if they can sustain this.

We also have many children who will be receiving a bronze certificate this week for managing one whole term's complete attendance so far this year and some who will get a silver for two term's attendance. A huge well done to all these boys and girls.

Something to think about

The message of Easter is: Resurrection is life now, not someday. He rose, so that you can live now.

This is the message embodied in all of Jesus post resurrection stories. In other words, he is not a dead philosopher or religious leader, who left followers behind, who carried on his school of thought; rather he is a living person who saves people for living his life now.

Have you wondered about how Christians celebrate Easter, saying, "He is risen!", but then cannot talk to people about their beliefs or other topics like politics?

I was going to say that we know a lot, but do a little. That is true, but many people do a lot, but still have cold hearts. A real Christian is a person who has Christ living in them and knows him. A real Christian loves and does good out of love.

(Easter reflection by Steve Sevy, April 2017)

Reading this made me consider that even though lent and Easter has been and gone, that we need to remember to live out our lives in the way that Jesus taught us.

Reading this reflection made me consider that even though lent and Easter has been and gone, that we need to remember to live out our lives in the way that Jesus taught us.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENTS!

Personal Achievements

A big well done to the following children:

- Max Beer – After skipping Grade 1, passed his Grade 2 piano exam with just one year of practice. Great!
- Earl Mlnns-Davidson – Took part in the St George's Day parade alongside other children from the 1st Torbay Scouts, Cubs and Beavers. Well done!
- Logan McDonald – Achieved swimming Stage 2 for 15 metres. He has also passed a bikeability course and can now ride his bike independently over the last 12 months. Super news!
- Maria Julyan – Passed her Grade 3 singing exam with the Rock School Music Academy with merit. Fab!
- Paul Gao – Received a certificate for music achievement and was awarded the ASA swimming award for 25m. Well done Paul!
- George Evans - Achieved Stage 1 ASA Learn to Swim award and 25m (with float) ASA swimming award. Great!
- Zane McClure – Has really improved with his confidence of speaking and understanding of Polish after his holiday. Fantastic Zane!
- Daisy Gibbings – Passed her Grade 2 modern exam with distinction and also achieved 1st place and a gold medal in the Novice Modern Under 8s category. Amazing!
- Grace Gibbings – Achieved a distinction in her Primary Tap exam. Great!
- Ella-Jaie Cox - Came 2nd in modern, 2nd in song and dance and 3rd in modern duet (21 years and under category). Great!
- Daisy and Grace Gibbings, Darbi Faint, Isabella Stephenson and Ella-Jaie Cox – Awarded 1st place in the under 10s character ballet group at the Paignton Dance Festival. Super news!
- Gracie Simpson – Achieved 1st in ballet. Well done!
- Darbi Faint – Achieved 4th in song and dance and ballet. Brilliant!
- Emilia Kennedy – Achieved her Duckling 3 swimming award. Great!
- Phoebe Kennedy – Achieved her 25m badge for swimming. Super news!
- Hannah and Daniel Spear – Both achieved Stage 4 swimming awards. Fabulous!
- Thomas Parsons – Passed his level 1 ASA swimming award.
- En Liang – Was doing so well in swimming and karate that he skipped a level! He has also read all seven of the Harry Potter books in the Easter holidays. Super achievements En!
- Katie Pugh – gained 6 medals at the Paignton Dance Festival for solo/duet/trio work including 3 golds and a special award. She also enjoyed taking part in some winning dance groups with Totnes School of Dance. Katie is performing as a junior dancer at Babbacombe Theatre in this year's summer show. Great!
- Maxim Stevens – Learned to swim and has become water confident. Great news!
- Oliver Stevens – Completed his tubers course at Tubers Academy in Exeter. Super!
- Abigail and Elliott Hytche – Gave up fizzy drinks for lent and did really well not to be tempted when they were offered one. Amazing achievement!
- Keira Crews – At home Keira has worked super hard on her school targets. This means she is making really good progress and she has become much more confident. Well done!
- Millie Scully – Has been offered a trial place in a gymnastics squad representing the South West. Great achievement Millie!
- Joel Purdie – Received a certificate for great achievement in the Saints' football club. Fabulous!
- Stanley Cambray – Penalty winner and star player at football. He also achieved his level3 swimming award and for trying very hard with his backstroke. Well done!
- Tyler Turvey – Passed his stage 3 in swimming after a lot of effort. Well done Tyler!
- Lewis Graham – Passed his Duckling 5 in swimming and has learned to do roly polys under water. Great!
- Tyla Thomas - Amazing achievements in Motocross training! Led many races achieving 10 first places in races around the country as well as many club races beating 20 – 30 riders. What a lot of commitment and hard work! Well done Tyla!
- Keiron Robinson – Achieved 'star of the week' at his street dance class. Fabulous Keiron!
- Marta Castillo Capel – Has worked really hard to improve her Spanish speaking and has been helping out with lots of jobs at home. Super news!

Well done!