
Torre Times – February/March 2017



Pray, Praise, Potential, Pride, Persevere

Dear Families

Well, at the point of writing this, it looks like spring has finally sprung! I just hope that the good weather holds for Year 3's residential to Warren Barn next week.

The children are all very busy this half term, especially Year 2 and Year 6 who are preparing for their SATs. I really hope that they remember that all that is expected is for them to do their best. They are all special in their own way and have their own talents. A test result is not everything!

Enjoy the sunshine while it lasts!

Mrs Julyan

Trips, visits and experiences

Safer Internet Day

The whole school enjoyed a special assembly today to highlight the importance of internet safety. Classes then followed this work up in the classroom.

French experience at Churston

On Tuesday 17th January, a lady from the Dog Trust came in and told us how to be safe around dogs.

A group of pupils from Key Stage 2 spent a morning at Churston Ferrers Grammar School working with the French department. They all enjoyed it and came back to school with lots more French words learned.



Torre C of E Academy

Upcoming Events

13th – 15th March

Year 3/4 residential visit to Cockington

23rd and 24th March

Torre's alternative World Book Day

PTA Events

24th March

Easter Bingo

29th March

PTA Easter Disco – parents will be invited to stay for refreshments whilst the children are at the disco and updates around e-safety will be given.

40 Acts of Kindness

Thanks to all of you who are supporting this initiative at home. In school, each class is focusing on one act of kindness a day. All sorts of lovely things have been happening in and around school to show how kind we all can be to each other.

Please follow us on Twitter to find out more about what we have been up to at @TorreAcademy.

Art work

A group of our most artistic pupils had the opportunity to work with a visiting artist this half term. They have created together a fabulous display near the front entrance of the school. Every pupil in the school created a clay 'pebble' which has been incorporated into a lovely community display. Please look out for this next time you come in to school through the main entrance. Thanks to Mrs Beard for organising this and to the PTA for support with the funding.

Here are some images which children have produced to enter the Royal Mail Christmas Stamp competition. Let's hope one of them is successful!



Prayer Meeting

Thank you to Father Peter and Mrs Sandeman, who have been working with the Ethos Group to establish a fortnightly lunch-time prayer meeting. This is available for staff and for parents/carers. Please do come along. We have had great feedback from those attending so far.

School Meals

Donna and her team cooked a lovely meal for the children for Valentine's day. The tables were laid with cloths and flowers and the dining hall looked very special. Thanks very much to the team for all your hard work. Our food really is fabulous!

PE and Sport

Skiing

Children in Years 5 and 6 have just started a 6-week block of skiing at Barton Ski Club during their PE sessions. Most of them have experienced falls and bruises and some didn't even want to do it to start with. Now, all the children have had a go and they are loving it!

Netball

Congratulations to our Tuesday night netball squad for coming 3rd in the Torbay Primary Schools' Tournament. All 16 of them will be presented with their bronze

Church and RE

Eucharist

20th March – (Monday)

4th May – (Thursday)

8th June – (Thursday)

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.

Thank you for your support with this.

medals in the next few weeks. The first team has also made it into the Cup Competition. They beat Homelands Primary 8-7 in a hard fought match and will be facing St Marychurch in the final.

Pupils in KS1 have taken part in a problem-solving sports festival at Torquay Boys Grammar School, which was all about maths problem solving, but through PE. They had a great time and learned some maths too.

Charities

Thank you all for supporting this term's charity events. We raised £245 for the Princess Trust, which was spurred on by Ella-Jaie having 7 inches of her hair cut off!

Lots of Year 6s have been volunteering at Central Church to set up for a weekly homeless shelter for some of Torquay's homeless. This has involved setting out the beds and setting the table for dinner. Thank you for all your kind donations of toothbrushes, toothpaste and gloves and hats. They really have been greatly appreciated. The Sandyman arrived early last week and made a very moving speech of thanks to the children. He has promised to create a piece of sand art on Torre Abbey Sands for us as a special thank you to the school.

Secondary School Allocations

We are very pleased for our Year 6 children as they all were allocated their first choice of secondary school in September. This year seems to be flying by!

Change 4 Life

These days, 'modern life' can mean that we're a lot less active. With so many opportunities to watch TV or play computer games, and with so much convenience and fast food available, we don't move about as much, or eat as well as we used to. The NHS Change4Life campaign is all about educating children about being 'Food Smart'. We had a whole school assembly to learn about how much sugar is hidden in foods. We were all very shocked about how much sugar we are eating without even realizing it. Every child took home a 'How food smart are you?' pack. Mrs Wain has loved hearing how families are getting on looking at food labels together.

Community Partnership

Torre and Upton Community Partnership have had a key role to play in the new speed restrictions being implemented in Barton Road. We are delighted that something has been done to try to improve road safety around the school. We now need some parents/carers to be more considerate when parking, as irresponsible parking choices can be extremely dangerous. I spoke to our Police Community Support Officer yesterday and he has informed us that we must keep a record of any cars who persistently park on the pavement, double yellow lines or zig-zags and block driveways. These details will then be passed onto him, so that appropriate actions can be taken. Please do support us with this by notifying us of any cars that you see causing a danger to our children.

The Torre and Upton Community has just launched their new Facebook page. Please click and like this page in order to stay in touch with developments in our area – <https://www.facebook.com/TorreandUptonCP/>

Attendance

Our whole school attendance is currently 95.88%, which is below the national average. There are all sorts of illnesses around at the moment, including chicken pox, so hopefully, this figure will rise again by next term.

The best class is Turtles, with 97.14%. Well done Turtles!

Something to think about – 40 Acts of Kindness

This month, I wanted to share some information about the 40 Acts of Kindness and to urge you to consider whether this is something that you and your families could do during the period of Lent:

40acts is the generosity challenge for Lent, created by UK Christian charity, Stewardship. For seven years, 40acts has asked a question: what if Lent could be about more than just giving stuff up? What if it could be a time of radical generosity as well as spiritual discipline?

Over the years, 40acts has become a movement of over 100,000 people on a mission to impact their communities with generosity – during Lent and beyond.

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We have a vision for the world to encounter Jesus through the generosity of His church. To accomplish this we make it easy for Christians to give to the causes they care about, we challenge and inspire Christians to give generously and sacrificially, and we strengthen Christian causes too; providing bespoke services to make sure they handle their resources with excellence.

40acts is just one of the many resources that we create to encourage generosity. You can find out more about Stewardship and the ways that we can help you to be generous here: stewardship.org.uk

Personal Achievements

A big well done to the following children:

- Brooke Bowden – achieved Level 4 recorder. Great!
- Oliver Ashman – Recently received his 800m swimming badge. Well done!
- Maya Bench – achieved Level 6 proficiency award in gymnastics. Super news!
- Annie Newton - achieved Level 8 proficiency award in gymnastics. Great!

Well done!