



Two Moors Primary School

We are all unique:
We inspire, believe and achieve together



December 2023

Newsletter 2

Dear Parents/Carers,

As I write these newsletters, it always strikes me how busy schools are, especially in the run-up to the Christmas holidays; this newsletter is a lovely way to take stock of everything that has happened this term, to celebrate and to reflect – because as you will see, there have been so many wonderful things happening and I would like to thank the whole school staff for their continued hard work and dedication to ensuring that all of our children experience the very best of times while they are with us.

A huge 'well done' to all the children for their amazing nativities, shows and sing-a-longs – they have done themselves proud with the effort they put into them and I'm sure you'll all agree, they were amazing when performing to the audiences! The time after Christmas is always a great opportunity for a bit of a 'clear out' of old things – if you happen to find yourself in this position, and come across old and unwanted board games, we would be very appreciative of donations for our stock of games.

Come January 2nd, please make sure we are wearing correct school uniform – there were lots of random items of clothing being worn toward the end of the autumn term.

I hope you all have a very enjoyable, safe, holiday period and we'll see you back at school on Tuesday 2nd January. Wishing you all a safe and happy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Mr Dutton

If, over the course of the year, you have any concerns about your child's development, well-being or progress, please make contact with the class teacher in the first instance and then possibly with Mr Boraston. Mr Boraston (one of our Assistant Heads) has an office in the bungalow and is usually at the main gate in the morning. Mr Boraston oversees Safeguarding, Special Educational Needs and Welfare Support. He will be happy to arrange an appointment to talk with you. Mrs Strong our Family Support Worker is also based in the bungalow and is there to support children and families in many different areas and is usually found near the main gates too at the beginning and end of the day.

PTFA events *Thank you to all of our volunteers in the PTFA!*****

Cake Sale – a yummy success! The PTFA raised over £100 at the cake sale! Thank you all for purchasing and helping to support the wonderful PTFA who will, in turn, be able to really help the school!

Chocolate Tombola – a big success this year; thank you to everyone who donated and everyone who came and bought tickets to try and win prizes over the two events! The PTFA raised over £300!

Autumn disco - So many children came and enjoyed the Autumn disco and raised over £550 in doing so!

School Meals

The new school dinner menu for the spring term will be on the website soon and copies will be available from the office if needed in January.

If you think you may be entitled to free school meals it can be checked by going to <https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/schoolmeals/> Although all children in Years Reception, 1 and 2 are entitled to a universal free school meal, if you are entitled to free school meals, please still register as it brings in additional funding to the school to support the children.

Attendance Matters!

The whole school attendance is currently at 94.3%. We are aiming for an attendance figure of 95%+. Good school attendance is vital and I thank all of you for supporting with this.

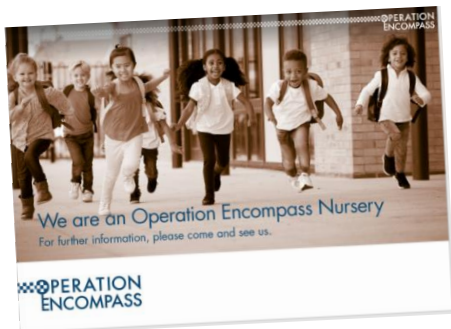
Safeguarding at Two Moors Primary School:

We recognise our moral and statutory responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of all pupils. We endeavour to provide a safe and welcoming environment where children are respected and valued. We are alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and follow our procedures to ensure that children receive effective support, protection and justice. The Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) within school is Mr. Boraston and the deputy safeguarding leads (DDSLs) are Mr Dutton, Mrs Johnson, Mrs Ingledew, Mrs Strong and Mrs Chidgey.

Operation Encompass:

We are an Operation Encompass School – for more information about this – please visit:

<https://www.operationencompass.org/about-us> or come and speak to one of the DSL team.



Are you worried about a child?

If you are concerned that a child is at risk, or to request support, you can do one of the following:

- Contact the school and ask to speak to a member of the DSL team.
- Call **0345 155 1071** (children's social care number).
- Complete the 'request for support' online form [linked here](#).
- If it is an emergency, call 999.

Online Safety:

At Two Moors Primary School, we seek to embrace the digital age by creating responsible digital citizens. As we move forward, the internet and related technologies, including mobile phones, blogs, podcasting and social networks are becoming increasingly important in the daily lives of our children and have many positive benefits. They can be used both educationally and socially and are becoming part of a children's identities. Our children are using the internet for entertainment, interaction, and communication with friends at home. Access to the internet can take place anywhere and at any time, so we need to make sure our children are able to use the internet safely.

Many children are unaware of the risks; for example, the danger of having unknown online friends, uploading inappropriate images, viewing unsuitable content or even becoming addicted to the internet.

Our curriculum for online safety guides your child through the benefits and dangers of having a virtual presence. Through assemblies, bespoke internet safety lessons and action days, we actively prepare your child to be a responsible digital citizen. We all have a role to play in keeping pupils safe online. If you have any concerns, please contact our DSL team for further advice.

Here's some useful links to online safety resources that might support you should you need it:

[Think U Know](#)

[UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

[Net Aware](#)

[SWGfL Social Media Checklists](#)

[The Parent Zone](#)

[A Parents' Guide to Technology](#)

Wider Development across the school and other events:

Look how busy we have all been this half term...and this is on top of the day-to-day learning!

Girls' football tournament at Tiverton High School:

On Thursday 9th November, we sent two teams of girls to Tiverton High School to take part in a football tournament. Both teams played incredibly well and all the children represented the school superbly; well done to everyone involved!



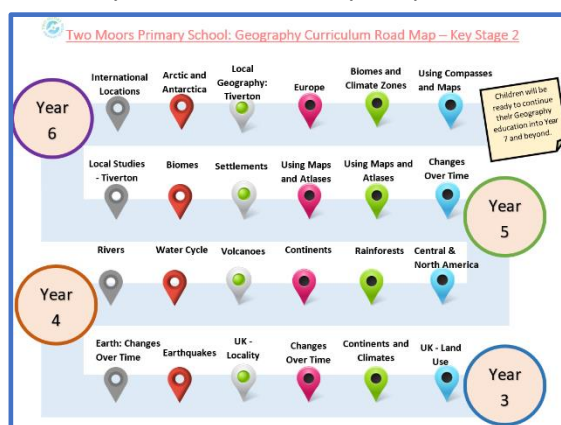
Year Six Remembrance Assembly:

On Friday, November 10th, Year 6 hosted a poignant Remembrance Assembly. The children showcased their talents by singing three songs with exquisite beauty, delivering their lines with both respect and genuine emotion. Some of our young poets in the year group composed moving pieces reflecting on the realities of war, adding a thoughtful touch to the commemoration. The assembly earned well-deserved appreciation from the children in Year 3, 4, and 5, as well as many parents who attended to witness the heartfelt tribute.



Curriculum Maps:

During some of our staff meeting time, we have been creating 'road maps' for each of our subjects. These will be published on the school website soon and are a great way to find out what topics/subjects your children will be learning about in each term. We will let you know when they are published online for you to look at – but here's a KS2 geography example:



England Rocks! Times Tables Rockstars Competition: A Huge Success!

In the week beginning 13th November on the Tuesday Wednesday and Thursday, Year 4, 5 and 6 took part in the national times-table competition called 'England Rocks'. We performed amazingly well- out of the 4096 schools that took part we came 305th which is quite an achievement in itself! However, we came 1st out the 28 schools nearby - well done Two Moors! The children have really enjoyed the challenge of the competition and have tried so hard over the three days to be winners.

Highest performing Class:

- 1st Place- E8
- 2nd Place – E3
- 3rd Place -E7

Highest Performing Pupil:

- 1st Place- Roman G
- 2nd Place- Jess H
- 3rd Place- Harry H

New French scheme and PE schemes:

Our new French scheme, for Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, is called Language Angels and will be being implemented in the in the new year – this should build on the already excellent French teaching that the children receive! Also new next term, is our PE scheme – Complete PE. All staff will be being trained in using these schemes effectively in order to maximise children's progress and enjoyment of these two subject areas.

'Sciencedipity' workshop:

On Monday 15th November, the school were treated to an assembly by a lady called Ruth – who is a scientist! She showed lots of exciting demonstrations involving bangs/crashes/explosions! It was quite the spectacle! After the assembly, she worked with year 5 who are learning all about forces and how they affect motion and movement.

Children In Need:

On Friday 17th November, we held a non-uniform fund-raising day for Children-in-Need. We raised a fantastic £300! Thank you for all your donations to this cause.

Choir:

Our school choir, run by Mr Harvey, has been busy this half term! They have performed at the chocolate tombola, St. George's Residential Home and Tiverton Hospital. Well done to everyone involved with this – we have received so many positive comments about the wonderful singing and behaviour of the children! Also singing related, a group of Year Six children visited Tiverton Pannier Market to serenade the shoppers on a rather damp morning – again, they sang amazingly well and behaved impeccably.



Year 2 Multi-Sports at Tiverton High School:

After being postponed once, a group of Year Two children walked to Tiverton High School for a multi-skills event. The children took part in a range of activities throughout the morning involving lots of different sporting skills. The children (and grown-ups!) all enjoyed themselves thoroughly!

Year 1 visit to Blundells School:

A group of year 1 children were taken to Blundells School for a Christmas themed morning where they got to do some crafting and take part in a Christmas trail. The children, and grown-ups, that attended really enjoyed their morning!



Tiverton Nativity Trail:

Pastor Barker, of the Tiverton Baptist Church, has been hard at work organising a Nativity Trail for the local community. Lots of local schools have been busy creating characters from the nativity to create the trail. At Two Moors, Mrs Strong and a small group of children have been creating two life-size shepherds and sheep and Ms Hartry has created a bonus sheep! The flyer for the trail is at the end of this newsletter with more information about how to take part!



Christmas Events:

Year 2 and 3: Sing Christmas!

The children from Year 2 and 3 kicked off our festive season with their rendition of 'Sing Christmas'! The children all performed their songs and read their words brilliantly! A big well done to everyone for learning their words so well and a huge thank you to the teachers and teaching assistants for working so hard with putting the performance together.

Year 1: Barmy Bethlehem!

Barmy it was! Year one delighted their grown-ups with their performances of Barmy Bethlehem. The children worked so hard to learn of their lines and their songs and they delivered these with perfect comic timing – my personal favourite – the three wise men bringing their gifts of Gold, Frankincense and Cheese Sandwiches for the Baby Jesus. Well done to all the children and all of the staff for their hard work in getting the children to be so brilliant!



Reception: Nativity

A huge well done to some of our youngest children for their nativity performances. The children were so confident with their singing and dancing – they have all worked incredibly hard to get ready to show all the grown-ups, and they loved showing off their performance. Another big thank you to all of the staff in Reception for helping to get the children ready for their first school performance!



Year 4, 5 and 6 performance at the Baptist church:

What a lovely way to round off our Christmas performances this was! The children from Year 4, 5 and 6 did themselves proud with their singing and the setting of the Church made the service even more wonderful! A big thank you to Pastor Barker for inviting us back to the church for the second year running.



Parties and Christmas Dinners:

The children had a great time at their Year Group Christmas parties this week. Music was blaring through the corridors as children sung, danced, played and ate their way through their party food. Thank you to Ms Hartry and the kitchen staff for putting together a feast of party food for the children; the kitchen staff must also be thanked for creating our delicious Christmas Dinner this year which was enjoyed by children and adults alike; Christmas hats, bad jokes and a lot of full tummies all round!

A learning snapshot from across the school:

Nursery – exploring the world around us

The children have had a busy few weeks of the autumn term exploring and learning about the wider world around them. They enjoyed finding out about Diwali, which then led to us talking about things that live in the night time world. Lots of fun was had building rockets and making picnics to have on the moon with Little Bear! We have used the lovely autumnal weather to explore the school grounds, looking at changes around us and we have used festive greenery inside the nursery to make lovely table decorations for our parties!



Reception – Reading/Art/RE

In Reception, we have been learning the individual letter sounds and blending them together to read words. Also, we have created spells and potions at Halloween and made bright, beautiful firework pictures for Bonfire night.

We have talked about what makes us special and where we belong, and how different religions celebrate in different ways, particularly learning about Diwali.

Year 1 – science – materials

This term, Year 1 discovered that an alien had crash landed near Forest School – she was called Beegu!

We have been exploring materials and their properties in our science lessons, and we've carried out some investigations to help Beegu. We tested different materials to discover the best one to fix her spaceship and we found out which was the best materials to make a blanket for her puppy friends!



Year 2 – Computing – Photography

This half term in computing, Year 2 have been learning about digital photography. We have been working on improving our photography skills by deciding whether the subject of our photo would look better in portrait or landscape how to carefully frame a subject. We have also started to use different effects and think about why this might be useful for our photography.

Year 3 History: The Stone Age

The children were captivated by this subject and showed a real desire to learn about all aspects of life in the stone age. Behaving like great historians, they explored a digital 3D map of the stone age village, Skara Brae, and inferred how Neolithic people would have lived. In art, they produced beautiful cave paintings using water colours; really considering what colours and techniques to use, which resulted in some wonderful final pieces. In forest school, the children furthered their understanding of how stone age people lived by collecting their own resources and making stone age tools.

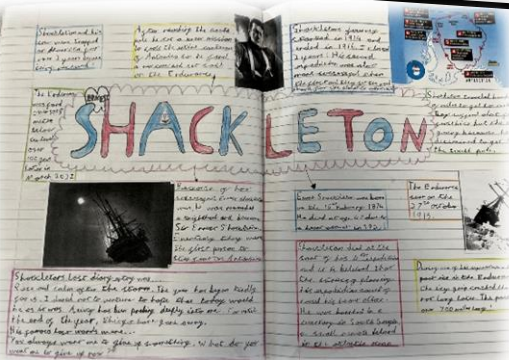


Year 4 – Geography - Rivers

The children have been working really well in classes and have been learning a lot about rivers and the water cycle. They have learnt about the key features of rivers and have studied a global river (the Amazon) and a local river (the Exe). The children were very good at making comparisons between the two and they played games to help them memorise some of the key facts. Both classes created some fantastic diagrams of the Exe showing key places along its course (including Exmoor, Tiverton, Exeter and Exmouth). They ended their work by creating their own river systems in the forest school area with Mrs Jennings.

Year 5 – Science – Forces

Year 5 have been learning about different forces this half term and even had a scientist visit them in school for a day! In the morning, they had an opportunity to see and interact with multiple demonstrations which explored Newton's three laws of motion. They were then given the resources to enable them to build their own air-powered buggy; the children were encouraged to think about how they could adapt their designs to produce a more aerodynamic buggy.



Year 6 – History – Ernest Shackleton

Year 6 have been learning about Ernest Shackleton and his ill-fated journey to Antarctica. We have studied maps of his journey on the 'Endeavour', using lines of latitude and longitude to identify his position on maps, written diaries in the style of Shackleton and used different sources of information to research more about the differences between the Arctic and Antarctica.



Tiverton Nativity Trail
Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th December
2-5 pm



A Christmas themed treasure hunt!
Pick up a free trail map on the day from main
entrance Tiverton Baptist Church, Newport St.
Wrap up warm and bring a pen and torch.