

24th February 2023

Dear parents/carers and children,

Newsletter no 22

Well, we certainly haven't rested on our laurels since coming back from half term! It has been a full week of learning with many new experiences to inspire our children to enjoy their learning at Tatworth.

On Monday, Years 5 and 6 were treated to The Addams Family production presented by Holyrood students. We know that their singing, dancing and performing will be enjoyed by their wider audiences in the coming week – you are in for a treat if you have tickets 😊.

Reception Maths Workshop

To complete our set of maths workshops, this week we were joined by the Reception parents/carers for our final session. The children showed their adult how they subitise when they see a small set of objects rather than count, and then the adults had a go too! We used blocks to practise finding different ways of making the same number and then the children showed their adult how they can represent what they have found out on the page, or on a tens-frame. Everyone had a go at describing and continuing patterns, and the children compared numbers using the Numicon shapes. Thank you to all who attended this week's workshop.



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Trout Fry

It has become a tradition that each spring we have live animals in school to help the children understand life-cycles and have real life experience to observe the changes scientifically. This year we have been lucky to look at fish!



Thanks to the Axe Vale Rivers Association and their volunteers, we have welcomed trout alevins to Tatworth. When they have developed into fry, we will release them into a local stream where they can safely head back to the river. In science we have enjoyed observing them and learning about their life cycle. You will find more information on their website www.avar.org.uk, but, briefly, the aim of the "Sea Trout in the Classroom" Project is for each participating school in the Axe Catchment to help rear a small quantity of native sea trout from ova to the swim-up fry stage, and then release the fry into the nearest viable water course to each school. The equipment was provided by AVRA and will stay in school for approximately 4 to 6 weeks.

World Book Week 6th – 10th March

It is World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March but this year we have decided to GO LARGE and have a full week of reading and book fun. Today in assembly Mrs Mitchem shared her Harry Potter and Alice in Wonderland Book in a Box. the children were very excited to have a go so we are asking children to make their own Book in a Box by representing a scene or giving clues. Please can these come into school from Monday 6th March so that we can show them around school. Judging will take place on Wednesday 8th March. Look out for a letter next week with more details about our week of reading.



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Exciting news - Read Write Inc. eBook Library

Next week, children in Acorn, Oak and Beech Classes will be given a login to access the Read Write Inc eBook library. This will allow them to read their phonics storybook from class at home, on any device. Re-reading their storybook from class is so important to consolidate their learning; it encourages them to develop their storyteller's voice and boosts their confidence and fluency. This personalised online library will give families an alternative to the paper copy of storybooks that children currently bring home, for those who find it more convenient to access their books online. Children can complete an end-of-book quiz and other practice-at-home quizzes, and their teachers will be able to track the books that each child has practised. Of course, for those of you who prefer a paper copy of a book, this will continue to be sent home as well and can be recorded in their reading record as previously.

To find out more about reading phonics storybooks, you are invited to our information, question-and-answer session on Monday 13th March, 5.15pm-6pm.

Y5

On Monday 27th February, Year 5 will be walking to the Swiss Tulle factory in Tatworth where they will be shown around by Lindsey, the factory owner, as part of their learning about the Victorian Industrial Era. It is a fascinating place full of history, and will lead nicely into our trip to Crewkerne museum the following day. It is entirely in school time; we will be leaving at 10.15am and be back in time for lunch, so the children will not need to bring anything additional into school. However, as we are walking there, please ensure that they are wearing sturdy shoes and have a waterproof coat; they should wear full school uniform. Thank you, Mrs Whiffin.

Parents' Evening

Please note, we have extended our parents' evening appointments to 6.30 pm. Please contact via homelearning@tatworthschool.co.uk if you are unable to book an appointment. Thank you.

Teachers' Strike Days

Please be aware there are three proposed NEU teacher strike days in March. A separate letter will be sent regarding these days. Many thanks for your understanding.

Swimming Y5 & some Y6: Y5 will now start swimming on 9th March instead of next week.
Y5: 9/3/23, 23/3/23, (30/03/23 & 20/04/23: TBC)

Leavers' Hoodies

I cannot believe we are already halfway through the year and making preparations for leavers' events. Attached is the detail regarding the Y6 hoodies. Please note orders and payments are needed by Friday 31st March and delivery will be at the start of the summer term. The children can choose any colour, size and different coloured thread which will make the hoodie very much personalised to them. Thank you to PAFOTs who are contributing £7 for each child's hoodie. Please note, hoodies can be worn in school during Wellbeing Week in June and in the last week of term but of course, can be worn out of school at any time. Many thanks.

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Warm Spaces

Please find attached a poster letting you know about the other venues for warm spaces in our area in case this would be of use.

TTRS – Year 4 – well done!



Safeguarding

Please find attached a NOS flyer 'what parents and carers need to know about artificial intelligence.'

Attendance

Willow and Hawthorn Class are the attendance winners this week!

This week our attendance is 94%. Our target is 96 % per week.

Late into school: Any pupils arriving late into school need to be signed in at the office by parent/carers on arrival.

Whole School Year to date attendance

Sessions	Sept 2022 to date	%
Attendances	38083	95.35
Authorised Absences	1640	
Unauthorised Absences	219	
Possible attendance	39897	
Lates	190	



School Council

Acorn Class: Elsie & Andrew.

Oak Class: Millie T and Alfred.

Beech Class: Madison and Logan.

Willow Class: Joel and Florence

Hawthorn Class: Leon and William

Hazel Class: Billy and Skye

Yew Class: Illia & Olivia.

Platinum Bag

Oak Class: Rosa for her descriptive piece about the artic fox in our class reader, some superb adjectives!

Willow Class: Georgie for superb explanation text of the water cycle that includes adverbs of time and well-chosen vocabulary.

Hawthorn Class: Ben & Megan for their independent story boards in Science.

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Behaviour for Learning Celebrations:

Acorn Class: Jacob for making choices independently and getting changed super speedily.

Piper for being a fantastic learning partner and a brilliant kind friend.

Oak Class: Noah for perseverance with his wolf artwork and motivation to keep trying.

Finnley B for fluency in his reading and motivation to read at home.

Beech Class: Emma for using new vocabulary to give a really clear explanation of a wheel and axle in DT. **Victor** for keeping going in DT when he was finding something difficult.

Willow Class: Joel for editing his explanations effectively in history to show his thoughts further. **Isla** for aiming high in English and recalling the meaning of adverbs and adverbial phrases of time and using them effectively in her work.

Hawthorn Class: Amelia for being motivated and engaged in all lessons. She is always asking questions and being curious. A fabulous learner! 😊 **Isabelle** for being a fantastic risk taker, recognising that new concepts in maths can be challenging but continuing to stay positive!

Hazel Class: Jimmy for always showing kindness and care to everyone around him

Spencer for always articulating his excellent, thoughtful ideas in a clear and interesting way

Yew Class: Tyler H for his hard work on making connections between his learning – we are impressed! **Lillie H** for showing good focus this week – keep it up please!

Year 3 and 4 Netball Tournament 21/02/23

On Tuesday 21st February we took part in a high-5 netball tournament at Holyrood. The children did a superb job of adapting to the rules of the game, and supported each other brilliantly. All the children had an opportunity to play in different positions and play against 6 teams from the local area. Again, thanks to parents who took the time to transport their children to the fixture. They all enjoyed taking part.

Vacancies

We currently have vacancies for an Apprentice Teaching Assistant. We welcome informal visits to the school by contacting the office on office@tatworthschool.co.uk. Please find more information here: <https://www.tatworth.somerset.sch.uk/about-us/vacancies/>

Kind regards



Tracey Hart, Headteacher

Attachments:

Letter re Strike action

Y6 Leavers Hoodies

NOS: what parents and carers need to know about AI

Warm Spaces

Easter Egg Hunt.

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Reminders:

Rocksteady Bands

Ryan from Rocksteady is offering a free taster session to any pupils who would like to try a session. Please email office@tatworthschool.co.uk if interested. Children will be slotted in before the end of term for a taster.

Free School Meals

With family circumstances forever changing at the moment, please access the FSM application through the link below. It is easy to complete and will identify whether you are able to access them reasonably quickly.

<https://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/free-school-meals/>

If you have recently become unemployed but are still receiving Working Tax Credits, you may be entitled to free school meals. Please phone 0300 123 2224 for advice.

Dates:

Celebration assembly each Friday for anyone able to join us. Please enter school through the front office gate at 11.45 am and sign in at the office. It would be lovely to see more parents each week. Following on from Parent Forum, once a month, we will hold the assembly in the afternoon: starting **March 3rd at 2.55pm.**

Warm Spaces – Each Friday: 2.15 pm to 3.15 pm

Starting from Friday 20th January, our warm space will be each Friday 2.15pm – 3.15pm in the school hall. **you.**



Book Worms Club - A reminder that on Tuesday and Thursday lunchtimes we run 'Book Worms' club in the Library. This is a great opportunity for your child to read with an older child or adult. Children can go to the library from 1.15 - 1.45 pm.

Football –Mr Bailey will continue to run lunch time football sessions with each year group from year 1 to year 6 to support teamwork. Children in KS2 will need to bring in football boots and an extra pair of jogging bottoms to access these sessions. Each year group session will take place on either a Tuesday or Wednesday: children are asked to have their kit with them on both days. Thank you.

Swimming Y5 & some Y6: Y5 will now start swimming on 9th March instead of next week.

Y5: 9/3/23, 23/3/23, (30/03/23 & 20/04/23: TBC)

Parents' Evenings: Tuesday 28th February & Wednesday 8th March

Please note: the second Y6 parents evening due on 8th March has had to be rearranged to Wednesday 1st March.

PSHE - Years 5 and 6

To support their learning, on Wed 1st March, the girls in Y5 will join the girls in Y6 to watch a live lesson led by expert Brook educators.

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Reading Phonics Storybooks: Monday 13th March, 5.15pm-6pm, we will be holding an information evening on for parents and carers of children in reception and Year 1.

Science Café - Year 3 and 4 Parents/Carers are invited to attend our Physics Café Wednesday 22nd March, 5.45pm – until 7pm, with refreshments available in the green room. Please return slips to Mrs Bayley.

Well-being Workshop - Dr Rob Kirkwood, our Occupational Therapist, will be delivering a session after school on 23rd March at 3.45pm.

Residential Visits

- **Y5 Pixies Holt Residential 24th – 26th April 2023.**
- **Y3/4 Magdalen Residential 5th & 6th October 2023 – for present Y2/3 children.**

Zog Performance at the Octagon Theatre Visit Wednesday 19th April.

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