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Newsletter - December 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a fun-filled festive season with our Years F, and 6 children at the Christmas Carol Concert and Years 1, 2 and 3 at the Christmas performance of "Shine" all performing brilliantly. Thank you to everyone who has been involved with making and supplying costumes and supporting the performances.

I would also like to say a very big thank you for your continued support at all our events and trips this term.

January 2020	
Wednesday 8 th January	M and M productions – Sleeping Beauty to the whole school
Thursday 9 th January	Eco day for the Eco councillors
Friday 10 th January	PE with Coombeshead – Year 2
Monday 13 th January	Year 4 cookery
Tuesday 14 th January	Tomas Williams –Parliament assembly for Years 4, 5 and 6 i PTA event – Film Night – information to follow
Wednesday 22 nd January	Year 5 Grandparents lunch
Friday 24 th January	PE with Coombeshead - Year 1
Monday 27 th January	Year 5 cookery
Thursday 30 th January	8.45 -9.30 Parents drop in Year 2 visit to residential home the Grange
Friday 31 st January	PTA event cake stall – Year 2
February 2020	
Wednesday 5 th February	Year 6 Community Lunch
Friday 7 th February	PE with Coombeshead –Year 4
Tuesday 11 th February	PE with Coombeshead –Year F
Thursday 13 th February	PTA event School disco Foundation / Saplings 3.15 -4.00 Years 1 / 2 / 3 4.15 – 5.15 Years 4 / 5 / 6 5.30 – 6.30
Friday 14 th February	Last day of half term

In December

- *Years 6 and 5 went to Coombeshead Academy to watch the pantomime "Aladdin"
- * The Choir have been performing at the Christmas Community lunch, Memory Café, St Andrew's Carol concert and The Grange
- * Coombeshead drama students visited the school to perform the play "Caught By Christmas"
- * Years 1, 2 and 3 performed "Shine" to parents and other guests
- * Year 1 went to Pennywell Farm to take part in the nativity



* Years F and 6 led the school Christmas Carol Concert at St Andrew's Church

* Each class celebrated Christmas with the customs of their Host country, increasing their cultural awareness

* All the children enjoyed a Christmas lunch

* Year's F to 6 enjoyed a performance of "Elf"

PTA

Firstly, can I say a big thank you to all of the PTA for their support and encouragement this term. A fantastic 'well done' for raising such a lot of money at the Christmas fair. The approximate total is £1,045. Well done to everyone. Finally, each class would like to say a big thank you for all the class gifts.

A Message from Torquay Grammar School

The Grammar School offer support for Pupil Premium students who might be preparing for the entrance tests, in the form of a 10 hour online familiarisation programme. For details and access eligible parents should contact the Boys Grammar School for a code:enquiries@tbgs.torbay.sch.uk. Open day tours are 23-27 March at 9.30 am and 2.00pm.

M & M Productions – Sleeping Beauty

At the very beginning of next term we are going to be having a live performance of "Sleeping Beauty" from M & M productions; this is a travelling production company. They will be at school on Wednesday, 8th January. A letter regarding this has been attached. Please check your ParentPay account to help support this event.

Clubs

For information regarding clubs for the Spring term 2020, please see the letter that has already been distributed

Application for a Primary school place

The application process for primary reception class places for September 2020 opened on 15th November 2019 and will close on 15th January 2020. You need to apply online at www.devon.gov.uk/admissiononline.

Fund Raising

This term we have been very busy and have supported many charities. We have heard back from the Royal British Legion and you will be pleased to hear that we raised £294.09 for selling poppies at the school. Thank you all very much for your efforts, it is much appreciated by the RBL.

We have also twinned each of our toilet blocks with toilets in Malawi. A big thank you to everyone for all the support.

Year 6 SATS

Please can I remind the parents of children in Year 6 that your children will sit their SATs in the week beginning the **11th May**. Please could we ask that, during this week, you try to make appointments either for the afternoon or for after school, and that you do not take any holiday.

Awards

The school has been very pleased to receive recognition for all the music which we have been involved with and we have been presented with Music Mark award.

Next term we have an exciting project with Exeter Cathedral choir, further information will follow shortly.



Safeguarding Training

The FSO Karen West, is going to run safeguarding training for members of the PTA or any parent or volunteer who comes into school to support our children. She is doing to run this training on Wednesday 15th January at 2.30pm. Please RSVP to the office if you would like to attend. Tea and coffee will be available.

Mental health and well being.

The government recommends that we should do the following: connecting with others, being active, taking notice of the world around you, keeping learning and giving of yourself to others to ensure positive mental health.

A Message from the Eco Council

Although the weather this term has been very wet, many children have tried to walk to and from school whenever possible. We would like to continue to encourage this, here is their message

The eco councillors have decided that everyone can make a difference, if we all made one small change, this would result in a much bigger global change. So we can all make a difference.

We need to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide produced. One of the biggest producers of carbon dioxide are cars.

- We would like all pupils and staff to try to make less car journeys to school.
- We would like everyone to try to walk, cycle or scoot to school at least once a week.
- We understand that some of you have to come to school by car - Could you car share with another family? Could you park further away from school and walk some of the way? This will make the car journey shorter.
- We challenge each class to make as many car free journeys as possible: Each class will keep a tally of how many car free journeys they have made. If you have shared a car with another pupil who is not in your family or walked part of the way that will count too.

The class with the most amount of car free journeys at the end of the half term will get a treat. Staff can help too. If teachers or teaching assistants can reduce their car journeys these will count towards the tally!

If you have any questions please come and talk to an eco-councillor. Good luck!

Finally well done to Finn Andrews and Amy Baker for winning the poster competition. The winning entries are attached.

The posters will be distributed around the school as a reminder to all to walk to school

End of Term

Please note that school closes at 3:20pm on Friday 20th December and gates open again at 8:45am on Monday 6th January.

If you have any questions or comments please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Amanda Lacey
Head of School

Dates for the term		Class Assemblies (Usually Fridays but subject to change)	
January			
6th	First day back – gates open at 8.45am		
8th	M&M Productions – Sleeping Beauty		
9th	Eco day for the Eco Councillors		
10 th	Year 2 PE with Coombeshead		
13th	Year 4 cookery		
14th	Tomas Williams –Parliament assembly for Years 4, 5 and 6 PTA event – Film Night – information to follow		
22nd	Year 5 Grandparents Lunch		
24 th	Bags2School Year 1 PE with Coombeshead		
27th	Year 5 Cookery		
30th	8.45 – 9.30am parent drop in Year 2 Residential visit to The Grange		
31st	Year 3 PE with Coombeshead Year 2 PTA cake sale after school	31st	Year F
February			
5th	Year 6 Community Lunch		
7th	Year 4 PE with Coombeshead		
7 th	PE with Coombeshead –Year 4	7th	Year 2
10th	Year 5 cookery		
11 th	PE with Coombeshead –Year F		
13th	PTA event School disco Foundation / Saplings 3.15 - 4.00 Years 1 / 2 / 3 4.15 - 5.15 Years 4 / 5 / 6 5.30 – 6.30		
14 th	Last day of half term	14th	Year 3
March			
		6th	Year 5
		13th	Year 4
		20th	Year 6
		27th	Year 1