



Dear families,

There is so much to share with you, I hardly know where to begin! At the end of last week, our school's attendance was in the top 5 schools in the whole of the Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust - so I would love to take a moment to thank you for your hard work with this - you are helping us make sure that children are not off for any longer than they need to and this has put us in an excellent position. Data-wise, the percentage could be higher, but with winter coughs and colds and bugs, it is understandable that we cannot all stay healthy all the time!

We completed our decorations for the Tavistock tree festival this week and they are now hung (rather well, I must say) on the tree at St Eustachius in Tavistock.

Please feel free to pop in - they are up

there until the 10th December (the same day as our community working party to help spruce up the school a touch).



We have had a whole handful of amazing visitors to our school. Tom, a parliament outreach officer, came to visit our school last week and talked to the children in Key Stage 2 (Hawk Owls and Eagle Owls) about what parliament is and what is done there. He spoke well, the children listened well, and they had some excellent questions. Helen Findlay, of HOOT and in her capacity as a real-life scientist, visited our school on Protecting our Planet day to talk about the amazing work that satellites do in helping us see weather patterns, predict weather and identifying trends in climate change. Not only was her talk incredible, but the websites she recommended were very interesting too. Eagle Owls also joined a live lesson from the Eden project and from the Arctic Circle too - a tour of the RMS Sir David Attenborough and the amazing view of icebergs and the frigid arctic sea.

Finally, just today, Jess from the National Marine Aquarium has visited our school and you can see the amazing things that she has brought to us - the children have done experiments on acidity, corrosion and discussed marine conservation.

This doesn't even begin to mention the exciting events we have coming up. The carol service is less than a week away - Thursday the 7th, while we have some children going to Waitrose to sing carols on Tuesday 5th as well. On the 11th some of our children will be visiting Abbeyfield Residential home to share the songs we've been learning and to foster our links with the community as well.

I'd like to thank you all for your punctuality these last few weeks - children have been coming in in good time to get up onto the MUGA to make the most of our morning pe/socialisation activities and I've loved seeing children from different classes working together. I'm very proud of Eagle Owls and how helpful and considerate they have been.

Please look over the newsletter and make notes of dates, times and if you have any questions, please send us a message.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mr Lumby



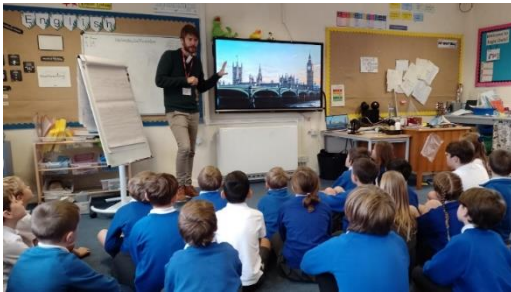
Learners of the week
Korben, Jack, Ellie and
Lavender

Reading Raffle – Jack



**Learners of the week – Jack, Elodie, Tanner,
Evelyn, Henry and Charlie**

Reading Raffle - Lokie



TEMPEST PHOTOGRAPHY

Dear Parents,

Have you ordered your school photos yet? A polite reminder that the closing date for **free delivery** back to school is **Wednesday 6th December**. Order through the Tempest website using your unique link or visit www.tempest-orders.co.uk

If you need any assistance in ordering your photos, feel free to contact Tempest on 01736 751555 (option 3).
Many thanks.

Dates for your diary



Tuesday 5th December Carols at Waitrose 11am – 12pm

Children who have asked to attend this event have been given a letter to take home. Please let Mrs Jinman know if you are available to transport your child to Okehampton by **Monday 4th December**.

Thursday 7th December Christmas Carols at Milton Abbot Church 3.30pm – 4.30pm

Join us for a lovely afternoon of carols! The more singing voices the better so we would love to extend the invitation to extended family and friends. We know the church would be incredibly grateful for any donations, a collection can be found at the back of the church. **Please collect your child from the church at 4.30pm.**

Thursday 7th December HOOT Christmas Fair at Milton Abbot School 5pm – 7pm

After our carol service finishes at the church, the PTFA will be hosting a Christmas trail back to school where you can browse the festive stalls, enjoy yummy Christmas treats and even meet Father Christmas!

Wednesday 8th December Christmas Jumper day

A small donation to Save the Children please.



Sunday 10th December Community Working Party 9am -1pm

We will be tidying up our forest school area, clearing gutters and moving timber - refreshments will be available - any help would really appreciated!

Wednesday 13th December whole school trip Dick Whittington at Exeter's Northcott Theatre 2.30pm

We will be leaving school at 1pm by coach and **returning to school for 5.30pm**. If you have not yet done so, please make payment and give consent on the School Gateway app by **Monday 4th December**.

Friday 15th December Christmas Dinner and Christmas mufti day!

Christmas dinner is now live on the 'dinners' section of the School Gateway app, if you would like your child to have a Christmas dinner please order on the app by **Wednesday 6th December**.



Less than 1 week to go until our

Christmas Fair

This will follow directly on from the schools Carol Concert (3:30-4:30) at the church. There will be a Christmas trail set up for people to walk back along the footpath to the school, so bring your torches and look out for the first marker as you leave the church.



Plenty of stall holders are booked in for you to complete (or start!) your Christmas shopping. There will be hot supper, winter punch and sweet treats to keep you going. Father Christmas will be stopping by; a sign-up sheet will be available on the night. Christmas crafts and games will also be dotted around, so come and have an explore.

Please remember to use easyfundraising when you are shopping online. It's use really does rack up funds for



us and therefore more things we can provide for your kids. It's free to sign up to and once set up it is very helpful in reminding you which websites will donate to us. Search for Milton Abbot PTFA on their website or app.



FRIDAY 12TH JANUARY
AT MILTON ABBOT SCHOOL

Milton Abbot PTFA are organising a clothes collection with Bag2School.

This is a great opportunity to raise funds for the school by donating your unwanted quality clothing. Please fill as many bags as you can and don't forget to ask grandparents, friends and neighbours to support.

✓ YES PLEASE

good quality clothing, paired shoes, handbags, hats, bags, scarves, ties, bras, jewellery, socks, belts, soft toys, household linen, towels and bedding

✗ NO THANKS

duvets and blankets, pillows, cushions, rugs, mats, soiled or ripped clothing, school uniform, corporate workwear, textiles, furniture or batteries.



All donations are to be received between 8.30 am - 9.30 am on 12th January.

Future Events

In the new year we are doing a collection with Bag2School. Please see the poster for more details.

We are still looking for a small chest freezer – if anyone has one that they could donate to the PTFA please get in contact with a committee member.

Our next meeting is Monday 8th January, new members are always welcome.

Valentines Disco – Friday 9th February



Volunteers needed!

**Milton Abbot Primary School
Community Working Party day
Sunday 10th December 9am –1pm.**

Please help us tidy our woodland:

- **Clearing timber**
- **Disposing of old equipment**
- **Raking/distributing mulch.**
- **Clearing gutters/drains**



Refreshments will be available, for more information contact:

Mrs Jinman admin@miltonabbot.devon.sch.uk