



May 2023

# NEWSLETTER



## Dear Parents & Carers

Thank you all so much for your incredible support this half term. We have raised significant funds for our Year 6 leavers' events, thanks to the parents who have supported the movie night.

Huge thanks to FOSS for their help with the coronation party, as well as the fundraising at the Teignmouth Airshow Family Fun Day. It was amazing to see so many parents and children helping out on the FOSS stand at the Family Fun Day – I can't believe how many people gave up their free time to come along and lend their support to FOSS and the school.

Our ACE choir are busy with rehearsals, ready for their performance at the Princess Theatre in July, and our Year 6 pupils had such a wonderful time at their Dartmoor residential. Our Year 4 and 5 pupils have been incredibly lucky to secure places at the Buckfast Abbey Well-being Festival. This has now become a regular trip and gets better and better each year.

When we return after our extended, two-week half term, there will be more fun activities taking place: Sports Day, our summer fayre, swimming lessons for KS2 and our Teddy Bear's Picnic for our new Reception Class starters in September. Our annual "Youth Speaks" public speaking competition will be taking place in July, followed by our Year 6 leavers' service.

On the subject of Year 6, I wanted to finish by pointing out what complete superstars they have all been during our SATs tests, earlier this month. The children showed focus, maturity and exuded calm throughout the week. They have all worked incredibly hard all year, and the teachers and I couldn't possibly be prouder.

Wishing you all a wonderful two-week break and I'll see you all back on Monday 12th June,

Kindest regards,

*Jenny Stewart*

Headteacher



# Reception



The Reception team have been working hard exploring as expert Geographers. We have been wondering... Where does our food come from? Our client was Old MacDonal who wanted us to help him get customers into his farm shop and café. We needed to understand lots about farms and the countryside in order to be successful. We compared towns to cities to the countryside and looked at simple maps and their features. We created our own maps and thought about how helpful maps are. We started to group food in different ways and explored a variety of fruit and vegetables and how they grow. We also reflected on the best conditions crops need to flourish. We took our

learning even deeper and considered the role of a farmer. The team decided they were such hard workers and need to be looking after their farms and crops day and night and not even have the weekend off! We then thought about how far our food needs to travel from the farms to the shops and how it is packaged. The team decided that food shouldn't be packaged in plastic but in little cardboard tubs and that it shouldn't travel too far so that it stays fresh and we can help the farmers near to us. Such a rich, lovely learning enquiry where the children thought carefully and sensitively about the world around them.

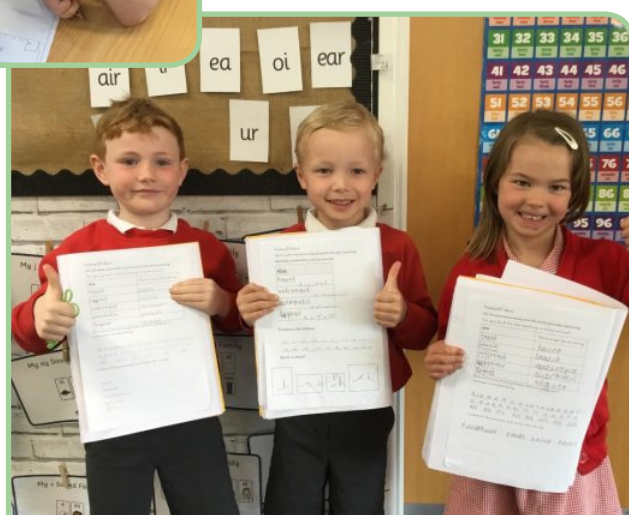
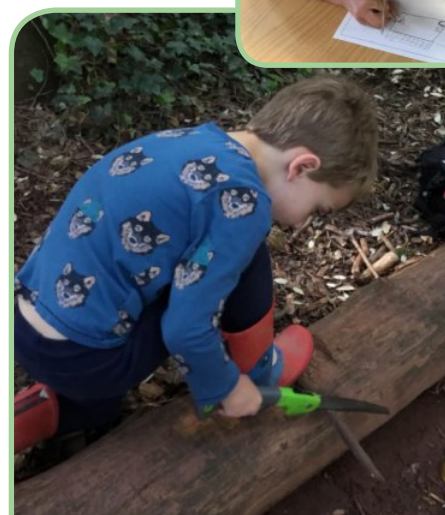
# It 'sounds' like it's been a busy time in Year 1!

We have been busily gearing up for our phonics screening check the first week back after half-term by revisiting all of the sounds we've learnt since starting in Reception. All of the children in Year 1 have worked tirelessly over recent weeks practising their sounds and working on blending sounds to read words. The hard work, determination and resilience they have all shown has just been outstanding. The whole Year 1 team are so very proud of each and every child for their efforts in mastering these early reading skills.

Alongside this super phonics work, we've also been geographers again, looking at Teignmouth Docks and trying to answer the question, 'Do Teignmouth Docks matter to locals?' We started off this inquiry by looking at the area around the Docks and the businesses that reside there. We talked about goods coming in (imports) and goods going out of the Docks (exports). The children were really interested in the export of clay and clay goods, like those made

and sold at Garstones down by the Docks. We then moved on to looking at compass points, maps and identifying human and physical features in and around Teignmouth Docks. We had so many 'wow' moments during this work and we were all extremely impressed with the children's geographical knowledge and thinking. We finished this Learning Journey by considering whether a proposed regeneration plan for the Docks was a good idea or a bad idea. The overwhelming majority of the children agreed that it was a bad idea and that the Docks were an important part of the area and incredibly important to the local people.

We also took part in forest school sessions each Thursday this half-term with Mr Rees. We had the best time and it was such a treat. Thank you to Mr Rees and all the parent volunteers for making this such a special and memorable experience.



# Year 2

## Geography

The children have been loving learning about Postbridge in Dartmoor. The question we have asked is, what's life like for children who live in Postbridge? We have gone on a journey to find out where Postbridge is. We started off looking at continents of the world, we wondered if we could find where the United Kingdom is. After pin-pointing this, the children labelled the countries of the UK on a map. We zoomed in further to look at counties and eventually came to Dartmoor.

We used Google Earth to look at Postbridge and compared it to Princetown, the nearest town that has a school on Dartmoor. The children compared this with their own lived experience in Shaldon and Teignmouth. We even managed to zoom chat with Princetown Primary school. We were surprised that there are only 39 children in the whole school! The Princetown pupils are learning about the coast so Class Two enjoyed sharing facts with them about the coast.

We have learned about rivers, in particular how to locate sources and mouths on a map. The children are really looking forward to their trip to the Postbridge Visitor Centre on the 25th May so they can get a real feel for the town. We will also visit the clapper bridge at Postbridge too!

In music we have been enjoying learning the song; Stand by me. The children loved performing it to the rest of the school during our recent celebrations for the King's coronation.

I have been particularly proud of how the children have conducted themselves both during SATS revision and doing the actual papers. They see them as a great way to show off how brilliant they are, and this is the way it should be! The children will get a treat from me of a movie and popcorn.

## History

We have been learning all about the Great Fire of London for our history enquiry, and are asking the question: What changed as a result of the Great Fire of London. The children have been learning why the fire raged, and why it took so long to put out. The children are thoroughly enjoying this enquiry and parents have told me that the children have been teaching them facts! Brilliant! We will build enough knowledge to produce our information sheet on what changes occurred after the Great Fire of London. The children have been collaborating at tables to discuss pictures from present day, and at the time of the fire. They learned to use their character traits of expression by being honest with their points of view, and by learning to disagree with respect. The children also had to justify their answers too, which they did brilliantly.

## Maths

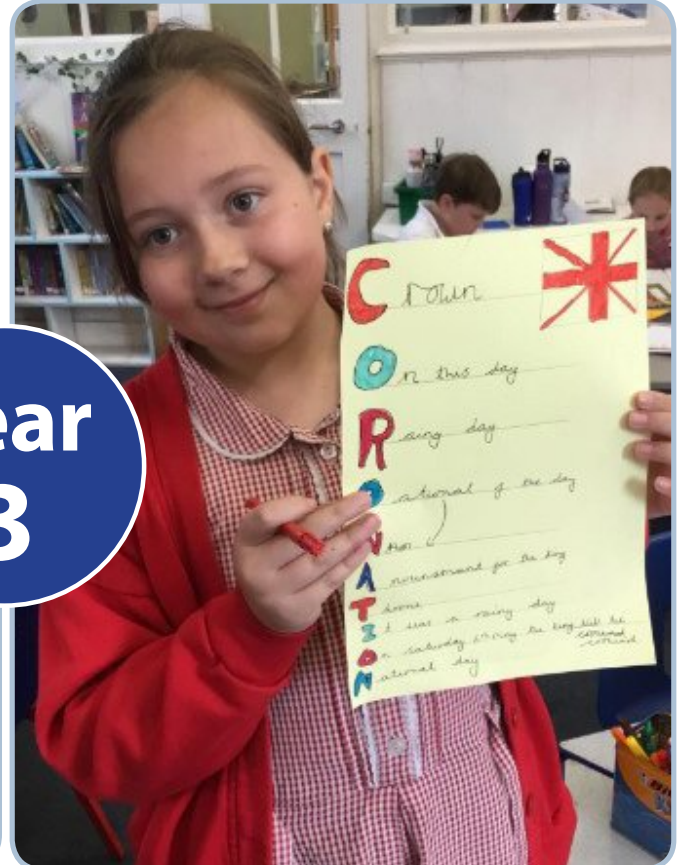
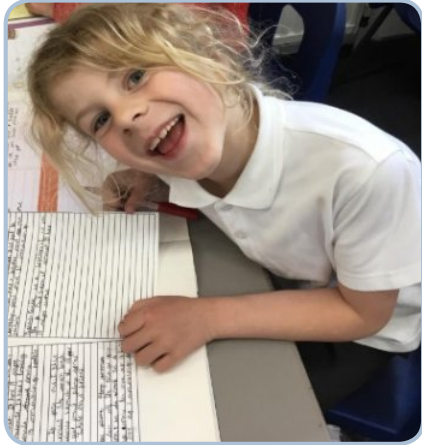
In maths, we have been counting money, so watch out as you may find your pennies being spent! The children have been finding change from amounts as well as add amounts together when they have bought things from Mrs Fletcher's shop. We have been revisiting prior learning as a way to revise for some quizzes this week. We are now starting our journey with statistics. The children begun with Tally Charts and then went on to pictograms.

The children have been enjoying learning songs for our Easter performance and are looking forward to showing you all their hard work and beautiful singing.

We read Charlie and the Chocolate Factory as our class novel. The children couldn't wait to find out what happened next! We are now reading Pippi Longstockings.

*Mrs Fletcher, Mrs Lisa and Emily*





# Year 3



In Year 3 we've had a wonderful first half of the summer term. The better weather has meant more time spent outside, doing the Daily Mile and taking part in exciting events like the coronation celebration. The children have really enjoyed these opportunities and are motivated and focused in class.

In Maths, we have covered several different units of learning. We began with fractions, and the children really consolidated their understanding of what a fraction is and how to represent them before moving onto adding and subtracting them. We then spent some time learning about money, and the children worked collaboratively to problem solve. We have finished this half term with a unit on time, covering o'clock and half past very quickly as the children had excellent knowledge of this from their Year 2 learning. Within Maths lessons I have been seriously impressed by the focus and enthusiasm shown by everyone, this creates a learning environment in which everyone makes good progress and enjoys Maths.

In our enquiry lessons we have spent most of the half

term looking at Geography, exploring the similarities and differences between Teignmouth and its French twin town Perros-Guirec. The children demonstrated incredible levels of curiosity and prior knowledge, and have eagerly taken on new learning and skills such as using a 16 point compass and using 6 figure grid references. Some of this learning has been complex, so Year 3 should feel really proud of their focus and determination. We spent some extra time really perfecting the writing outcomes so that these reflected the extent of the knowledge the children had gained. The last week of this half term will be spent on a whole-class RSE project, looking at family, ancestry and generational connections.

The children have been really enjoying singing this half term, we learned a lovely song for the coronation and have also been learning some songs in French to help us remember the words for the different colours and fruits. In PE Year 3 have been working hard and taking responsibility for their learning, which is excellent to see.

# Year 4 - What We've Been Learning

This half term, Year 4 have been studying the Amazon Rainforest and a tribe called the Matsigenka who live in the remote Peruvian Amazon in the south-east of the country.

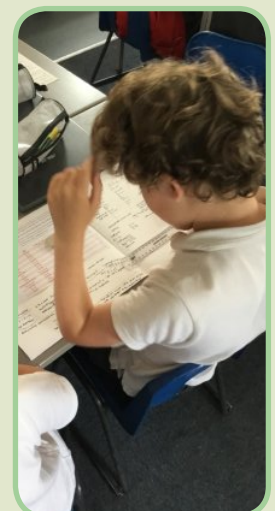
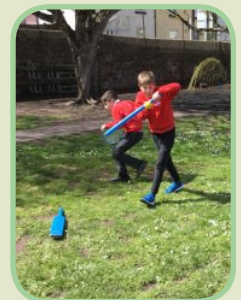
This half term, we have been learning about a variety of interesting topics. In Geography, we have been learning about the Amazon rainforest. We have learned about the different plants and animals that live there, as well as the challenges that the rainforest faces. We have also been learning about the Matsigenka people who are an indigenous people who have lived in the rainforest for centuries. They have a rich culture and way of life that is closely connected to the forest. The Amazon rainforest is facing a number of threats, including deforestation, climate change, pollution, overhunting, invasion of exotic species, and fires. These threats are causing a lot of damage to the rainforest, and they are also threatening the lives of the people and animals that live there. Year 4 have loved learning about the Amazon rainforest and have become passionate about doing all that we can to protect it from further damage and preserve the most important ecosystem in our world.

In PE, we have been learning the skills needed to play cricket and rounders. We have learned how to bat, bowl, and field. We have also learned the rules of the games. We have had a lot of fun playing cricket and rounders in the sun, and we have improved our skills a lot! Through our dynamic warm ups, we have also been learning about the importance of physical activity. We have learned about the benefits of exercise for our health and well-being. We have also learned about the importance of staying hydrated particularly as we move into the warmer summer months.

In Computing, we have been learning to use Scratch. Scratch is a programming language that is designed for children. We have learned how to create sprites, backdrops, and code. We have also learned how to make sprites move and interact with each other. We have had a lot of fun creating our own Scratch projects.

In Maths, we have been learning about decimals and money. We have learned how to add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals. We have also learned how to convert between decimals and fractions. We have also been learning about money and how to calculate with money. In Year 4, we have also been trialling a new way of working in mathematical journals. In our journals, we are recording our learning and progress in maths. Year 4 have also been using our journals to reflect on our learning and to set goals for ourselves.

A great term for Year 4 - we are looking forward to more fabulous learning after half term!



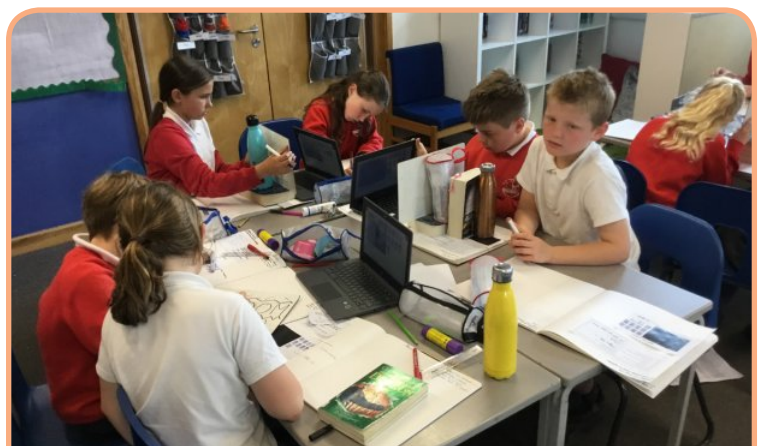
# Year 5



This half-term in Year 5 has flown by! We spent the first 4 weeks of term focusing on Geography. Our enquiry question was 'What are the recent challenges being faced by people in Turkey/Syria?' and focused on the devastating earthquake that struck there in February. The level of Year 5's geographical knowledge astounded me. Their locational knowledge featured heavily, naming the continents and oceans, as well as finding countries and capitals around the world. They also expanded their knowledge of longitude and latitude lines, climate zones and time zones, finding patterns and drawing conclusions. This all led up to their main focus- why do earthquakes happen? From locating tectonic plates, to researching the economic, social and environmental impacts of the recent Turkey earthquake, Year 5 took it all in their stride and to top it all off created outstanding pieces of writing. These took the form of a geology report, outlining the geology behind the earthquake, its impact and how we can help.



In the last 2 weeks, Year 5 have shifted their focus onto their computing enquiry. Throughout this, we have been creating whiteboard stop-motion animations. The children have found inspiration through their research into examples, and planned their own work. Their character focus for this was taking responsibility by making their work ambitious but achievable, which was vital with the timeline they were given. As always, their knowledge acquisition was amazing, and they created some fantastic animations with their partners.



# Year 6

On Wednesday 17th May, 31 excited year 6 pupils boarded the minibuses, heading for Dartmoor Activity Centre!

Upon arrival, the children were shown around the extensive grounds of the centre and quickly found their cabins for the next few days. To make the most of the wonderful weather, we soon made our way into Dartmoor and up Haytor for an afternoon walk. Whilst there, the children were told the story of the 'Giant Blunderbuster' who roamed the moors many years ago. On our walk, the children explored the quarry and everything it's lake had to offer before walking back to the centre for our evening meal and quiz night.

After a (small!) sleep, the children awoke raring to go for their busy day ahead. Their day bags were packed and again we walked out to Dartmoor but this time, for some weaselling and orienteering fun. Everyone was super impressed with the children's efforts to participate in the activities during the morning.

But the fun didn't stop there! After lunch, the next activities on our itinerary were axe throwing and land raft building. In the former, we were amazed at the children's aims, with some hitting the target which was as small as a satsuma! In the raft building, the children worked brilliantly as a team to transport water to the other side of the field, whilst transporting back in the middle of a (makeshift!) storm, which ended in a water fight in the sunshine! Good work, year 6!

On Friday, after a fun-filled morning of team building, it was time to leave. A huge thank you to Mrs Walbyoff and Sammi for their support on the trip. A memorable and fantastic time was had by all!





Rowcroft Hospice



Highridge, Long Lane, Shaldon, TQ14 0HB

Saturday 15 July 2023

10am to dusk

Entry by donation - all proceeds to

Rowcroft Hospice

Tea, coffee and cake

Bouncy castle

Raffle

Parking available

Rowcroft relies on voluntary donations for over 70% of its funding

Rowcroft provides specialist palliative care & support to over 2000 people every year

Rowcroft is South Devon's only adult hospice and covers an area of over 300 sq. miles

80% of Rowcroft's care is provided in patients' own homes across South Devon

Rowcroft provides care & support to patients and their loved ones, helping them cope at the most difficult of times

For more information, contact: [rachelcook@hotmail.com](mailto:rachelcook@hotmail.com) 07968  
233739



# FOSS Update

Thank you to parents / guardians for providing tombola items in exchange for non uniform so that we could run a tombola at the Teignmouth Airshow Family Fun weekend. Thanks also to the parents/guardians, and some children, who came along to help us run the stall. And finally - thanks to all of you who came along and supported us. It generated £500 profit to go back into FOSS spending.

We hope the children enjoyed the FOSS contribution to the School Council's coronation party. We decorated the playground in red, white and blue for the occasion and then gave all children the opportunity to make a Coronation Seed Bomb! Hopefully they have been planted and you'll start to see the flowers growing soon.

Thank you to the parent volunteers who made the school disco possible. We hope the children enjoyed dancing and partying - this event raised £200 for FOSS.

We have started ticking off items on the school's wishlist - starting with the purchase of 10 dictionaries for each KS2 class. These were very gratefully received!

Behind the scenes, we are very busy getting ready for the Father's Day shop (16th June) and the school Summer Fair (7th July). Take a look at [www.pta-events.co.uk/shaldon](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/shaldon) to book Father's Day shop and to book tokens and raffle tickets in advance for the fair! Our teddy tombola collection point is set up at the front of school too.

Thanks for your continued support.



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<b>Friday 26th May</b>	<b>Last day of term</b>
<b>Half Term</b>	
<b>Monday 12th June</b>	<b>Return to school</b>
<b>Friday 16th June</b>	<b>Father's Day Shop New 2023 Reception Parents to meet Mrs Jones-Whyte and Mrs Stewart &amp; Teddy Bears Picnic</b>
<b>Monday 19th June</b>	<b>Year 6 Ranger Day</b>
<b>Friday 23rd June</b>	<b>Year 2 FOSS Cake Sale</b>
<b>Tuesday 4th July</b>	<b>Sports Day including Year 1 Cake Sale</b>
<b>Wednesday 5th July</b>	<b>FOSS Bag2School Collection</b>
<b>Thursday 6th July</b>	<b>Years 5 &amp; 6 Youth Speaks Heats</b>
<b>Friday 7th July</b>	<b>FOSS Summer Fair including Reception Cake Sale Year 6 Forest School Day</b>
<b>Friday 14th July</b>	<b>Year 6 Bear Trail</b>
<b>Tuesday 18th July</b>	<b>Reserve Sports Day Years 5 &amp; 6 Youth Speaks Finals</b>
<b>Thursday 27th July</b>	<b>Last Day of Term</b>