



January 2022 NEWSLETTER

Achieving and flourishing in our Christian Community



Dear Parents & Carers

It seems a bit belated, but welcome back to a new year if I am yet to see you in person! I hope our families and members of the community had a restful and enjoyable Christmas break and a good start to the new year.

Our pupils have returned straight back into action for the spring term and are well under way in their history learning experience. From the Battle of Dunkirk to the Great Fire of London, our pupils have made an excellent start to build their knowledge of specific events in history. The children have also been thinking like a historian and are learning key skills in understanding chronology, referencing sources and conflicts in the past. Following this experience, the pupils will start a narrative writing experience.

The tradition of New Year Resolutions links in well with our character gateways of 'Explorers' for this half-term. Pupils and staff have been focusing on how we can challenge ourselves further. This may be linked to learning in class, trying something new or trying something outside of our comfort zone. Whatever they try to challenge themselves on I would encourage families to talk about their challenges at home and for parents to model this by discussing some challenges themselves.

I look forward to sharing our curriculum updates and outcomes throughout the term with you!

Best wishes,

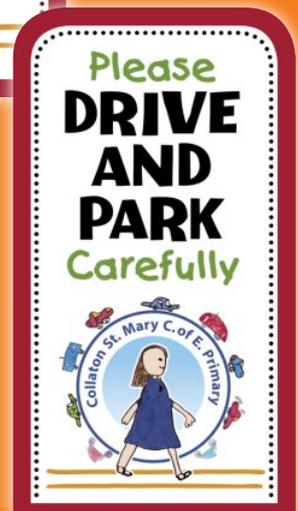
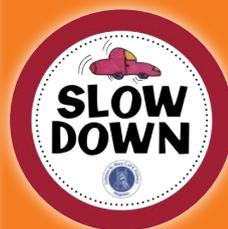
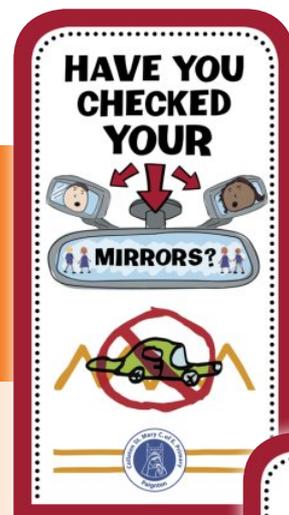
Ben Nelson-Smith Headteacher

ROAD SAFETY

Road safety is everyone's responsibility. The school have implemented some new measures to help keep our pupils safe and families can also support by following the measure below:

- The school have purchased new traffic cones to further highlight the 'no parking' restrictions on the zig zags at the front of the school. A pathway has also been created using traffic cones through the school car park to create a safe passage into the school.
- The School Council have designed new signs for the road, including stand up signs in key areas, to promote safe driving and sensible parking.

The current roadworks seem to have passed further along the Totnes road and having less impact on congestion in the lane which is positive. Where possible, we will continue to have a member of staff on the front entrance to monitor the traffic and parking.



Our Curriculum is built on three core values:



Academic Excellence

The acquisition of a deep body of knowledge across a range of subjects. Our curriculum provides a progressive plan for pupils build upon knowledge and skills.

Character Education

Through our character gateways, our pupils grasp possibilities and opportunities of life beyond the classroom – becoming well-rounded individuals.

Learning to Learn

We emphasize the importance of learning how to learn. Pupils are explicitly taught how to work independently, collaboratively and use their creativity to become life-long learners.

Explorers

Character Values



Follow my **passions** and **seek challenges** in order to **aspire** to be the **best version of myself**.



OUR FOCUS IN

Spring Term 1

Every day is an opportunity for the pupils to experience something new. Each half-term we focus on a specific area of our curriculum to develop, whilst inexplicitly developing all aspects of the curriculum.

Some areas of the curriculum are taught on a daily and weekly basis, including maths, reading, PE, MFL and RE. Other subjects are taught in blocks where pupils will fully immerse themselves in the subject to deepen their understanding. This half-term, pupils across the school will be focusing on history and narrative writing.

Pupils develop their understanding of our 5 character gateways through the year, with a primary focus on one character gateway each half-term. This half-term, the school is focusing on the gateway of 'Explorers'. Pupils and staff are discussing and learning ways to further challenge ourselves to be the best version we can be. We also make reference to examples in the bible and in modern day to support us with this.

This half-term, pupils are continuing to learn how to work collaboratively. Pupils are shown how to work together in their classrooms, from making eye contact and listening in reception, to providing constructive feedback in Year 6. Your child's focus can be found at the top of their weekly letter from teachers.



www.bag2school.com

A big **thank you** to all who contributed.

You helped raise **£120** for our PTFA!



Ethos Group Relaunch

The school's Ethos Group had a relaunch meeting in January to identify the purpose and impact of the group. It was an excellent opportunity to create our vision for the group and discuss ways that we can have a positive impact on the pupils at our school. If you would like to be part of our Ethos Group, we would love to have your voice and opinions - please get in touch!

Civic Award

Meet the children in year 6 who, since September 2021, have been working hard towards their Torbay and Devon Civic Award.

To achieve the award pupils have to prove their participation in five main areas. These are:

Active Citizenship in their school community

Active Citizenship in their home communities

An active hobby(ies)

A non-active hobby(ies)

Residential experience and adventure training

The children also adopt a cause or charity which they feel strongly about. They need to research it and find ways of supporting it. Every now and then you may see a stall outside the year 6 classroom, where a child has organised a fund raising event to raise money for their chosen charity. There will be a whole school fund raising event on 1st April – look out for information nearer the time.

The Civic Award does a great deal to develop children's character. It encourages them to be compassionate and to take responsibility for positive change. It also supports them in leading purposeful and full lives and is great preparation for both secondary school and the workplace.



RUNNING / CYCLE TRACK

We are very pleased to announce that our running and cycle track is now complete and the children have started to make use of it.

The track was heavily funded through a Torbay Active Travel grant, which the school successfully gained, with the aim of getting our pupils more active and promoting an active way of getting to school.

We also plan to build in opportunities throughout the school day for pupils to take part in running challenges to further contribute towards the government's recommended 30 minutes of

exercise a day for children. We have no doubt that regular opportunities for running in the school day will benefit our pupils' health and fitness.

In addition to the point above, we are also in the process of purchasing balance bikes and pedal bikes to support our Key Stage 1 pupils build confidence in cycling. Our vision is for most of our pupils to be able to ride a pedal bike by the time they finish Key Stage 1 – providing an important skill for pupils to use in their own time.

We look forward to keeping you up-to-date with events and pictures.

PHASE 1



PHASE 2



PHASE 3



Year R



Reception have been finding out about toys from the past and answering the key question 'Would Grandma Have Played with the Same Toys as me?' The children have been looking at words to describe old

teddies and ordered them from oldest to newest. We then wrote invitations to our teddies to invite them to a teddy bears picnic. We took them to Forest School, played hide and seek and had a picnic!

**WANT TO MAKE A
DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY?**



Have you considered teaching?

We have helped people just like you start a successful career as a Primary School Teacher.

Find out more about the DPSCITT course by joining us for one of our open evenings:

12/01/22	Exeter	Trinity Primary School
31/01/22	Barnstaple	Roundswell Primary School
01/02/22	Ivybridge	Manor Primary School
30/03/22	Online	Join us via Zoom

Book your place now at: www.dpscitt.ac.uk

Year 2

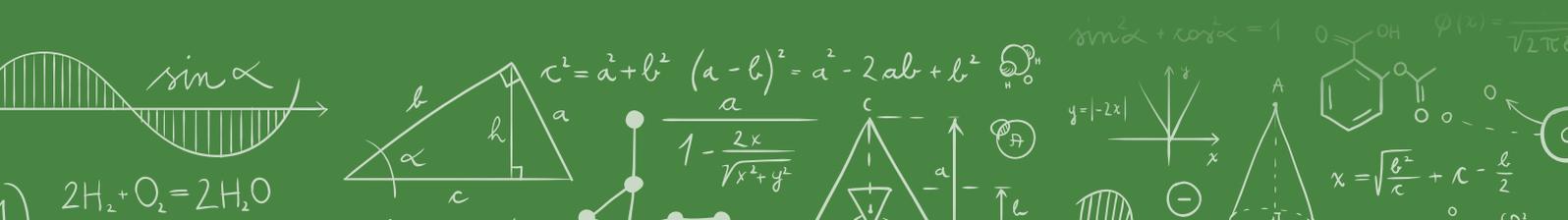
Year 2 had a surprise visit from our local Police officers! They had great fun looking in the police vans and learning about the officer's job roles.





Year 4

Maths challenge! In year four, the children have been applying their understanding of factors and factor pairs to compete against one another in a game called 'factor track'. To move your counter, you can only move the factor of the number you are on, but you cannot go around a corner without landing on the green jumps. The children have had to think strategically to try to beat their partner to the green jumps and move around the track the quickest! We have had great fun competing in a class tournament.



Year 6

Year 6 have been analysing a wide range of sources, which link to the evacuation at Dunkirk in 1940. They discussed the use of propaganda by both sides and gathered evidence for their discursive essay. Ultimately, they will decide whether they think the evacuation was a triumph or a defeat.

Source 3



This image of British soldiers being rescued was shown in **British newspapers**.

3. How does it differ from the American image?

4. Why would the British press choose this picture and not the other?

5. Did they give the people of the UK the full information about what was happening at Dunkirk?

Source 4



This image of British soldiers being taken prisoner by Germans at Dunkirk was shown in an **American newspaper**. It did not appear in British papers.

Source 5



"Dunkirk Taken" ran the headline in a German newspaper. It reported that the German army had taken 40,000 British prisoners with another 40,000 drowned in the Channel.

Comparing sources

Source 6

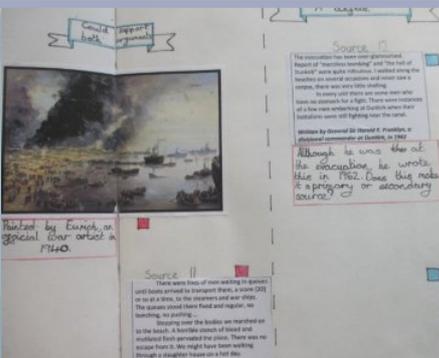


6. Does this German source agree or disagree with British reports?

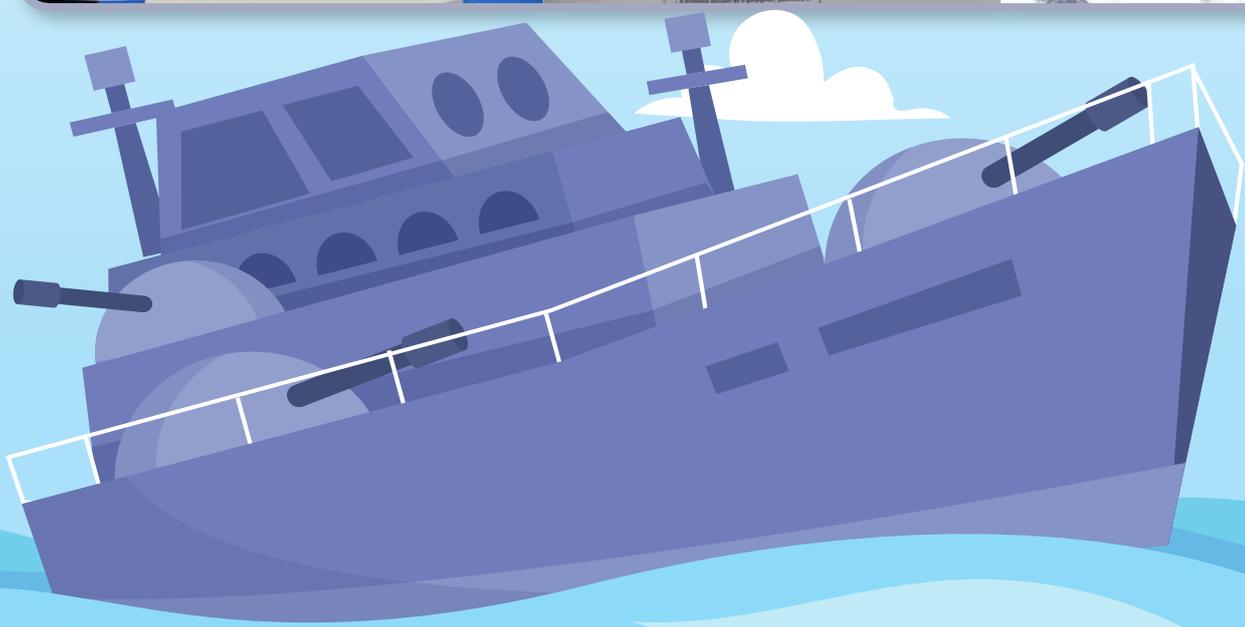
7. Why would the Germans and the British tell their people different stories?

6. I think it disagrees with British reports, because both reports say that both sides are winning but is not true. The British source tells us that 335,000 troops were saved by this miracle and that 4000 preferred death than to surrender. However, the German source says that 40,000 British soldiers were taken prisoner.









MINI POLICE!



Some of our Year 5 & 6 children successfully completed the 'Mini Police' program. They put forward some great ideas on how to help look after our community. On their final week of the program, they did a presentation to the whole school and had a special visit from the local Chief Constable and a team of officers. We were very impressed with the children's commitment and enthusiasm.



Safeguarding

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility – we all have a part to play in keeping children safe.

Collecting Children from School

It is important that the school know that every pupil is accounted for by a parent/ carer or someone else who has been arranged to pick up by the parent. Our school has a contact list with information provided by parents of who can pick up their child. Parents can be assured that their child will only go home with someone on the agreed list. If you would like to add someone to the list, please let the school office know.

If you have arranged for some else to pick up your child, who is not on the list, please ensure you let the school office or class teacher know beforehand – otherwise they will be politely challenged and a phone call home will be made to authorise the pick up.

Remember – it could be nothing, but it could be something!

Dog Awareness for Children

We have planned for a visitor to come into school to visit specific classes outside this half-term to talk to pupils about dog etiquette. In the meantime, please have conversations with your children around the following points:

- 1) As an owner, remembering that not all other children like dogs so should avoid getting too close unless you know they are ok with it.
- 2) As the non-owner of the dog, you should ask if it is ok to stroke someone's dog as the dog may still be in training. The owner may give advice on how to stroke the dog based on its needs.

Please can I remind all families with dogs that they are not permitted on the school site, including the playground. Dogs can go up to the rear field entrance and the car park entrance.



NEW SCHOOL FOOTBALL KITS

..... Sponsors Wanted

We have been working with kit supplier VX3 over the designs of our future football kits. We think they look great and can't wait to get the children playing fixtures in them.

We are on the lookout for sponsors to advertise their brand on our kits. Or, alternatively, someone to donate towards them.

Advertisement on our kits is a great way to share your business with the community and show your support with a local school. It will provide advertisement for years to come. If you are interested, or know someone who might, please contact the school for further information.

The diagram illustrates the design for Kit 1, intended for Year 3/4. It features two views of a light blue football jersey with a subtle pattern. The front view shows three designated sponsor placement areas: 'A' on the chest, 'B' on the left sleeve, and 'C' on the right sleeve. The back view shows a large white number '10' on the back. Three yellow callout boxes provide pricing for each option: 'Option B Sponsor £75' (pointing to area B), 'Option A Sponsor £150' (pointing to area A), and 'Option C Sponsor £75' (pointing to area C). A blue circular badge in the bottom left corner identifies the kit as 'KIT 1 Year 3/4'.

The diagram illustrates the design for Kit 2, intended for Year 1/2. It features two views of a darker blue football jersey with a subtle pattern. The front view shows three designated sponsor placement areas: 'A' on the chest, 'B' on the left sleeve, and 'C' on the right sleeve. The back view shows a large white number '10' on the back. A blue circular badge in the bottom right corner identifies the kit as 'KIT 2 Year 1/2'.

Collaton St Mary Primary School

Diary Dates 2022

Thursday 3rd February 2022

Year 4 Swimming

Thursday 10th February 2022

Year 4 Swimming

Thursday 17th February 2022

Year 4 Swimming

Monday 21st February –
Friday 25th February (inclusive)

Half Term

Thursday 3rd March 2022

World Book Day