



July 2023 NEWSLETTER

Achieving and flourishing in our Christian Community



Dear Parents & Carers

It's hard to believe we're at the end of another academic year!

There have been some wonderful events and activities this half term; sports day, the summer fayre, zoo trips, the space dome visit and a wellbeing day full of experiences for the children to use to support themselves in the future. Added to this we celebrate great results in both our end of key stage assessments, our Year 1 phonics and our end of EYFS results. We were considerably above the national average in all areas; excellent work Collaton!

Our year 6 pupils have reached the end of their Collaton journey, ending their year with a great residential trip to the Beacon Centre and their fabulous play, Robin Hood. We are so proud of their time at Collaton and how well the children have done. I am confident that the children will continue to thrive in their new schools and we wish them lots of luck for the future. We also bid farewell to Mrs Dodgson, Mr Hutchings and Mrs Costar and wish them well in their new endeavours.

This term we have seen some wonderful learning in Science, DT and Geography and the children have been really developing the character traits of responsibility and courage. Change always needs an element of courage and teachers and pupils alike will be experiencing change when we return in September. This worry over change will also bring some excitement and next year we look forward to more deep learning, further enrichment opportunities and more opportunities for families to join us in school to share our learning and experiences.

It has been a wonderful start to being head at Collaton. The children, families and staff are what makes the school so special. I would like to thank the families for all their support to the school and their children's learning and the staff for their endless team spirit and dedication to the pupils.

Wishing all our families a happy and safe summer holiday! We look forward to seeing you back on September 6th.

Nicky Postlethwaite

Headteacher

SPORTS DAY

The weather held out for our Sports Day and the children had a great day! Our 2023 house cup winners were 'Willow'! Well done.



Year R

Wow! What an amazing final half-term in Reception Class these children have had. They have come such a long way since they started with us last year and we are all incredibly proud of them for their determination and achievements. The children have been learning all about African art, they have made necklaces using repeating patterns and have also created their own mud paintings. We have also spent time learning about our oceans and thinking about how we can save our oceans from plastic pollution! The children all showed how kind and caring they all are through their thoughtful ideas and solutions.



Year 1

Science & D&T

This term, we have been learning about how to grow plants. We have learnt what plants need to grow strong and healthy and we have also learnt about the parts of a plant. We had a special visitor come in and teach us about how to identify different types of trees based on their leaves. We enjoyed completing this challenge and then did some leaf rubbings!

Once we finished our science LE, we started our Design and Technology LE. For this, we designed and made our own plant based pop up cards. This involved learning how to do different types of folds in order to make the card work. We then made these cards and evaluated our finished designs.

Geography

For our final Year 1 learning experience, we are answering this enquiry question "What would a pilot see if they flew over Torbay?" We have been looking on Google Earth at where we live and have learnt all the key features in Paignton, Torquay and Brixham. We have also completed map work and used compass directions to help us! We also have a real pilot coming in to talk to us about what it's like to fly planes.



SPACE DOME

The PTFA kindly gifted a Space Dome experience for all of the children. Each class had an immersive science lesson learning about space and the different planets. Thank you PTFA.'



Year 2

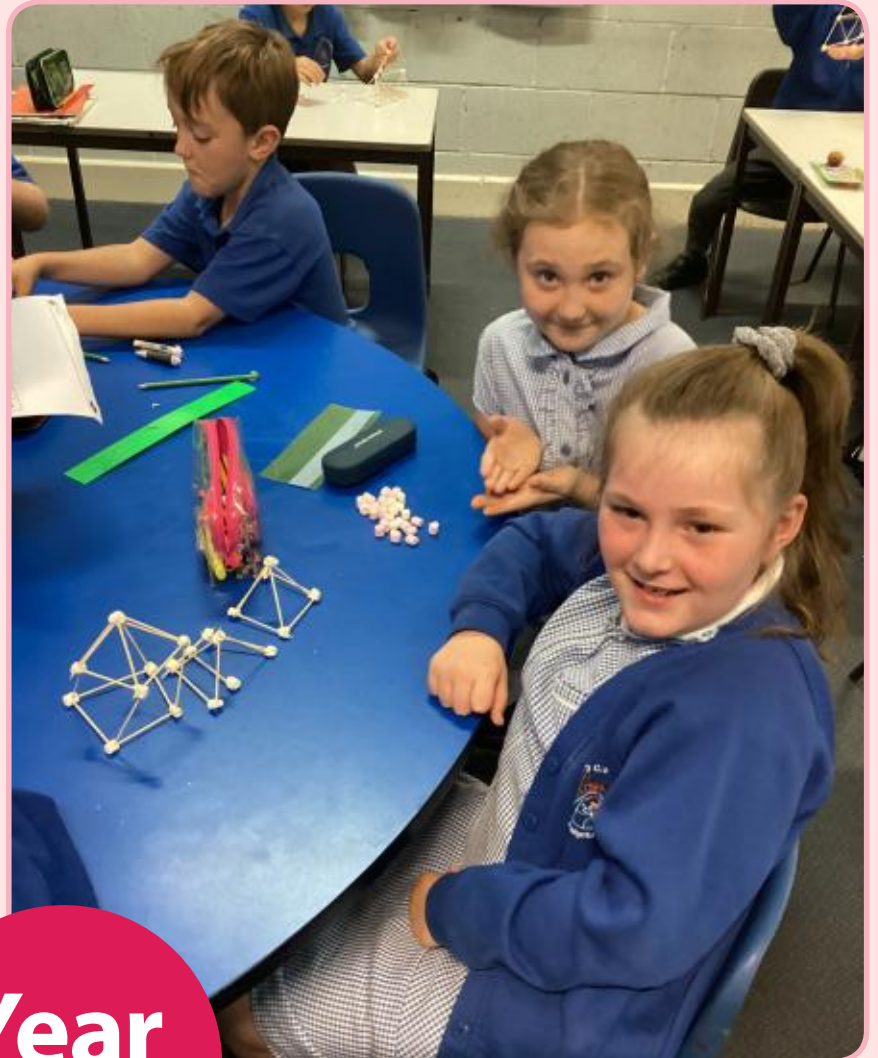
In Year Two, the children have been very busy completing a design technology learning experience. They had to make something that they could use in their gardens. After carrying out some market research and evaluating different products we decided to make wind chimes. The children had to learn how to saw, thread, tie knots and drill before they were able to use these skills to create their own wind chimes





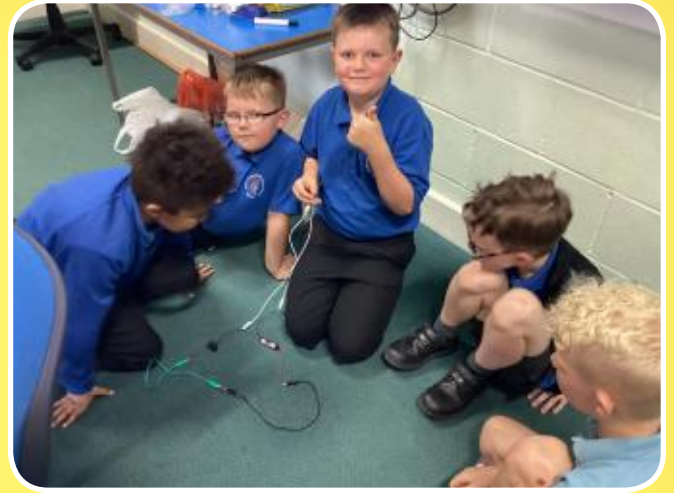
This half term Year 3 have been learning about 3D shapes. They have learnt about angles and vertices and to finish off our learning we created different 3D shapes using marshmallows and cocktail sticks.

For our D&T Learning Experience, we have been designing plant pots. We did some market research and created our designs. We then created our designs out of air-drying and then decorated them.



Year 3





Year 4

Year 4 have been very busy this half term. We started by investigating electricity, how does it work? What materials can it pass through? We then used this knowledge to design and create our own functional circuits. We then put our cooking skills into practise by making our own fruit jam, pairing a variety of flavours with apple such as blackberry, raspberry, pear, cinnamon and blueberry.

YEARS 5

During our recent DT learning experience, the children had the opportunity to adapt a simple bread recipe so that they could make some bread for a family member. They began the journey by doing some market research, including taste testing! We were lucky enough to have the help of a baking expert, Maxine (who used to run her own bakery) and Chef Daisy. The class really enjoyed the whole process and as you can see, the final outcomes were incredible. They also designed and made packaging for their bread and carefully considered the customer, aesthetics, materials and the environment. Year 5 children followed the Plan, Do, Review cycle and created their own success criteria to ensure their products were high quality.



Year 6





Thirteen of our Year 6 students were successfully awarded the Torbay and Devon Civic Award 2022/2023. Well done!



ACE PERFORMANCE



We were really proud of our school choir, who performed with all the other ACE school's at the Princess Theatre. The children behaved and sang beautifully. It was a really uplifting event

Collaton Summer Fayre

Our Summer Fayre was enjoyed by all. Thank you to the PTFA for all your hard work and effort in organising this event.



THANK YOU

- Jackie Leigh from the parish has been so helpful and supportive of the school this year; from organising parking in the field for events, to keeping us updated with local news.
- Mr Palk for allowing us to park on his fields for events.
- The 'Open the Book' team for coming in to deliver weekly worships with the children.
- Colleen and Mr Hutchings for helping the pupils to run the cake stall.
- The school governors for supporting the school, attending events and regularly meeting with the children.
- Father Gary and the parishioners for supporting school services.
- The PTFA for organising and holding wonderful fundraising events for our children. They have also purchased ICT equipment, early years equipment, funded the space dome visit and the wellbeing day!
- Mr Taylor for running our KS2 forest school sessions and also keeping our kitchen garden and grounds in order!
- Mr Jenkins with his drinks can collection has raised almost £2000! This money is going to go towards the outdoor play equipment.
- All of our volunteers who have supported the school this year; either for trips or with activities in school.

Volunteers needed

If you, or a family member, have a little bit of time to spare and would like to become a volunteer at school, we are looking for help in these areas:

- **Phonics**
- **Reading**
- **Gardening**
- **Building/carpenter to do a mini project with a small group of children (maybe 1 hour a week)**

If you are interested, please fill out a form from the office.

Governors Wanted

Could you volunteer and become a School Governor at Collaton St Mary Primary School?

- **Do you care about improving children's education and contributing to your local community?**
- **Would you like to inspire change and make a difference?**
- **Are you willing to challenge and ask questions?**
- **Do you have valuable skills that you could offer?**

If you answer yes to the above we would love to hear from you! We are looking for governors to join our local committee and contribute to the success of our school. We hold 5 committees a year and a separate enquiry visit per term. No experience is necessary and full training will be given. Please get in touch with our school office or email our Clerk at Roxanna.mager@acexcellence.co.uk

Collaton St Mary Primary School Diary Dates 2023 / 24

Wednesday 26th July –
Tuesday 5th September inclusive

Thursday 14th September

Friday 6th October

Monday 23rd - Friday 27th
October Inclusive

Friday 24th November

Summer Holidays

Year 2 School Trip

Individual and Sibling photos

Half term holidays

Flu Vaccinations

Wishing you all a Wonderful Summer