Black Torrington

Church of England Primary School

I can do all things in Christ who gives me strength.
Philippians 4:13

In this issue:

Messages from Mrs Luxford

Class News

Hub News and Notices

Attendance and Diary Dates

Two full weeks into the new term and learning is in full swing at Black Torrington. Class 2 have been working hard across the curriculum as well as getting used to a new teacher– welcome Mrs Covell! Mrs Covell has been focussing on establishing Best Black Torrington Behaviour as well as lots of rewards for diligence and perseverance in our learning. You may have noticed another new face to our school family– welcome Leo, we are very happy to have you in our Year 6 group.

Outdoor Challenge Days

Mr Pearson, Trust Champion for PE, Sports and Outdoor learning has organised some special Outdoor Challenge days for KS2 across the Trust. Our days are the 27th and 28th February. Watch this space for more information about these fabulous opportunities.

Residentials 2023

We are very excited to confirm arrangements for the **Year 3 residential**. All year 3s from the **Moorland Hub and Ruby Hub** – Boasley Cross, Bridestowe, Exbourne, Lydford, Northlew, Bridgerule, Black Torrington, Bradford and Highampton Primaries – will take part in 2 days of adventurous outdoor activity with overnight camping at Boasley Cross Primary School on the **8th and 9th of June**. Children will take part in climbing, low ropes, team building games, archery, crate stack and grass sledging. They will return to Boasley Cross for games and camp fire before camping in DMAT tents. Food will be provided by the Trust. This will be a brilliant opportunity to meet children from other local schools – we are expecting 43 children to attend.
This exciting opportunity will be subsidised by our PE budget, meaning a cost of just £30 to parents.

We are finalising details of the **Year 4/5 residential**. This is taking slightly longer than hoped as we are keen to keep the cost affordable for parents and we are negotiating the best price. We will have 3 days, 2 nights of outdoor adventurous activity at a specialist activity centre and are expecting an absolute maximum cost to parents of £120.
There will shortly be further information by letter and an opportunity to talk with Mrs Luxford about any questions you may have.

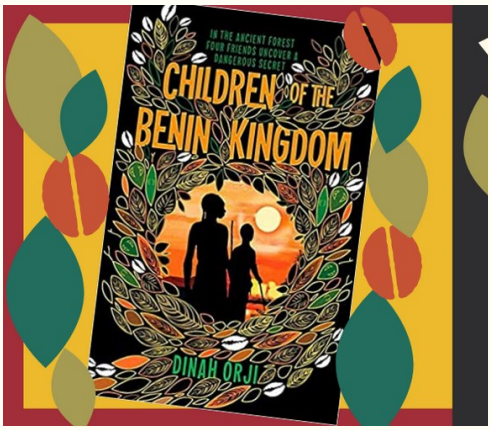
Class News

Class Two

This term the children's history topic is the Benin Kingdom and we have been loving discovering how different life was in then, compared to now. To extend this learning even further we are exploring the Children of the Benin Kingdom text in English!

This weeks star dojo award goes to Jasmine with 43 points earned for her fantastic attitude to learning.

Mrs Covell

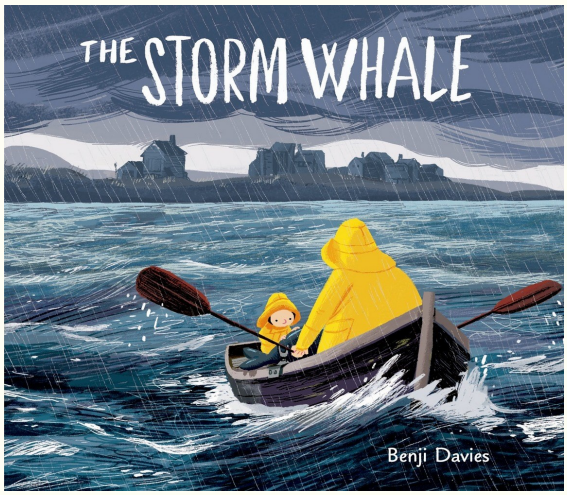


Class One

So far this term the children have been exploring the story of The Storm Whale in English. We are loving writing for different purposes such as diary entries, instructions for our very own seaside game and poems about the great storm from our story.

We are really enjoying our history topic of the Ancient Egyptians and have explored the history of hieroglyphics. The children even learnt how to decode some hieroglyphics and how to write their own names!

Miss Wenmouth



Hello from Mrs Covell who is working with Class 2.

The children have been working very hard earning Dojo points as rewards for their hard work—if you're not signed up for Dojo please pop into the office when Mrs Allin is there and she will give you a hand to get started.

This week's homework is to find out five things about recycling.

The children are being strongly encouraged to read out loud for 5 mins ever day and to ask for a parent's initial in their reading record books. This will, of course, be rewarded with more Dojo points!

I am available most days after school if you would like to pop in and say "hello" or if you have any concerns.

Many thanks Mrs Covell

Hub News

What is the Ruby Hub?

The Ruby Hub is one of four primary Hubs in the Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust. It is a group of small and very small primary schools in Ruby Country that includes: Bridgerule, Bradford and Black Torrington and now also Highampton. The schools have very different characters but work very closely together as a team, much as the schools in Moorland Hub also do.

The benefits of close-team working between the schools are huge. Within the Hub we share many things:

- We share staff expertise, supporting and advising one another through sharing subject specialists and training opportunities, spending time in one another's schools and collaborating on planning. The team at Highampton are very positive about working alongside Ruby colleagues and we are already excited about ideas for collaboration going forward.
- We benefit from full time support and weekly school visits from our fantastic Special Educational Needs and Disability Coordinator, Anne Bunning, who many you have already spoken to and will meet with very soon.
- We share resources, particularly outdoor space and provision for Wild Tribe, Clubs, PE and Sport.
- We share a mini bus, which lives at Bradford but which all the schools can use free of charge for trips, visits and sporting events. Indeed, we are able to enter two squads into he High Five netball event next week thanks to the availability of the mini-bus.
- We occasionally share trips, visits and events, for example by getting groups of children from the different schools together to take part in shared workshops or visits.

Most importantly, we acknowledge that the children have a small group of peers in school, so we support them to get to know the children at the other schools very well, forming friendships that last them to secondary school and beyond.

Ruby Hub is always on the look-out for new governors. If you think you'd like to find out more, please speak to Mrs Luxford

Notices

Website Survey

Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust are conducting a survey around the use of school websites from the perspective of parents, carers and the wider community and would value your contribution to this survey

https://forms.office.com/e/6DQUBr6BBf.

Dartmoor Multi Academy Trust

...everyone in our Trust.

Parent Voice

It is really important to me that I listen to feedback from parents as well as from children. Here is a link to a quick Parent Survey, your responses will be valued, thank you.

I would also like to invite you to a parent forum on Thursday 2nd February at 3pm. This will be a relaxed opportunity for you to enjoy some tea and cake and get to know me a little more. There's a space at the end of the survey for you to suggest items for an informal agenda.

The invitation to make an appointment for a chat with me is always open, just contact the office to arrange a time.

Mrs Luxford

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So, what to do if you are interested? Complete the form linked here. - The AIM Group

AIM GROUP Inspire. Develop. Empower.

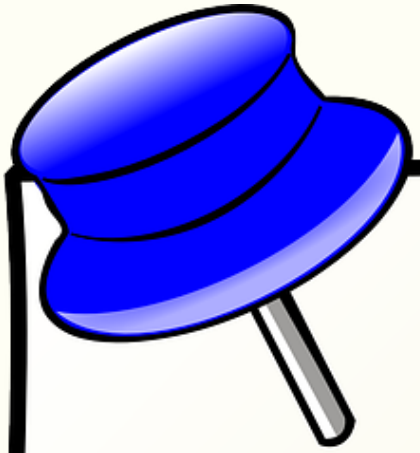
Attendance This Fortnight

91.4%

Hopefully we're through the worst of the winter bugs and as the days grow longer we should start to see an improvement in our attendance. Well done everyone for doing your best to be at school every day.

Arc Toddlers

Toddlers has been running for nearly a year now– it is a highlight of our week. The children had a lot of fun rescuing the dinosaurs that were trapped in the ice this week and making owls and bats using natural materials the week before.



Diary Dates

23rd January 2023 - KS2 High Five Netball Tournament

2nd February 2023- Parent Forum

10th February 2023 - Last Day of Spring Term 1

13th February to 17th February 2023 - Half Term

20th February 2023 - Children return to school for Spring Term 2

27th and 28th February 2023 - Outdoor Challenge Days

2nd March 2023 - World Book Day

3rd April to 14th April 2023 - Easter Holidays