

# Totnes St. John's Weekly Newsletter

Class: Year 5 Elm Class

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019

## Home learning

Homework was set on Monday and is due in on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November.

Thank-you to all the children who brought in memories, instruments and artwork to share. We enjoyed hearing George play his ukulele and hearing about family holidays, siblings and special days out.

Please support your child with reading at home every day. There has been a noticeable dip in the amount of completed quizzes this week. It is expected that children read for at least 15 minutes every day with the aim of completing a book each week.

## Class news

Our Learning Journey has without doubt been the most exciting part of our week! The children are tackling the question, 'How can my words and actions challenge injustice in my community?' with maturity, empathy and respect. Our exploration began with a trip to St John's Church to meet with Rector Julian. The children asked about the injustices some people may face in our community and George asked, "What is the best way to solve the homeless problem?" While Phoenix reminded the class, "Treat others as you wish to be treated." McKenzie asked, "What does the bible say about helping others?" Rector Julian told us of the gospels and back at school, we've been exploring the gospel of

Mark, which details the stories of Jesus' life. We've learnt that Jesus inspired others to challenge injustices through the way he lived his life. Lots of children, including Summer and Belle have wanted to challenge how communities can sometimes treat the elderly. Summer told the class that she believes "Every life is valuable in our community." The children have decided that they would like to be involved with a memory café. Next week, they will write letters to request a visit.



## Attendance

Walnut YR/1	95%
Oak Y2	99%
Willow Y3/4	94%
Beech Y3/4	98%
Elm Y5	99%
Chestnut Y6	96%

*Please ensure your child attends school every day.  
Every day missed is 6 hours of learning lost.*

## Reflections on the week

Elm class have worked incredibly hard this week and made excellent progress in all areas of their learning. I have been particularly impressed with their learning behaviours around sharing and listening to answers in class. During our last learning journey, some children worked with a judge to improve their speaking and presentation skills. In turn, they have brought this knowledge into class and taught others how to stand-up and present their answers in clear, full sentences. The children then took the initiative to do this in all lessons and this has continued all week. Furthermore, all of the children have tried incredibly hard to apply new vocabulary, such as despondent, to their verbal and written answers. A fantastic week – keep it up Elm Class!

## The Week ahead

Next week, the children will apply writing techniques including subordinate clauses, prepositional phrases and modal verbs when they write to the Totnes memory café and suggest arranging a visit. In maths, they will apply their learning of column methods to multi-step word problems and move on to multiplication and division. PE will be on Monday; please ensure PE kits are in school.

This year we raised a fantastic £109.25. This is a tremendous amount so thank you to all our families at TSJ.

You will be pleased to know that our Disco has been arranged for Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November. It will start straight after school and run until 5.15. Children are allowed to come to school without school uniform ready to party! Entry to the disco is £2.00 and parents are asked to stay with their child/children. More details will be sent home next week.

