

Totnes St. John's Weekly Newsletter

Class: Year 6 Chestnut Class

Friday 6th December 2019

Home learning

Congratulations again this week to those Chestnuts who continue to show increased fluency with times tables recall. Emjay, Alfie, Georgie and Beau, you are all noticeably quicker. Keep up the good work!

This week, the children have been working in groups to plan stalls for the Christmas Fayre on 12th December. Traditionally, Year 6 keeps any proceeds from their stalls to put towards end-of-year days out and treats. For homework this weekend, please make sure that you finalise your plans so that we can put the final touches together next week.

Class news

Having visited the residents of Stafford Court a couple of weeks ago, as part of our citizenship learning journey, Chestnut Class are now busy writing letters to the people who they met there. Being able to write for 'real life' situations, such as this, gives the children a real purpose for their learning – not only are they gaining skills in grammar and punctuation, they are enjoying the process too, as it has real meaning for them. As proof of this, Darcey has already completed her letter, which will undoubtedly bring great pleasure to its recipient.

Tyler L reminded us that if we want to have a long-lasting impact on the lives of the residents, we need to continue to visit them as well as write to them. We have therefore planned a jigsaw-making and games afternoon at Stafford Court for later this term. After the great success of the carol singing event which Year 6 participated in last week at the Civic Hall, the children also intend to share carols with the residents when they visit.

Attendance

Walnut YR/1	94%
Oak Y2	94%
Willow Y3/4	97%
Beech Y3/4	93%
Elm Y5	99%
Chestnut Y6	98%

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

Reflections on the week

As you can see, attendance for Chestnut Class has been superb again this week. Well done to you all! Not only does great attendance lead to great learning, it also somehow makes the class feel complete. This has been reflected in the children's relationships this week; there has been a real spirit of friendship. This has not just been evident in the playground, but in the classroom too, with children visibly supporting each other with their learning.

The Week ahead

Our maths focus on place value and calculation came to an end this week, and we now look forward to extending our knowledge of fractions.

Our English lessons will concentrate on improving punctuation skills. This week we learned how to use semi colons effectively in our writing – next week we will learn all about colons and dashes.

Many of you will have started to meet Claire Platt, the Trust Director of Education. Mrs Platt's role spans all the Trust schools, ensuring that teaching and learning leads to the highest possible outcomes. Claire is increasingly at Totnes St John's working with our teachers on their own training- developing their teaching skills, sharing great practice and identifying new leaders. Claire often works directly with Mr Funnell in supporting teachers and support staff in the school, helping to move forward teaching rapidly for the benefit of all our children.

