Totnes St. John's Weekly Newsletter

Friday 6th December 2019

Class: Year 5 Elm Class

Home learning

We should now be back into a routine with homework being set on a Friday and due in the following Thursday.

December's Book Club List

Has your child read any of the following books? Remind them to quiz and collect their raffle prizes!

- Stig of the Dump by Clive King
- Krindlekrax by Philp Ridley
- The Ironman by Ted Hughes
- The Butterfly Lion by

Class news

Without doubt, the main news from Elm Class this week is the enormous success of our visit to the Memory Café organised by Totnes Caring. Within minutes of arriving, everyone was engrossed in conversations and sharing their fond memories. The participants thoroughly enjoyed engaging with the children and several carers commented that it is rare for them to be so animated. George introduced himself very politely by shaking a ladies' hand and saying, "Hello, I'm George. What's your name?" Together with Lewis B, they encouraged this particular lady to join in with a game of Connect4. It was wonderful to see Jessica and Yazmin sat talking at length, smiling and laughing with their group members. Some of the children drew pictures with their groups; Emily and Brian drew pictures for each other and Brian was seen clutching his from Emily as he left. Since Friday, I have been contacted by Totnes Caring and several carers, to thank the children for their impeccable behaviour, politeness, patience and compassion. Everyone was in owe of the children and their ability to interact with a variety of children – it really

Attendance

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

Well done Elm – keep it up!

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

Reflections on the week

This week, the children have spent some time reflecting on their visit to the Memory Café and whether they have achieved their outcomes for this Learning Journey. Issac reminded us that we are only at the start of our journey and that we need to maintain the friendships we are building to really have an impact.

Elm Class will be visiting the Café again on Friday 13th December to perform some Christmas Carols for the participants, who all cheered when they were told! Aya showed great empathy when we discussed the carols, "We need to

The Week ahead

Next week, will be a very busy week! The children will be preparing for their visit to the Memory Café and for the Christmas Fayre. In maths, they will be focused upon multiplication and division. In English, we will finish our letters to send and in RE we will continue to learn about Islam and what it is like to be a Muslim living in Britain today.

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.