

# Totnes St. John's Weekly Newsletter

**Class:** Year R/ Year 1: Walnut

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2019

## Home learning

Thank you to those children who have brought in some home learning to share. Cheyanne, Lewis and Harry have been practising their writing and Calleigh has been busy doing lots of extra Maths – well done to you all!

Please also don't forget to ask us for a WOW moment, we love hearing about all the lovely things you are doing at home.

More reading books are coming home, please share these with your child and write in their yellow book to let us know how they are getting on.

## Class news

This week, as part of our Learning Journey Question- 'How can my words and actions help others in my community?', we have been watching the film 'Up' to explore the themes of 'getting old', 'loneliness' and 'friendship'. The children have been able to talk about how Mr Fredricksen grows from a boy into an elderly man who is lonely after losing his wife. But with the help of a boy named Russell, he re-discovers his sense of fun, developing a friendship with Russell and finding companionship with a dog called Dug!

The children have made thoughtful comments relating to the character's feelings. Theo said "he wants his wife", Lyla said "he's sad" and Calleigh said "he's frustrated". Brianna noticed that when Mr Fredricksen set off in his house for 'Paradise Falls', he felt happy. The children have really enjoyed the film and it has provided a great platform from which to explore our focus on the elderly so we will continue with our learning next week.

## Attendance

Walnut – 97%  
Oak – 96%  
Beech – 89%  
Willow – 98%  
Elm – 100%  
Chestnut – 93%

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

## Reflections on the week

In Maths, Year One have been exploring 'Fact Families'. Lily was able to explain that it doesn't matter where the = sign goes as long as there is the same number on both sides. In Reception, we have been thinking about more and less. When asked how we could challenge ourselves when building with the bricks, Rain said that you could make one less than the other. Some great 'Maths talk' this week!

## The Week ahead

Next week we will be getting Christmassy!!

Look out for Santa's workshop, opportunities to write letters and lists to the man himself and perhaps even a Christmas tree! If you have any Christmas decorations you no longer need, then please do send them in!

Mrs Rickard will be in again for outdoor learning next week. There are still some children who do not have a PE kit or outdoor clothes in school.

One of the benefits of having the Trust on site is that our teachers at St John's have been involved in high quality training as part of a training hub now established here in the school. In the past few weeks alone, our Champion Teachers group has been working on developing our curriculum so it is more inspiring, more in depth and has greater coverage of subject areas. Year group teams have also been meeting to develop subject knowledge and share teaching strengths. With the Trust here, there are many new faces coming in and out of our school; starting next week we will outline in Trust News the cross-Trust roles of some of some of our colleagues you will meet.

