

# Totnes St. John's Weekly Newsletter

**Class:** Elm Class

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2019

## Home learning

Homework was set today, Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December and is due in on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December. This is the last homework before Christmas.

### December's Book Club List

Has your child read any of the following books? This is their last week to collect raffle tickets!

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

## Class news

Our main focus this week has been preparing for our visit to the Memory Café today. The children have been learning Christmas carols and preparing Christmas cards that the participants can create. As part of this work, we have considered the difference between empathy and compassion; the children believe compassion is about taking action and reflected on how they've shown compassion. Lewis R said he felt proud to have visited the Memory Café and to be making a difference. Oliver suggested that we're making the participants Christmas and Lewis B noticed how their smiles grew throughout our visit. Furthermore, we've linked our learning to discovering more about Jesus' life through the gospels and compared an account of Jesus challenging injustice in Luke and Mark. Ask the children the purpose of each gospel.

The Christmas Fayre was a huge success on Thursday of this week, thank-you to everyone who kindly donated cakes, biscuits and cookies. The children worked as a team all afternoon to create decorations, price lists and to decorate biscuits. They proudly ran the stall and took turns handling the money. Finally, well done to the children who joined the Totnes Choir and sang beautifully in the school hall bringing some Christmas cheer to St Johns!



## Attendance

|        |     |
|--------|-----|
| Walnut | Oak |
| 95%    | 96% |

|        |       |
|--------|-------|
| Willow | Beech |
| 93%    | 94%   |

|      |          |
|------|----------|
| Elm  | Chestnut |
| 100% | 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 been in high spirits this week as our Christmas break approaches but each day they amaze me with their wonderful outlook on life. This week they have made me very proud as they look forward to Fridays visit and prepare in such thoughtful ways. Our challenge next week is to ensure this empathy and compassion is applied to all situations in our school, home and community, particularly in the way we communicate with our classmates and interact. We will be doing some role play focusing on the way we communicate with others, involve everyone in our team and how to handle differences of opinion.

## The Week ahead

Next week is looking very busy! We will be concluding our Learning Journey, RE and maths work for this year as well as getting in the spirit with Christmas activities and workshops. Please make sure PE and Forest School kits remain in school. Don't forget: Monday we are watching KS1's nativity, Tuesday is Christmas Jumper and Christmas dinner day and Friday is our annual Christmas service at St Johns Church 2pm – all welcome.



**ace**  
Trust news

Next week Totnes St Johns loses a much loved member of staff. Mrs Clarke (Receptionist), is moving on to a different role. She will be missed by us all. Joining the TSJ team we welcome Mr Westlake and Mr Gibbons to our classroom support team. A massive thank you to all that contributed to this year's Winter Disco, a staggering £400.00! Thank you.