

# Totnes St. John's Weekly Newsletter

**Class:** Year 6 Chestnut Class

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2020

## Home learning

Now that we have started to explore the story of the Mayflower, and of the Pilgrims who sailed on her, for your home learning choose a part of the story to investigate further and then prepare a presentation of your findings to share with the rest of the class. You can choose to do this in any way that you like: maybe a poster board, a model, a poem, a PowerPoint presentation or a short story.

## Class news

This year is the 400-year anniversary of the sailing of the Mayflower from Plymouth in Devon to Plymouth in America. In recognition of this event, our first Learning Journey question of the term is, 'What can we learn from the voyage of the Mayflower and from the people who sailed on her?'

Our learning got off to a fabulous start with a whole school re-enactment of the epic journey, complete with crashing waves, rolling thunder and a broken mast. It really was amazing and it has already led to some 'exciting writing'. Our class competition to come up with fantastic words and phrases to really bring to life the conditions on board the ship was narrowly won by Team Townsend (but well done to everyone for your exceptionally creative thinking!)

Here are some examples: people huddled like penguins; palpable pessimism; the burn of salty spray and waves rocking you like a ragdoll. I can't wait to see your writing next week!

## Attendance

Walnut YR/1 99.2%  
Oak Y2 98.1%  
Willow Y3/4 97.5%  
Beech Y3/4 96.1%  
Elm Y5 98.5%  
Chestnut Y6 97.4%

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

## Reflections on the week

It has been lovely to see Chestnut students return so refreshed and ready to learn after the Christmas break. Your contributions to class discussions have been valuable and you continue to take on more responsibility for your own learning. Well done! In addition to that, you have scored 100% for attendance!

## The Week ahead

Next week we will start to write diaries from the Mayflower. The children will take on the identity of a passenger on the voyage and will write in character.

We will also start our new RE unit – 'Why do Hindus try to be good?'



**A huge thank you to Morrisons!**

The bag packing some of our children undertook last term helped raise valuable funds of £391 and Morrisons have match funded - so an incredible £782 has been raised! This will pay for a triple composter/leaf mould that Morrisons have kindly agreed to build for us! The match funding is planned for garden resources, materials, seeds, bulbs, plants etc. The Potting Shed in Totnes have also agreed to source the resources at cost and donate the seeds and bulbs etc as a local business which is very kind!!

Last term we also held a wonderful Nativity and Christmas Service. At these events we do ask parents not to post images or video on social media. This is really important as it safeguards children. If images are shared we will need to consider asking for no photos or videos to be taken at all at events, which would be a great shame. Thank you for your support in this matter!