

# OTTERHAM OBSERVER

IT'S BEEN ANOTHER BUSY HALF TERM WITH MANY EXTRA-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES ON OFFER, INCLUDING MUSIC, SPORT, PERFORMANCES & FUND-RAISING. THIS NEWSLETTER AIMS TO BE A RECORD OF THESE EVENTS AND BE ARCHIVED IN OTTERHAM'S HISTORY FOREVER!!

OCTOBER 2017

WISHING EVERYONE A HAPPY AND SAFE HALF TERM!

**WE ARE BACK TO SCHOOL ON MONDAY 30TH OCTOBER 2017**

## **DAYA DELIVERS A DAY OF ISLAM AND INDIAN CULTURE**

It is always a pleasure to welcome Daya to Otterham; she brings Religious Education to life by engaging children through stories, dance, costume and food. A thank you letter from Ruby Coleman captures the children's appreciation perfectly.

Dear Daya,

I am writing to thank you for sharing your knowledge with us and allowing us to try on the clothes you brought to Otterham School on Thursday 12th October.

I enjoyed the time that you spent with us because we all love the atmosphere when you are in the room. I particularly liked the divine foods that we cooked and tried.

Thank you for visiting us, I thoroughly enjoyed it. Yours sincerely Roby Coleman



We have had an extremely busy half-term with our new reception children. They have all settled in wonderfully well, and are fully immersed in child-initiated and teacher-led learning. They have all made friends with each other, and are already showing their talents! We are greatly looking forward to the next half-term!

THANK YOU SUE (NIEGHOUBOUR) FOR THE KIND DONATION OF BOOKS FOR THE CHILDREN IN CLASS ONE VERY MUCH APPRECIATED. WE HOPE YOU ENJOYED RECEIVING YOUR THANK YOU LETTERS. MICHAEL MORPURGO IS A SUPERB WRITER!

## **JOHN MUIR AWARDS**

Congratulations to Charlie Prout, Isobel Jones, Zoe Hockin, Jack Lawler and Abigail Martin for achieving this award. Their contribution to conservation and the development of 'wild spaces' has had a positive impact on our school grounds and also their personal development. All children have now received their awards/certificates—well done!

## **SAVE THE CHILDREN CONCERT—ST TEATH CHURCH**

On Sunday 24th September our choir was invited for the third year running to perform at the Save The Children Concert at St Teath Church. As always they did us incredibly proud! The theme of the concert was Charles Causley and the choir chose and arranged I Am The Song to the tune of Hallelujah. Their second piece was a very quirky poem called Mrs Malarkey which is about a woman who takes to living in a birds nest. St Teath Church and ourselves would like to thank all the parents and carers who came to support the event—we know how precious weekends are!



THERE JUST ISN'T ENOUGH SPACE TO KEEP YOU INFORMED ABOUT THE SCHOOL COUNCIL ON THIS EDITION SO CAN WE PLEASE REQUEST THAT YOU CHECK OUT THE SCHOOL COUNCIL SECTION OF THE WEBSITE AND/OR THE DISPLAY OUTSIDE KERRY'S OFFICE. LIKEWISE, PLEASE DO CHECK DIARY DATES ON A REGULAR BASIS. KERRY ENDEAVOURS TO KEEP OUR SITE LOOKING SHARP AND UP TO DATE. MANY THANKS.

## **THANK YOU TO IZZY LANGLEY AND FAMILY**

Huge thanks to Izzy and family for raising £175 for the school by providing refreshments to Launceston Motor Club. The Friends have been generous with their spending and so this donation will replenish funds.



## **STEVE MANNING—STORYTELLER**

On Wednesday 18th Oct we were delighted to have Steve Manning, Storyteller in to visit Class 1 & 2. In Class 2 he entertained the children with stories from Elizabeth I reign which had a local link with Sir



Francis Drake. The children thoroughly enjoyed creating 'freeze frames' from these stories. With Class One's topic being The Mayans, Steve brought to life archaeological adventures from the ruins of Palenque. The children had a fantastic afternoon of discovery into the ancient Mayan world. Thank you Steve for yet another educational and enjoyable visit.

## Summer Reading Challenge

CONGRATULATIONS to the following children for completing the Summer Reading Challenge.

William Sanders  
Sophie Sanders  
Katie Sanders  
Sophie Sandercock  
Alfie Kenyon



Phoebe Coles  
Benjamin Coles  
Sam Coles  
Hannah Reed  
Lois Curtis  
Poppy Curtis



This is by far the highest number of certificates awarded—well done all!

## A CELEBRATION OF OUR CHILDREN'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Ruby Coleman—gaining a Merit in her grade 3 singing exam and won Champion Young Handler with goats at the Holsworthy Show

Owen Benyon—Writing his own book called The Universe

Tyler Muskett—swimming a length with dad

Jack Grandison—gained his Bronze Award at Beavers for trying 6 new foods

Sam Coleman—gained Sharks 3 swimming badge

Oscar Adams—beat his personal best for 50m freestyle

Tony Steed—sheered a sheep for the first time with dad

Phoebe Martin—walked 6/7 miles each day for 10 days on holiday

Keenan Pooley—gained a new tag on his Orange Belt in Karate

Oliver Duller—won a medal at Hidden Valley

Luke Northcott—gained a new tag on his White and Orange Belt in Karate

Sophie Sandercock—won various prizes at St Genny's Show, gained 3 horse riding badges and gained her Sharks 3 badge.

For parents of Reception / Y1 children, you will need to let Mrs Blackburn or Miss Goodman know if your child has achieved anything during the half term so we can include it in the newsletter. A huge well done to all of the above—having interests takes you far!

THANK YOU FOR ALL  
THE BAGS.

BAG TO SCHOOL RAISED  
£52

WELL DONE EVERYONE.!

## BIBLE PRESENTATION FROM OPEN THE BOOK TEAM

On Thursday 12th October, the people from 'Open The Book' came to visit Class 3. They shared a story from the bible with us. After the story, each child in Reception were given their very own bible to take home. Thank you very much 'Open The Book'!



## CLASS THREE LOOKING FAB ON PIRATE THEME DAY

On Tuesday 19th September, Class 3 held a pirate day! We all came to school dressed as pirates and carried out a range of pirate themed activities. We made cardboard pirates, designed and created a pirate ship and also had a special pirate themed lunch. We all had great fun being pirates!



## CAR PARKING

DESPITE THE NEW ROAD MARKINGS AND SIGNAGE WE ARE STILL RECEIVING REGULAR COMPLAINTS ABOUT ILLEGAL/UNSAFE PARKING. HAVING TRIED TO ENCOURAGE SENSIBLE PARKING IN THE PAST AND RECEIVED ABUSIVE COMMENTS STAFF ARE NOT WILLING TO INTERVENE (QUITE RIGHTLY). WE ADVISE YOU TO SEND PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE OF CARS IF THEY ARE PARKED ON THE MARKINGS (OR WITHIN, IN THE CASE OF THE STAFF CAR PARK ENTRANCE) AND PASS ON TO A TRAFFIC WARDEN AND/OR POLICE. MAYBE THE MORE COMPLAINTS THEY RECEIVE THE MORE VISITS THEY WILL MAKE!

## THE FRIENDS OF OTTERHAM SCHOOL

An up to date information sheet regarding recent activity is on the school website but briefly agreed spending includes; Magic Martin for Christmas (£120), £900 for books throughout the school and £450 on coach transport for booked trips for all classes. Fundraising this term includes Bag to School, The Great Otterham Sleepover, Izzy Langley and family and a Christmas Fayre.

Please support our Friends by coming to meetings and lending a hand at events. We need them—they make a difference.

## EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

We hope that you are always treated fairly and feel able to come into school to discuss issues. We are open to reviewing our equality policies. What does this mean? We aim, in everything we do, to treat all members of our school community fairly in all respects—gender, race, age, sexual orientation, disability and religious belief. If you feel that you are being treated less than fairly it is hoped that you feel able to discuss the matter with any member of staff here at school, or if you would prefer to discuss it with a parent governor, please do so. The parent governors here at school are Rachel Quinn, Sarah Northcott, and Gayle Crocker.