

# Totnes St. John's Weekly Newsletter

Class: Willow

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

## Home learning

Hopefully everyone should now have their logins to Spelling Shed. We have used it in class so the children know how to use it properly. This is an area that needs to improve generally for the whole class.

Don't forget to keep practising times tables. You can login to Times Tables rock stars to help.

Keep up the reading. Little and often is most effective.

## Class news

What an exciting first week back! We started the week by finding out some information about the Mayflower and the people who sailed on her. Then on Wednesday we had a very exciting immersive experience where the whole school acted out setting sail for a New World. During the experience we got stuck in a storm and had to work as a team to fix the ship's mast. Great fun was had by all and the children now have a better understanding of what happened. Tia and Ibo really got into character during this experience which helped them to write about it when we got back to class.

We continued to think about the collaborative nature of the people who sailed on the Mayflower during our outdoor learning lesson this week. Just as the Pilgrims would have had to work as a team to build homes in the new world, we worked as teams to build shelters that could keep out the rain in our forest area.

## Attendance

Walnut – 99.2%  
Oak – 98.1%  
Beech – 97.5%  
Willow – 96.1%  
Elm – 98.5%  
Chestnut – 97.4%

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

## Reflections on the week

Courage, Collaboration and Curiosity are the key areas we will be looking at this term. The Pilgrims were courageous to leave their country and settle somewhere else, they had to collaborate to build a new colony and we have to be curious learners to find out about what happened in this historical event.

Well done to Cara who has shown excellent concentration and effort in Maths this week.

## The Week ahead

Next week, we will analyse primary and secondary evidence about the voyage of the Mayflower and we will look at using speech punctuation in English to help us write a descriptive story. In PE we will be learning how to play handball and in outdoor learning we will have more collaborative activities to continue with.

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!

