

# Tavistock Primary and Nursery School Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

I was very sad to be isolating at home, instead of enjoying the Christmas fortnight in school, but at least I have made it back for the last day of term!

Although we have had to forgo our Christmas assembly and disco, the children have had lots of fun in this last fortnight: making jokes and Christmas hats to enjoy while eating the delicious Christmas lunch; making cards and Christmas tree decorations; singing Christmas carols and songs; watching and performing the Reception children's Christmas Nativity; dressing up in Christmas jumpers and having lots of fun and games at their Christmas parties.

It has been a very busy term and I want to thank you all for the consistent support and encouragement you show our school – it is very much appreciated. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a healthy and happy holiday with family and friends. See you all on Wednesday 5th January.

Merry Christmas!

**Mrs L Handel**  
Headteacher



**Tavistock**  
Primary & Nursery School

*Excellence for all*

[www.tavistock-pri.devon.sch.uk](http://www.tavistock-pri.devon.sch.uk) | 01822 616044  
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## Dates for Your Diary

- > December 17th Last day of autumn term
- > Wednesday 5th January First day of Spring Term
- > Feb 21st half term week begins
- > Week commencing 28th March Y4 residential trip to Dartmoor
- > 11th April Easter Hols
- > Week commencing 9th May Y5 residential trip to London
- > Monday 2nd May school closed for bank holiday
- > May 30th half term week begins
- > Week commencing 27th June Y6 residential trip to Porthpean
- > Friday July 22nd School Closed

### Volunteers in School

To support our Covid risk assessment, we will not be able to welcome volunteers into school until the number of Covid cases in the community decreases but when that happens, we look forward to seeing everyone again.

### IMPORTANT REMINDER

With Covid 19 cases on the rise nationally, please remember it is Government advice to continue to undertake a lateral flow test regularly. Please inform the school and book a PCR test if you receive any positive results. If you have not yet had your vaccine or booster jab, please consider booking in for it.

**Let's all do our bit to get through this!**



### Christmas HSA Raffle

This week a group of Year 6 students drew the raffle and 20 lucky winners were picked. Prizes ranged all the way from a bottle of wine through to the top prize of pantomime tickets.

Well done to Abby for winning our top prize, and thank you to all those who purchased and sold tickets. Congratulations to all of our lucky winners!

A whopping £273 was raised for the Home School Association!

If you would like more information about the Home School Association, or would like to join, please do not hesitate to get in touch: [admin@tavistock-pri.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@tavistock-pri.devon.sch.uk)



Year 4 children have been working on a project over the past week to create poems for cards that will be sent to local care homes to brighten the day for their residents. The cards have been hand made by the children and feature a Christmas themed marble front cover and a range of acrostic and shape poems inside.



## High 5

High 5 have received funding from Devon County Council for families who are in receipt of benefit related Free School Meals to access a limited number of spaces over the Christmas holidays at their High 5 Camps at Mount Kelly Prep School. They are also able to offer free places to looked after children, children with education, health care plans, foster children and young carers.



**MOUNT  
KELLY**

Boarding and Day School  
Boys and Girls, Aged 3-18

The Christmas Cracker Camps are running from Monday 20th—Thursday 23rd December.

There is a limited number of funded spaces available with a hot lunch each day.

For more information, please contact Ben Knight (Camps Director) on 01752 749990, or use the following link to book. **Please note, we are unable to take bookings from in Tavistock Primary office.**

<https://campscui.active.com/orgs/High5SportsCamps?season=3083740&location=1205906>

Please follow this link to find other holiday activities as well as food providers.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/document/haf-providers-christmas-2021#south-and-west-devon>

### Christmas Cricket Camps

Following the success of Mount Kelly's summer cricket camps, they have decided to offer both hard and soft ball cricket camps over the holidays.

Numbers will be limited to 24 per camp on a first come basis.

#### Soft Ball Camp

Lots of fun, games and prizes. Suitable for all abilities.  
Weds 29th Dec 9.30—2.30 Mount Kelly Prep Sports Hall, Tavistock.  
£25 per child

#### Hard Ball Camp

Bola machines, hard ball sills and challenges.  
Thurs 30th Dec 9.30—2.30 Mount Kelly Prep Sports Hall, Tavistock  
£25 per child

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You shop. Amazon gives.

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support our school every time you shop, by donating 0.5% of the cost of your purchase, at no extra cost to you.

AmazonSmile is available at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) on your web browser and can be activated in the Amazon Shopping app for iOS and Android phones.

Simply open Amazon Smile and search for **Tavistock Community Primary Home School Association** or search for us by our registered charity number **1108467** to select our school as your chosen charity.

**What is the donated money used for?** To advance the education of pupils in the school in particular by: (1) developing effective relationships between staff, parents and others associated with the school; (2) engaging in activities or providing facilities or equipment which support the school and advance the education of the pupils.



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Primary and Nursery  
school for 2-11 year olds

Extended hours  
provision - open from  
8.00am-6.00pm

Rich and varied experiences  
through excellent facilities  
inside and out.

We're on Instagram!

Make sure you head  
over and follow us to  
stay up to date with  
news from the school.



**@tavistockprimary**

## **Please be aware of new Covid guidelines in place**

Targeted measures to prevent the spread of the new COVID-19 Omicron variant took effect from 4.00am on Tuesday 30 November 2021.

They are being introduced by the government as a precaution while more information is gathered and assessed on how easily this new variant spreads and any possible effect on vaccines.

The measures are temporary and precautionary, and will be reviewed in three weeks:

- Face coverings are once again compulsory in shops and settings such as banks, post offices and hairdressers, as well as on public transport in England, unless an individual is exempt.
- All contacts of suspected Omicron cases must self-isolate for 10 days, regardless of their age or vaccination status. They will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace.
- Anyone entering the UK must take a PCR test within 48 hours of arrival and self-isolate until they receive a negative result. The PCR tests are available online from private providers.
- Secondary schools pupils in England are being strongly advised to wear face coverings in communal areas. Due to high COVID-19 case rates in the south west, secondary schools across the region have been following this guidance since half term. The guidance applies to staff and visitors at all schools and childcare settings

## **Guidance for schools:**

The Department for Education (DfE) has updated their guidance for schools and childcare settings to reflect new measures announced by the Prime Minister in response to the Omicron COVID-19 variant.

The new measures will be introduced as a precaution to slow down the spread of the new Omicron variant while the government gathers more information. The measures include:

- Face coverings should be worn in communal areas in all settings by staff, visitors and students in year seven and above, unless they are exempt.
- Pupils in year seven or above should continue to wear face coverings on public and dedicated school transport, unless they are exempt.
- All educational and childcare settings should continue to encourage staff and students to test twice weekly using lateral flow device (LFD) tests.

**Primary age school children should not wear a mask in school. If they wear it to walk to school it should go home with parents and not be brought into school.**



# A 'Song for Christmas...'



Be part of a special recording of an  
original Christmas song

## 'Why the Angels Sang'

written especially for children in the  
Tavistock area.

If your child would like to take part in this exciting project please contact  
Tracy Harding (tracy@tmc.me.uk)  
for more information and details of how to make your recording.

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'Why the Angels Sang' is part of the Family Work Project run by  
Tavistock Methodist Church.

Made with PosterMyWall.com

This week some of our Year 6 children  
went to The Climbing Barn.

They had a really  
lovely time, listened  
to instruction well  
and reached new  
heights on the wall!

