

28th January 2022

# Tavistock Primary and Nursery School Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are looking forward to welcoming you all into school for our parent consultation meetings in the week commencing 7th February. These meetings are a valuable opportunity to review your child's progress and understand how to support their education at home. Please make an appointment via our Parentmail system.

## PARENT Consultation

Children's books will be available for you to view during your visit. In preparation for this, I wanted to let you know about the system we are using for feedback in school, which we have been moving towards for some years now, but have fully embraced this year.

The way we teach is always changing, as research provides better ways to help children learn. Every year we write a plan to make improvements to the children's learning experience and keep up to date with developments. This is called a **School Improvement Plan**. In line with this, we have changed how we feedback to children.

Teachers do not write in books, put in stamps or add ticks or other marks. Please be reassured that this does not mean teachers are not reviewing children's work, feeding back to them on what they need to do to improve and teaching to misconceptions they have identified in children's understanding. The most effective feedback is given 'in the moment'; in other words during the lesson while the teacher is teaching and the children are learning. It will occur during responses to children's contributions to teachers' questions, during discussion or when teacher and child look at recorded work together. Feedback is only any good if it helps children improve!

If you have any questions or queries about how this works, your child's class teacher will be happy to explain further during your consultation.

**Mrs L Handel**  
Headteacher

### Year 1 Garden Day

Year 1 enjoyed a brilliant Garden Day this week. Their first challenge was to find ten different things and count them up from one to ten. The children then used these to make crowns and mini gardens.



The children were very pleased with their crowns and could be seen proudly wearing them all afternoon.



**Tavistock**  
Primary & Nursery School

*Excellence for all*

[www.tavistock-pri.devon.sch.uk](http://www.tavistock-pri.devon.sch.uk) | 01822 616044  
Find us on social media | [f](#) [t](#)

### Dates for Your Diary

- > 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

### Garden Days

Year 3

Thursday 10th February

Year 6 (Class 15)

Tuesday 1st February

Year 6 (Class 14)

Thursday 3rd February

Year 2

Thursday 17th February



## Chinese New Year...The year of the Tiger!

Chinese New Year 2022 falls on Tuesday Feb 1st. The New Year celebration is centred around removing the bad and the old, and welcoming the new and the good. It's a time to worship ancestors, exorcise evil spirits and pray for good harvest.

In the run up to the new year, people will clean their houses to get rid of dirt, rubbish and unwanted items. In China, the New Year is an important family reunion occasion, so those who are living or working far away would return home before the holiday. Unlike our New Year, China celebrates it's new year in February, because it is the start of the new lunar year. This means it is the start of a new moon.



Due to allergies, we are a nut free school. Please do not send your child to school with nuts or nut based foods.

## Playground Reminder

Our playground is very busy before and after school and to help keep our children safe, we have the following rules in place:

- Please can parents arrive **NO MORE THAN 5 MINUTES** before school starts
- Please can parents leave immediately after they have dropped off or picked up
- **If you have asked an older sibling from the college to collect your child, please remind them they must come ALONE and not bring a group of friends.**
- **Please do not ask college children to meet you in our playground.**

Many thanks,

**Mrs H Alexander** (Deputy Headteacher)

## REMINDER

When parking, please remember that our car park is for **STAFF PARKING ONLY**.

Please do not park at the Clinic opposite as this parking is reserved for their patients.

**amazon**smile  
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.





## Midwife Visit

The Reception children were very lucky this week to have a visit from a special visitor. Midwife Amy joined us to introduce the children to Mrs Povey's baby. We listened to the baby's heartbeat and then found our own heartbeats. We watched Amy measure the baby and show us what position the baby was sitting in. Mrs Povey showed us some scan photographs of her baby and we talked about how the baby looked different to us and how that will soon change. We also discussed how Mrs Povey can make sure she keeps her baby healthy while he/she is in her tummy and we worked on a shopping list for her to prepare for the big arrival!



## Year 4 Garden Day

Year 4 had a fantastic garden day this week. We started the day with some slack lining so the children could experience walking on a tight-rope like the main character in our recent English sequence, El Caminante. Afterwards we completed a time based orienteering activity which links with our current P.E lessons and what we have been working on in maths (telling the time). Finally we spent the afternoon working together through team building activities to create pieces of natural art. Overall it was a brilliant day and all the children learnt a lot and had great fun.





## 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 if you receive any positive test 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!**

# Take part in the Spring 2022 Parents Childcare Survey

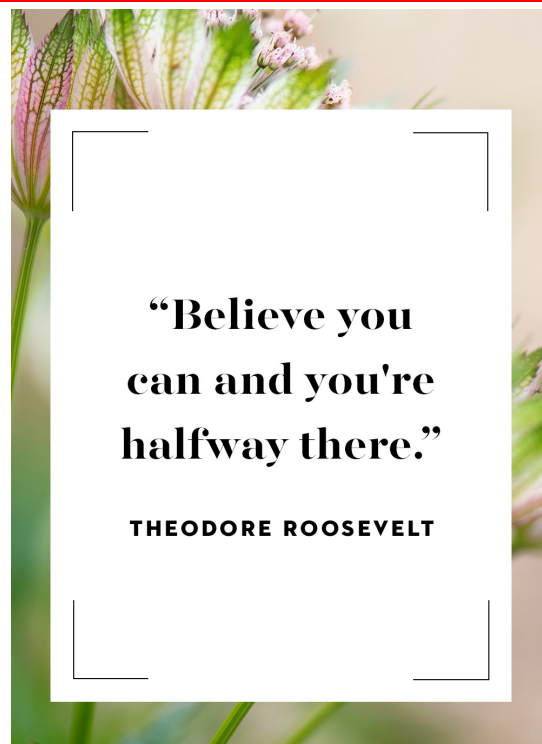
17th January - 14th February 2022

Are you a parent or carer? Whether you currently use childcare or not, your voice counts.

Take part in our short survey to help us make sure there is enough high-quality, affordable childcare to enable parents and carers to work or train.

**Scan the QR code** to complete the survey and share your thoughts on the childcare services available in Devon. You can also visit our website to take part.

[devon.cc/parents-childcare-survey](https://devon.cc/parents-childcare-survey) 🔍



**“Believe you  
can and you're  
halfway there.”**

**THEODORE ROOSEVELT**



## Picture Your Name

Take a photo of each letter of your name by finding them in books or signs. You could do this in the house or go for an adventure outside to see what letters you can find in Tavistock.

Put them together to spell out your name in a colourful collage. You could print the letters out and do some cutting and sticking, or crop the letters in the 'Photos' app from your phone and collage them together in the right order.

**Given it a try? Send us a photo to share on our Social Media pages!**



## Current Covid Guidance

- Get vaccinated and get your booster dose
- Consider wearing a face covering in crowded, enclosed spaces
- Let fresh air in if you meet indoors. Meeting outdoors is safer
- Get tested and self-isolate if required

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

You should conduct a Lateral Flow or PCR test if you have any of the following symptoms:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

You should self-isolate straight away if:

- You've tested positive for Covid 19

Please do not send your child to school if they are testing positive for Covid-19. Please also contact the school to report any positive cases.