



# Starcross Primary School

## March Newsletter 2024



We have had another very exciting month at Starcross Primary School. You will have seen the photos of World Book Day, the sporting fixtures we have been involved in recently, the amazing Trust Music Festival in which Avocets performed alongside all the other schools in Ivy Education Trust. March has also seen the relaunch of our famous pancake festival. The queues for the pancakes went almost all the way around the school building. Thank you all so much for your support. It meant so much to the members of the twinning association on both sides of The Channel!

One small request please as we have seen an upturn in the amount of appointments having to be taken during the school day- we do appreciate that these appointments are like gold dust but if they could be taken as close to the end of the school day as possible we would really appreciate it and the children will lose less learning time.

We hope that you all have a wonderful break and we hope that you all stay safe and well. We look forward to seeing you all on April 15<sup>th</sup> as we start, what I am sure will be another exciting summer term at Starcross, with lots of exciting trips and visits to look forward to.

Tara Trail

Headteacher

Starcross Primary School

### PTFA NEWS—THANK YOU!

£483 raised from Mothers & Others Day sale

£462 raised from the horse racing evening

£125 from the bag2school collection

On 14th August we will be having a stall in the marquee at Dawlish Carnival. For this event we need LOADS of home baked cakes. If you can, please start baking and freezing for us!

Our next event is the Silent Disco, full information and timings will be sent out very soon.

#### Sporting News



Braving the cold wind, a group of our Year 4 children travelled by train to TCS last week for a football festival.

The children took part in a carousel of activities and small games focussing on a range of skills. The event was supervised by some Year 10 sports leaders.

All the Starcross children joined in and worked hard and represented the school brilliantly.

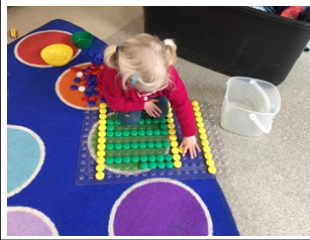


The children had a great time celebrating World Book Day!

The children were able to come to school with an object or a piece of costume from a favourite character and each class took part in some reading activities throughout the day.



DIARY DATES	
29.03.24	Bank Holiday and start of the Easter Holidays
15.04.24	Start of the Summer term - back to school
25.04.24	Silent Disco (times tbc)
14.06.24	Fathers and Others Day Sale (during school)
19.04.24	9am —11am Family Links session in School Hall
3.5.24	1pm—3.30pm Y3/4 PE competition at Cockwood
6.5.24	Bank Holiday
9.5.24	9am—10am DIAS Coffee Morning in Hall
10.5.24	9am—11am Family Links session in School Hall
17.5.24	Y5/6 PE competition at Cockwood
13-16.5.24	SATs Week
24.5.24	9am—11am Family Links session in School Hall
24.5.24	Break up for Half Term
3.6.24	Back to school—Summer Term 2
1-3.7.24	Y4 Pixies Holt residential
10.7.24	Sports Day for Pre-School and School
16.7.24	Y6 Leavers performance matinee and evening—times tbc
17.7.24	Reserve Sports Day for Pre-School and School— times tbc
18.7.24	Pre-School Graduation—times tbc
19.7.24	Y6 Graduation - times tbc



In Sanderlings (pre-school), we have been exploring patterns as part of our topic 'Puddles & Rainbows.'

The children have enjoyed using water to mark make a range of patterns. We made waves, zigzags, circles, triangles, loops. We have explored creating our own patterns through games, crafts and continuous provision opportunities.



In Sandpipers we have been exploring weather and the seasons with our learning theme 'Rainbows and Puddles'. We have enjoyed texts such as the 'Colour Monster' and investigating how to mix colours with paint and water.

In maths we have been continuing to explore all things 9 and 10 by building and comparing numbers with loose parts. This week we have been learning about 3D shapes and where we can see them in the environment.

Recently, we went to Pavilions Teignmouth to be part of an audience with other Ivy Trust schools to watch 'The Gruffalo'. Thankyou to the lovely staff for putting this on for us. The children behaved superbly and joined in with the story really well.

Well done Sandpipers!



Kittiwakes have been busy consolidating their scientific knowledge by becoming meteorologists. This TOP team have had a busy term learning about the different types of weather and how to measure it. They have been observing the windsock, to help them read the Beaufort scale, to give them the type of wind and an estimated wind speed.

They have been using UV beads to observe the sun's strength and deciding on what best protects our skin from the sun.

We have put a rain gauge up in the playground and practised reading the scale in millilitres. Children have also been learning to read different thermometers to measure the temperature.



We have collated all this knowledge and children practised giving weather reports, just like you'd find on the BBC!



Curlews have had an amazing spring term. We have completed our statistics and properties of shape units in maths, learnt all about the coastline and comparing Whitby to Starcross in Geography and we have even been making our own beach huts for design and technology.

We have really enjoyed our music sessions this term focusing on rhythm and tempo using percussion instruments and have loved composing our own Sea Shanties.



We were very excited to meet our French visitors from Henvic for 'Twinning Day' and we created some wonderful French art. This is Amelia's plate.



In Curlew's most recent science topic of animal survival, we have been exploring microhabitats. Some were keener on minibeasts than others and were really brave!



This month in Oystercatchers we have enjoyed some new experiences in PE, Geography and Art!

Firstly we have been outdoors playing some Ultimate Frisbee – check out our action shots!

In Geography we enjoyed our visit from the twinning association and learned a little about Henvic in France, by looking at maps and attempting to copy some of the traditional pottery styles of the area.

Lastly this term we also had a fabulous visit to Sandy Park to see the Exeter Chiefs Ladies' team play. What a busy month!



### What an amazing month for Avocets!

Our highlight was definitely the Music event that took place at Newton Abbott College on Thursday the 21st of March. Avocets performed fantastically and made us all so proud.

Have a lovely Easter break and we'll see you in the Summer term!



It's been a busy month for Razorbills. Year 6's have been starting to think about SATS and many of them have been attending booster sessions before school.

The children have all been perfecting their cricket skills (many tennis balls have been sacrificed as they are getting better and better at striking!)

The children have written some super story openings and really started to think about making their writing more interesting for the reader. This was enriched by our World Book Day session with the Literacy Ninja himself, Andrew Jennings.

But most excitingly, the class D&T project came to a climax with the Bridge Building Challenge. Pupils were given limited resources and had to build a bridge that would span 80cm and hold as many 2ps as possible. The children really used the skills and knowledge they had learnt with some very successful outcomes!

