

29<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear families

Already, we are at the midpoint of our first half-term. This week, I have spent time in classrooms and have seen the amazing learning happening across the curriculum. Read on to find out more.

## **Stronger Together**

### **Science Curriculum Learning Review**

This week, Miss Rowe-Jones led a Science learning walk. She spent time in each classroom, observing teaching and speaking with children about their learning. The children were able to use subject specific vocabulary and demonstrated a real passion and enjoyment for the subject. Many children commented how they are enjoying how practical the Science sessions are after a change in approach and professional development delivered by Miss Rowe-Jones.



### **Science in The Beeches**

As Scientists, the Beeches enjoyed hearing the story about the Three Little Pigs and linking it to our learning. We thought about different materials and how they would withstand wind, water and weight. The children worked in groups to build a house out of either spaghetti and marshmallows, sticks or cubes. We are looking forward to testing them next week!



**Ilsham C of E Academy**  
Ilsham Road, Torquay,  
Devon, TQ1 2JQ  
T: 01803 292313 E: [ilsham@lapsw.org](mailto:ilsham@lapsw.org)  
W: [ilsham-lap.co.uk](http://ilsham-lap.co.uk)



# FLOURISHING FUTURES

## Sense of Belonging

### Open Sports Community Activity Recovery

On Saturday afternoon, there will be an open day of activities taking place at Torre Abbey. There will be many opportunities on offer for families to enjoy and all in the name of supporting a local charity and championed by one of our families. We are sure it will be a great day for everyone involved – please let us know if you are able to get involved.

### Relationship and Health Education in The Hollies

Our RHE focus for the start of this term has been respecting ourselves and others. Each child is supported to understand themselves and others: families, communities and the wider world. This week, Hollies explored what it means to be a family, and how families can take on many forms. Our aim is to help children develop positive and healthy relationships and the classroom is a safe place for children to discuss ideas and ask questions about families and relationships. We looked at blended families, foster families, extended families.....and everything in between. The children showed real compassion and insight and a positive sense of awareness, and respect for others.

## Removing Barriers

### SEND Graduated Response

On Monday, we joined together as a staff, led by Miss Davies (SEND CO) to review our graduated response – our approach to supporting pupils with additional needs. It was incredibly powerful for our staff to collaborate together as we refine our systems and approaches to support all children. We will continue to engage in the latest research and work closely with partner agencies to provide the best provision possible for our children. We will be joined by the SEND Team from Torbay Council on 7<sup>th</sup> November as part of their roadshow and we look forward to sharing that with you.

### The Rowans as Historians

As historians, the Rowans have been questioning ‘what were toys like in the year I was born?’ The children observed different toys that were around the time they were born looking at how the toys worked, what they were made of, what could they do and what they are used for. As a class we looked at how the toys were similar or different and how we know they are used in the present day.



### The Willows

This week the Willows have been learning about the seasons and what changes we see in the autumn. The children went for a lovely walk to the garden to observe the trees and the leaves. They then collected leaves to make a lovely autumn picture. The children brought conkers in, and they have been practicing their counting and even making words with their conkers!



### PE in the Oaks

The Oaks class have thoroughly enjoyed keeping active during their PE sessions this week. Earlier in the week, during gymnastics, the class perfected a series of jumps and balances and used these to form sequences with their partners. During our invasion games lesson, the class focused on using the correct footwork during competitive sports. Our Kinetics PE teacher was extremely impressed with how the class have already developed their understanding of a range of skills so far this term.



### Realising the Possible

#### Reading Aspirations in the Maples

The Maples were Realising the Possible in their reading for pleasure session this week. They were diving into the magical world of books and stories, with a special focus on finding inspiration to become an author. They embarked on a journey through different genres and authors to ignite their passion for reading. The children were mesmerised with the 'Little People, Big Dreams' books and it allowed them to realise they can also follow in the footsteps of many of the famous people and aim for their 'big dreams'.

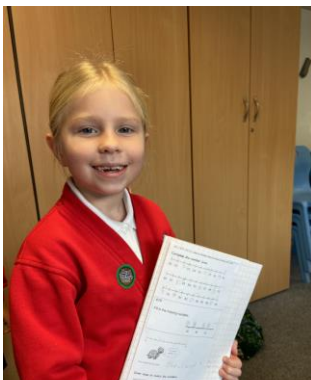
### Artists in Monkey Puzzles

This week in Monkey Puzzles, the children have been focussing their learning as artists on a local artist, Simon Drew. Simon has his own art gallery in Dartmouth and the children were able to recall having seen his artwork in various places they have visited in the local area. It has been wonderful to for the children to be exposed to the work of a local artist, whose work has been inspired by his studies in Zoology at Exeter University, and to begin to consider what is possible for themselves in the future!



### Head Teacher Awards

I have seen so many children this week, who have shared with me amazing work that they have completed. It's always a pleasure to discuss learning with the children and see their passion and enthusiasm shine through. Well done!





Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Grinsill and The Ilsham Team

### Weekly Attendance

Class	Attendance %
The Willows	97.92
The Rowans	98.49
The Beeches	98.44
The Maples	98.86
The Hollies	93.23
The Oaks	97.5
The Monkey Puzzles	92.79
Whole School	96.69

### School Awards

Class	 <b>Star of the Week</b>	 <b>Presentation Award</b>
Willows	Thea – for knowing all her sounds in RWInc and saying them loudly and confidently! Well done, Thea!	Kylo – for holding his pencil correctly with much better control. Well done, Kylo!
Rowans	Martha – for your great contributions in lessons and showing curiosity in History and Science.	Rose – for always taking great care over the presentation of your work and always being ready to learn.
Beeches	Arlo – for your thirst for learning. You are always eager to learn more from those around you and have wonderful manners always.	Melody – for your beautifully presented RE learning this week about the 99 names of Allah.
Maples	Cassius – for your enthusiasm in all class discussions! Well done, Cassius!	Millie – For consistently maintaining high-quality handwriting in all of your work!
Hollies	Eda – for your wonderful compassion and support for your classmates and your curiosity and engagement in class discussions.	Andy – you have worked so hard this week on maintaining your beautiful handwriting, well done :-)
Oaks	Daisy for her brilliant focus and determination to succeed in every single lesson. You are a star!	Summer for working extremely hard to decrease the size of her cursive writing- I have seen a real difference this week!
Monkey Puzzles	Scarlett for her incredible attitude towards learning and a determination to achieve her best. She has displayed our value of inspiration this week and has been a role model for the school. Well done Scarlett!	Rosalyn for the effort which she has put into her Home Learning and for presenting each piece with such care and consideration. Well done Rosalyn!

### Diary Dates

- 7th November – Flu Immunisations
- 18th – 20th October – Year 6 Residential
- 16th and 19th October – Parent Consultations for the remainder of the school
- 13th October – Individual Photos
- 12th October – Harvest Service, St Matthias, 1.30pm
- 10th and 12th October – Parent Consultations for the Monkey Puzzles Class
- 10th October – Year 6 Football Festival at Quinta Fields