



Together we grow, together we flourish

Letter from Mrs Huish 15.10.2021

Dear Parents,

And just like that, the term has almost come to an end... Hasn't it flown! We continue to be thankful for the joy of being back together properly as a whole school family.

There has been an abundance of exciting learning happening across the school. In our assemblies, we have been thinking about belonging using the phrase 'No Outsiders'. The children have blown me away with their contributions to the discussions. We have used some pictures from the media to open discussions about the world around us and think about how we use our school values to ensure that everyone is welcome and included in our school.



Have you seen this picture before? We used this picture to guess what we thought could be happening here. Some of the children thought that the girl looked happy because she was skipping and that maybe they were someone from our local community on their way to school.

This photo actually shows a young Afghan girl skipping across the tarmac in Belgium as she landed after being evacuated from Kabul. The former Prime Minister of Belgium, Guy Verhofstadt, tweeted the photo and wrote, "*Wonderful. This is what happens when you protect refugees. Welcome to Belgium, little girl!*" We talked about what this picture going 'viral' tells us about the world we

live in and we discussed the feelings that this little girl must have been through to get where she is now. Here are some of their responses:

"This picture shows peace. She is happy because she feels safe." Oliver

"This picture shows trust. She is sad about leaving her home and family and has to trust that she can be happy in her new country." Jamie

"This picture teaches everyone in the world how to show compassion and love to others." Annie Lou

"This little girl showed trust by having the courage to board the plane." Gracie

This work has really inspired the Red Kites who have been planning some fundraising to help more families in this situation.



Do you recognise this sportsman? This is Krysten Coombs and he won a medal for Great Britain in Badminton this year. Not only is he a champion, he is from Dartington! He actually came a few years ago to school to teach some badminton to our classes.

We have been using this picture to think about why the Paralympics is so very important and the messages it sends to society. The children's comments

showed how the Paralympics gave them the message that life has 'no limits' and that they can achieve anything, if they dream big enough.

Here are some of their responses:

"Years ago there were no paralympics so people with disabilities had no place to compete. This symbolises a more inclusive society." Sienna

"The paralympians do great things despite their disabilities. They have big dreams and don't let anything stop them. They show us that they are just as good as everyone else - better actually, because they have to work harder." Torin

"Life with no limits means that there are no rules to what you can do. You can follow your dreams no matter what." London

I think that this quote, below, really sums up the conversations that the children have had this half term, so I thought I would leave you with this to enjoy!

**. "Our problem is not that we aim too high and miss, but that we aim too low and hit."
— Aristotle**

I hope that you have enjoyed the updates for this fortnight!

Have a wonderful weekend.

Warmest wishes

Mrs Huish



Community News: Silver Stories Project We are really excited to inform you that we have signed up to the National Silver Stories project. This is an endearing project that creates a magical relationship across generations through stories. Four of our children have been chosen to start the project. Yasmin & Florence and Alanna & Elodie have been registered as 'Silver Readers' and will be calling an elderly 'Silver Listener' each week to simply share a book with them. The Silver Stories project was set up to help bridge the loneliness gap in communities and we cannot wait to take part and help to make a difference!



Community News: Lili and Ilvy's Fundraiser for the Food Bank Bring your pennies to school next week.

Lilijana and Ilvy have prepared a fundraising event with some pumpkins that they grew in their own garden. They were very happy to have grown a big pumpkin and wanted to set up a little stand outside the school entrance next week to ask people to pay a donation to guess the weight of the pumpkin. Are you up for the challenge?

The winner will get the pumpkin and all the donations would be split between the school forest school and Food In Community ([Food in Community – Lets Bring it to the table – Every week Food in Community rescues and sorts surplus fresh fruit and vegetables, and delivers boxes to charities and community groups in and around Totnes.](#))

Good luck in using your weighing skills. You can have as many goes as you like!

Community News: New Team Members! This term, we have welcomed Mrs Merrington to the KS2 team. Mrs Merrington is an experienced Learning Support Assistant working across the KS2 classes. She is a brilliant addition to the team!

At the end of this week, we say farewell to Mrs Coon and Miss Zaki who both have exciting

adventures ahead of them as they go on maternity leave. We cannot wait to see the baby photos and we will look forward to welcoming them back next year! Joining the team, we have Mrs Ryan-Carter (Starlings class teacher) and Mrs Viney (KS2 LSA) who we look forward to working with this year. Please do say hello if you see new faces around. We want them to feel the Dartington welcome!

After School Clubs: New Clubs After Half Term!

MONDAY - FRIDAY

After school wrap around care: This will run every evening until 6pm. This is open to all children from EYFS to Year 6. Please book on and pay as usual through the School Gateway App.

MONDAY

Artscape Club: This is a KS2 **art club** run by Mrs Lewis.

TUESDAY

Premiere Sports: Next term, it is **Dodgeball** for KS2

Frazoo: This is a **science club** that will be starting after half term with Mrs Hulbert. Bookings will be made directly to Frazoo and more information has been sent out about this.

THURSDAY Spires Sports Club: This term it will be **gymnastics** for years 1-3.

FRIDAY

Premiere Sports: We are waiting to find out what this club will be and will send more information shortly.

All clubs run from **3:15 - 4:15** (except the wrap around care).

Dates for your Diary: Don't miss out!

19.10.21 School Photos (There will be an early siblings option: more details to come)

25.10.21 Half term break.

04.11.21 Flu Immunisations (These are the nasal sprays not for COVID 19)

09.12.21 Christmas Lunch day!

06.12.21 EYFS Nativity production 2-3pm

07.12.21 EYFS Nativity production 2-3pm

Date tbc KS2 Christmas market

Date tbc Upper KS2 Carol Concert at Dartington Church

Date tbc Lower KS2 Carol Concert

Date tbc KS1 Nativity production

Date tbc KS1 Nativity production

17.12.21 Last day of term

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TOGETHER WE EMPOWER EXCELLENCE

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