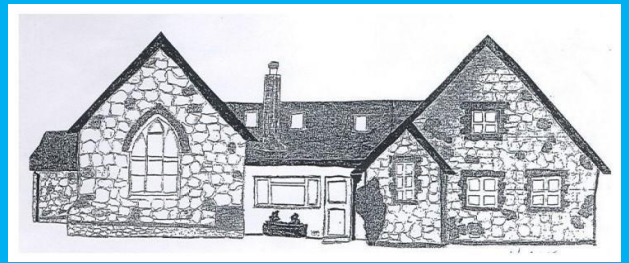




**DUNSFORD**  
COMMUNITY ACADEMY

‘Nurturing brilliance  
to catch our dreams.’



Whole school  
Attendance

**87.8%**



Dear Parents and extended families,

We have parents evenings coming up soon and this is the best time to talk to teachers and find out how pupils are achieving in school personally, academically and creatively.

Please ensure you book and try to keep on time as much as possible. Teachers will be talking to you about what children are doing well, what their next steps are and what you can do to make a difference. They will also be reporting back on attendance and any gaps this has left.

It's been a tricky week with lots of pupils off with illness. Thanks for trusting us to look after them when they are a little under the weather, I've never seen so much Calpol! Hopefully, we will see improvements soon.

### Stronger Together

We would like to say an enormous thank you again to Sophie and Jacob's family (especially grandad) who procured us some money in the form of a £1090 donation.

We have finally been able to procure 4 new iPads, with pencils, which will be available in each class for support work and work on the board, for both pupils and teachers.

This will have an enormous impact in modelling learning and support pupils in their computing curriculum. The computing Elite children have waited patiently for a long time, and they will be the first to 'have a go'.



### Clubs:

Monday 3:30 – 5pm	STEM
Tuesday 3:30 – 5pm	DRAMA
Wednesday 3:30 - 4:30pm	FOOTBALL
Thursday 3:30 – 5pm	ART
Friday 3:30 – 5:00pm	SPORTS

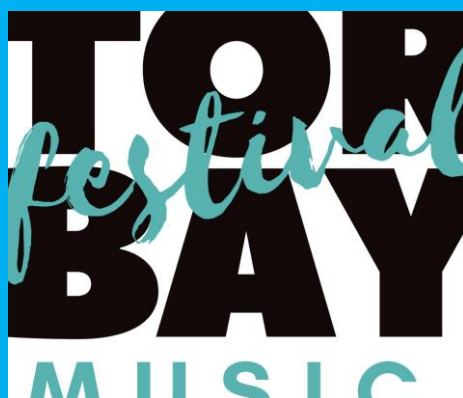
### Realising the Possible

We are very excited to announce, that through the hard work from Mrs Wood, the school Ukulele band in Oaks will once again be performing in the Torbay Music Festival.

This year, we are proud to announce a second entry for our school choir into the festival too! Staff are working so hard to offer opportunities for pupils to experience these amazing events, it gives them such purpose in their learning. We are very grateful for the staff in supporting these events beyond the school curriculum.

We have also just purchased our show for Easter, but we will be building up the anticipations and keeping it a surprise. We are looking forward to Cedar class performing.

A big mention to all our special pupils who were part of the DADS performance in the village hall. We truly have an incredibly creative and talented group of children!



Event	Class/Year	Date	Contact
Parent Evening ( <b>CHANGE</b> )	Cedars & Oaks	Tuesday 23rd January Thursday 25th January	Oaks/Cedars teachers
RSPB Big Bird Watch	Willows, Cedars and Oaks	Friday 19th January	
National Measurement in School	Reception & Year 6	Friday 26th January	Office
NSPCC Number Day	All	Friday 2nd February	Class Teachers
Half Term Break	All	Friday 9th February	Office



# MAPLES



This week in Maples, we have continued to get our bird watching role play area ready for our RSPB Big Bird Watch. We have put up our bird hide, which has allowed us to observe the different birds who visit our outside space. The children have been using magnifying glasses, binoculars, note pads, mark making tools and a winter bird hunt checklist to explore their surroundings outside.

Also, this week we have been investigating and describing the signs of winter, such as frost on surfaces, ice or being able to see our breath. We have been making ice outside freezing water with pinecones and feathers. and we have frozen the dinosaurs in our dino world.

Next week we will be reading Owl Babies by Martin Waddell specifically looking at feelings and emotions of the owl babies relating them to our own feelings too.



Attendance

84%

# WILLOWS



Merryn

SPORTS STAR:

Ottillie Hall

STAR of the WEEK

What a packed week! Professor Clayburn visited Willows in her white coat this week - with all this wintery weather it was great opportunity to talk about ice, snow and 'dragon's breath' (part of our Science learning). Well, Prof Clayburn showed us how to make crystals and fake snow. Then we made our own ice blocks by leaving a tray of water outside overnight - it was solid ice by the next morning!

Mr Bird introduced the Year 1s to Beebots on Monday (Computing) - each week the Year 1s will learn a new step in how to operate these 'robots'.

We've all be active outside with Forest School, PE and Maths - firstly we've been developing our throwing and catching skills, while in Forest School we have been learning about birds so that we can participate in the 'Big Bird Watch' which is run by the RSPB. In Maths we drew number lines to 20, then used them to find '1 more' and '1 less'.

Remember, we have PE on Wednesdays and Fridays and we have Forest school on Thursdays. Please ensure children are wearing appropriate, warm clothing on those days. Thank you.





Attendance

89%

CEDARS



Nuala



SPORTS STARS:

Ida, Sophie & Lizzie



STAR of the week

This week, the children had a wonderful time exploring how to fix together different materials to create a sturdy strong house in our Design and Technology lessons. In Science, the children have been learning about the life cycle of different animals such as frogs, humans, butterflies and chickens.

Our class Spring performance is just around the corner and I will be handing out parts very soon for children to learn their lines.

Parents evening is next week, and I would very much like to meet with you all. Please do get in contact if you are unable to attend on those dates.

Next week, we are starting our new unit of learning in Maths. The children will be focusing on measuring lengths, so any extra opportunity to measure at home in mm, cm or m would be fantastic! Year 3s will then focus on measuring the perimeter.

In Writing, the children will be planning and writing their own persuasive letter next week. They have loved writing our class letter to our felt tip pens. (Ask your child, the felt tip pens quit a few weeks ago!)

Please don't forget to read with your child daily and record in their reading record. Stickers will be handed out to children who have read 5 times over the week!

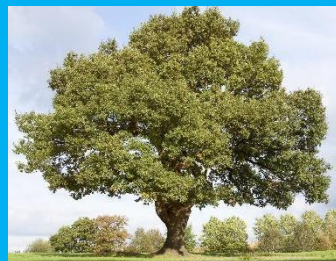
Design and Technology!



Attendance

89%

## OAKS



Tabby



SPORTS STARS:

Tom, Eliza, Bertie,  
Kitty & Tabby



STAR of the WEEK

It has been a challenging week in Oak class with children either being absent or being in school and not feeling 100% well. They have all worked incredibly hard despite this and have made good progress in all their learning. In Maths the children continued with their unit on fractions and explored ways to convert improper fractions to mixed numbers, and mixed numbers to improper fractions. They have used pictorial representations to either support their learning or to prove their mathematical thinking.

In History, the children have been exploring how women got the vote. This week they began learning about the suffragists and the suffragettes and some of the key women who led the movement. In Science, the children continued their learning on classification by creating classification keys for sweets and then for the whole class. The children will use this learning next week when they apply it to classifying different species of animals.

Oak class will continue to attend Forest School every Thursday. Please ensure that they have suitable warm, outdoor clothing to enable them to enjoy the sessions fully. A pair of waterproof trousers, a waterproof coat and a pair of wellington boots would be ideal in this wet and cold weather. Hats, scarfs and gloves would also be a good idea.

Please encourage your child to read every evening and to complete one of their comprehension activities. All children know how to do this and are very capable of completing independently. It would also be good to allow your child to access TT Rock Stars regularly. We are currently focusing on the 8 times table multiplication and division facts.

