

# Newsletter

Autumn 7

January 24th 2020

## What have we achieved this 3 weeks?



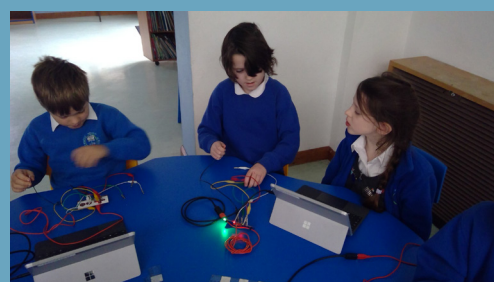
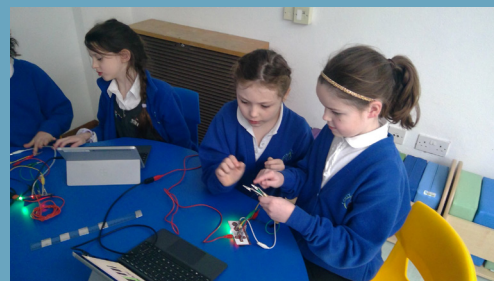
### Truro Museum Visit for Gribben and Coombe



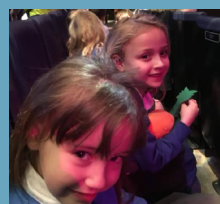
### R-Time Session with Parents



### Conductive Music



### Trip To See Cinderella



### Guinea Pig Keepers





# Notices

## Parking

It's really difficult for the big buses from FRA to get back out along Windmill when people park to drop at our school along the road or in the gateway to FRA school field. This is making the road dangerous as buses are then having to come onto the other side. Please use the car park at Squires Field.

We all want the children (both ours and the older ones walking to FRA alone) to be as safe as possible.

## Library Revamp

We're going to be working with the student council on a top secret library makeover! We will need: Old 'vintage' suitcases, old looking books, an antique looking birdcage, old candle sticks, a coatstand, old fashioned rugs & old looking picture frames. If you can help, please let us know.

We will also be introducing a new cataloguing system so children can borrow library books as well as their reading/ class book. To get this working we will need to scan and barcode all our books. If you could come and help with this (it's just scanning each book and putting a sticker on) we'd be really grateful! Please let the office know if you can come in and do some books.

## Cinderella

The children absolutely loved our trip to the theatre and they are very keen to go again next year.

54% of parents have paid so far. If you haven't paid, please can you do so before half term so we can go again next year!

## Trips

We are really proud that we've expanded the number of trips we offer (after many years of parent requests!). We want to remind a very small number of parents that trips at Fowey Primary are not optional. This is because they are a key part of our curriculum and it is important for children's friendships to build shared experiences, like we do on trips.

We know that each child won't love the idea of every trip but we think it's really important to teach children to try different things.

We also want to make parents aware that schools usually have to pay in advance for trips- so if you decide last minute your child doesn't want to come we still have to pay for them. For example, we paid for the Cinderella tickets 12 weeks ago.

# Coming Up...

**27th Jan** - Y4 to FRA for Parkour with Sports Leaders

**28th Jan** - Visit from the Captain of HMS Montrose and Gribben Lunch and Learn

**30th Jan** - Lunch and Learn Coombe

**4th Feb** - Lunch and Learn Readymoney

**6th Feb** - Lunch and Learn Lantic

**7th Feb** - Chartwells cooking with Coombe

**10th Feb** - Safer Internet Day

**11th Feb** - Football and Netball Away vs Pondhu

**17th Feb** - **HALF TERM**

**24th Feb** - Back to School

**25/27th Feb** - Parent's evenings  
(no clubs this week)

**16th Mar** - Comic Relief

**18th Mar** - Readymoney to see Holes at Plymouth Theatre Royal

**19th Mar** - Parent Forum Meeting 2pm

**30th Mar** - **EASTER HOLIDAY**

## Headteacher's Award Winners



# Split Maths Trial

## What are we doing?

We are trialling splitting our maths lesson in two, with assembly in the middle for the rest of January. We will review the trial at the end of the month and make decisions then about what has worked or not worked for us.

## What does this look like each day?

It means that children come in from play (at 10:45) and start their maths lesson. The teacher then assesses how they're doing and splits the group up. Some children come to assembly at 11:05, some stay with the teacher for small group teaching or individual teaching. Children return from assembly at 11:25 and the maths lesson continues until 11:55.

## Why are we doing this?

There is lots of evidence now that breaks in children's learning (sometimes called 'brain breaks') are really important in allowing children to move learning from their working to long-term memory. We hope that by giving children time in the lesson to have this break, they will retain more of the maths we are teaching.

We know that the best way for children to make progress is to have timely and accurate feedback from an adult. Teachers are the best people to deliver this feedback but they don't have a lot of time in the school day to work with individuals or small groups (as they're teaching the class!). We hope that this system will allow teachers to move pupils on faster as they will have time to work in this way each day.

Historically, we have written comments on each child's work each day. As a staff team, we think it is really important that we look at every child's book every day and this won't change, but we're not sure that writing long comments is the best way to tell children about their learning and help them move on. We know the most effective way of doing this is to talk to children about what they've done well and to actually show them how to improve/do more.

At the moment, teachers at Fowey spend 10 and 15 hours per week (2 or 3 hours each evening!) marking books. This isn't sustainable for teachers.

As part of this trial, we have stopped writing written comments in children's maths books. Instead we are trialling using personalised stamps and giving children verbal feedback during the lesson or during assembly time. You may notice when you next look at your child's book that there appears to be less marking. We are keeping a whole class feedback sheet for each lesson so we are able to record trends across a class and areas where children need more support/need to be challenged.

We'll let you know more about our findings and future decisions at the end of the trial.

