

Northam St George's Weekly News

Friday 17th November 2023

www.northamfederation.devon.sch.uk/st-georges-infants

admin@st-georges-infants.devon.sch.uk



Headteacher's message

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week have been reminded about what a privilege it is to be a part of a larger group of schools. On Tuesday I spent time at Holywell school and on Thursday some time at Pilton Community College. During both visits it was great to reflect on the work we do at St George's and think about things we can improve. This collaborative learning is a huge benefit of being part of Ventrus Trust.

I want to say a massive thanks to those of you who have donated toys for our toy sale at the end of the month. We are still looking for more donations, so if you are thinking of having a pre-Christmas clear out, please bring your child's old preloved toys to school.

Since I started at St George's in January, I have been determined to improve attendance. This has been a huge team effort and couldn't be done without your continued support. I am pleased to report that in September and October St George's whole school attendance was higher than the average of primary schools in Devon. As an infant school, this is a huge achievement. Thank you to everyone.

Finally, if your child loves Lego, [click here](#) to subscribe to a free magazine which will be delivered to your house four times a year.



Have a restful weekend,
Phil Lewis (Headteacher)



School Diary Dates

Thursday 23rd November	Vision Screening for Reception Opt out forms emailed if you do not wish your child to take part
Thursday 30th November & Friday 1st December	2.30-4.30pm Toy Sale at St George's
Wednesday 6th December	Christmas Dinner Day
Friday 15th December	Christingle Service St Margaret's Church

Autumn Term	6th Sept —15th Dec 2023
Non Pupil Day	20th Oct 2023
October Half Term	23rd –27th Oct 2023
Spring Term	2nd Jan—28th Mar 2024
February Half Term	12th—16th Feb 2024
Non Pupil Day	19th Feb 2024
Summer Term	15th Apr—23rd Jul 2024
May Half Term	27th –31st May 2024

Around The Classes



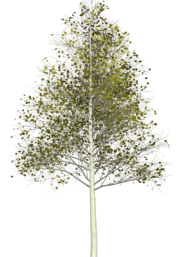
The Woodlands (Aspen Class and Beech Class)



This week in the Woodlands we are very excited that we have joined Drawing Club! This is a club where we go on an adventure through different books! We have looked at "Not Now Bernard" and made lots of monsters!

In maths, we are talking about the properties of circles and triangles. See how many circles and triangles the children can spot when they are out and about.

Forest school has been great fun! Lots of very muddy, happy children.



Cherry Class

We have enjoyed a busy week in Cherry Class. This week have been looking at our local area and locating where we live on a map. We talked about how lucky we are to have such beautiful scenery around us and to live so close to the sea. This week we have read 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. We have been thinking of questions to ask Goldilocks and Baby Bear and we have been learning to use question marks in our writing. Have a restful weekend.



Sycamore Class

In Sycamore class this week the children have been working really hard with their writing. We have been studying the book 'Augustus and his Smile' and the children wrote some fantastic stories where Augustus searched in different places. They worked hard to use alliteration in their sentences. On Thursday afternoon the children were learning about the inventor John Dunlop in their science lesson. The children spent the afternoon investigating different types of tyres and whether they make a bike easier to ride or not. Can the children remember what he invented? Can you find out any interesting facts about him?



Juniper Class

We've had a great week in Juniper class, we started off the week with writing up our own edited version of our story of 'August and His Smile' where we had some incredible ideas of where Augustus went to, using some brilliant alliteration to describe the area. Next, in maths we have been looking at partitioning a number to be able to subtract beneath a 10, can your child tell you what $34 - 17$ is? Finally, in science we were exploring the properties of rubber and learnt all about John Dunlop who invented the pneumatic tyre, we have lots of fun experimenting on bikes and scooters so we could compare the two types of tyres. Well done for a great week Junipers.

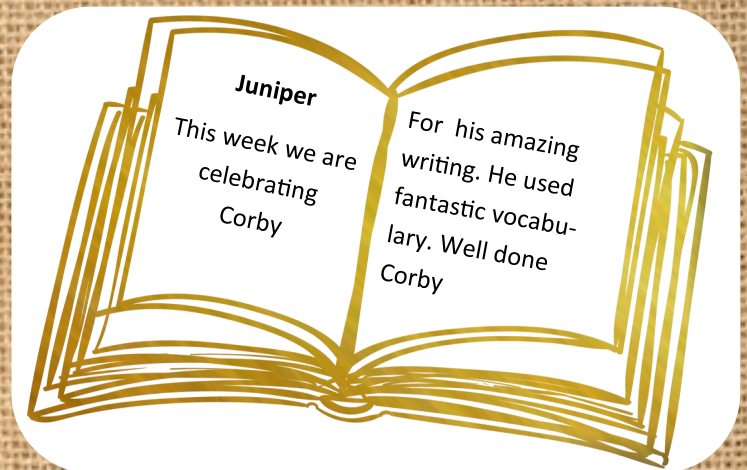
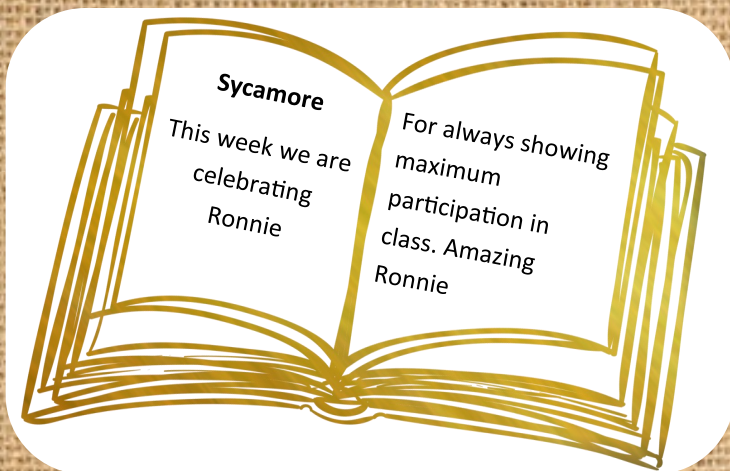
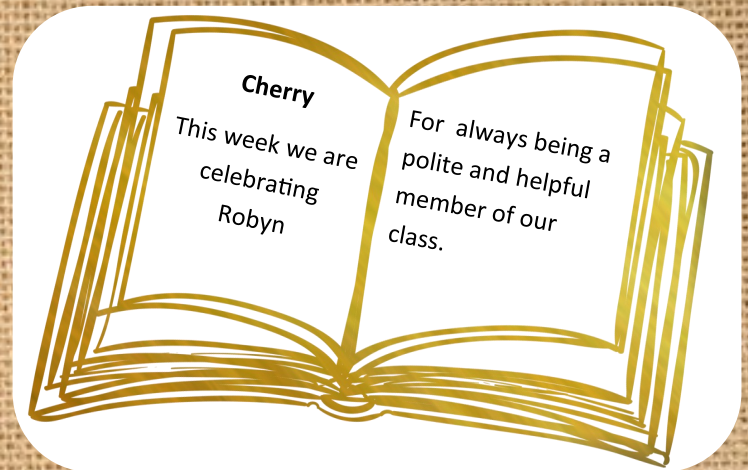
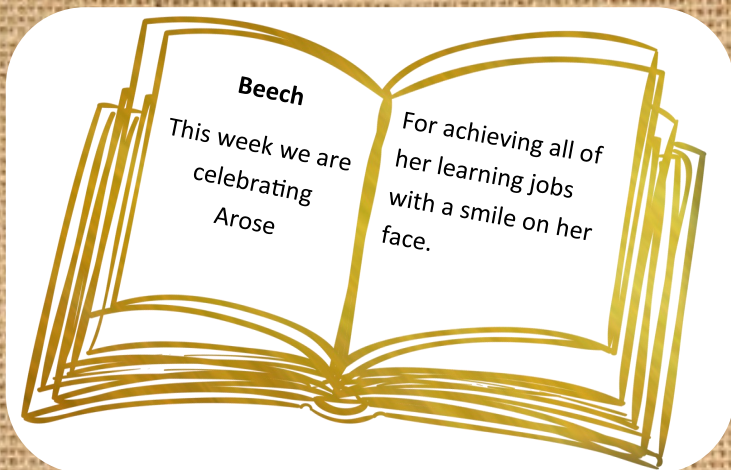


The Dunes Class

This week in the Dunes, we have begun to learn about our planet. We learnt that the Earth is a sphere, made up of a core, mantle and crust. We are making a big tissue paper Earth to show this! We all enjoyed getting really muddy at Forest School, and splashing in the huge puddle. We have also made our own playdough!



Golden Book



Notice Board



Weekly Attendance



Being around teachers and friends in a school or college environment is the best way for pupils to learn and reach their potential. Time in school also keeps children safe and provides access to extra-curricular opportunities and pastoral care.

That's why school attendance is so important and why the Government is committed to tackling the issues that might cause some children to miss school unnecessarily. *The Education Hub Blog 2023*

Our weekly class attendance below.

Aspen –88.4%

0 days of school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned

Beech - 90.4%

Cherry - 98%

Sycamore - 95%

Juniper - 92.9%



Side by Side Taw & Torridge is a parent led organisation that offers face to face support groups for parents and carers of children, young people and adults with additional needs.

If you are a parent or carer struggling to navigate the different services for health and education, then come and join one of our friendly support sessions and connect with other families living similar circumstances.

November Dates

Friday 10th – St John's Garden Centre Café, St John's Lane (Next to Tesco) from 11am. Any questions please contact Bonnie: **07377625276**

Tuesday 14th - Morrison's Supermarket Café, Bideford from 10:30am.

Any questions please contact Natalie: **07966910527**

Tuesday 21st – Lemon Tree Café, Holland Walk, Barnstaple from 10am

Any questions please contact Janice: **07869436621**

Thursday 30th – Online Specialist Education and EHCP support session from 7-9pm

Any questions and to book a place contact Tracey: **07921220840**

Email: sidebysidebarnstaple@outlook.com

Find us on [Facebook](#)

TOY DONATIONS WANTED



Having a pre-Christmas clearout?
Any unwanted toys please bring into reception between now until 28th November ready for our Christmas Toy Sale starting on the 30th November.

Thank you for supporting Fons x

Notice Board



The HAF website is now live!

The programme of events for Winter has now gone live in Devon

<http://devon.cc/haf-winter-23>

**Please share far and wide!
Places are limited**

Places are available for children who are accessing benefit related free school meals

<https://devon.cc/haf-parents-info>

MERRY XMAS



Calling all children to come and visit..

'Santa's' Gift Vestry

Sock Snowmen

Children's Craft Chapel

... at *Holy Trinity Church*
on *Saturday 25th November*
from *10am til 12pm*

This is part of our ...
Christmas Coffee Morning
so bring your parents with you to enjoy the cake, craft and other stalls, raffle etc over a great cup of coffee!
There will be a £3 charge towards craft costs



Christmas Craft Day 2023

This is the club for your children.
Running 8am - 6pm on the 2nd December 2023.

A day to drop your children off with us, knowing they are happy, cared for, and entertained while you do what you need to do. We will be creating, making, cooking, playing, glittering and making everything sparkle ready for Christmas.

This will cost £45 for the day with 10% sibling discount available. We accept tax free childcare payments, BACs and Cash. Payment at time of booking to secure your place.

Email Jemma for registration forms and bookings.

Our Happy Place Ltd
ourhappyplaceltd@hotmail.com

Northam Federation's

CHRISTMAS
Preloved
TOY SALE



**@ST GEORGES SCHOOL HALL ON THE
30TH NOV & 1ST DEC FROM 2.30PM**