

Tipton St John Bulletin

BELIEVING AND ACHIEVING TOGETHER TO BE THE BEST WE CAN BE



Friday 19th December 2025

E: office@tipton-stjohn.devon.sch.uk | T: 01404 812943

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a term it's been! Lots of exciting news to share with you in the pages that follow with updates from each class. This week has been a lovely time of Nativity Services, Singing Club performance, Parties and finishing today with our Christingle Service.

The children have done so well this term and we are very proud of them. We wish you a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 6th January (Monday is a training day for staff).

Kind regards

Mr Pete Button

Head of School

Attendance

Class	Attendance
R	98.15%
1	94.44%
2	92.50%
3	96.67%
4	100%
5	98.75%
6	100%
Whole School	97.26%



We are happy to speak to any person at any time with regard to the safety of children. If you have any concerns please contact:

Designated Safeguarding Lead for Otter Valley Federation:
Amanda Fulford, Executive Headteacher

Safeguarding Governor: Mark Humphries

Designated Safeguarding Lead: Pete Button, Head of School

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead: Richard Hatswell,
Teacher

Alternatively you can contact MASH on 0345 155 1071

Class News from this term....

Oak Class

What a term highlight after highlight - the children have been amazing with a mixture of progress both socially and academically. Each child demonstrating a great attitude and certainly believing and achieving,

Academically - The retelling of Alma and our topic work on World Ward Two were met with great enthusiasm and interest. Socially they have become a class that have bonded so well, taking care of each other and becoming an endearing cohort - long may it continue.



Willow Class

Willow Class have had a fantastic term full of learning and achievements! We began by exploring the United Kingdom, discovering its countries, landmarks, and traditions. The children loved creating their own maps of Tipton, showing off their creativity and attention to detail. In Maths, we've been working hard on times tables, building confidence and speed through games and challenges. Science has been equally exciting as we investigated the states of matter, carrying out hands-on experiments to see solids, liquids, and gases in action. The absolute highlight of the term was our trip to the multi-skills tournament. The children showed incredible teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship throughout the day - and their efforts paid off when Willow Class came first! We couldn't be prouder of their enthusiasm and positive attitude. It's been a wonderful term, and we're looking forward to even more adventures in the new year!



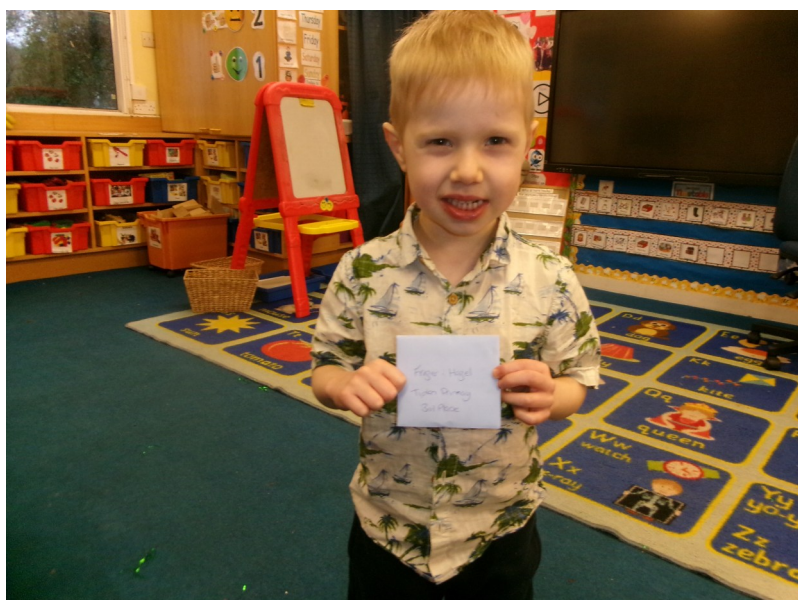
Maple Class

Maple Class have had a busy term of learning, as well as working hard on their reading, writing and maths skills they learnt about the famous artist Vincent Van Gogh in Art lessons. They made their own Starry Night representations. During Science, the children made their own homes for the Fourth Little Pig and then tested materials to decide what they would make their roofs out of. The children have been busy designing and making Christmas baubles during D&T, where they learnt sewing skills. Finally Maple Class, finished a great term by performing the Nativity Story in the church. The children were brilliant and acted, narrated and sang beautifully. Mrs Davies and the Maple Team wish everyone a very happy and restful Christmas and look forward to a new term of learning in January.





**Christingle making
In Church!**



**Fraser won 3rd Prize
across all the local
primary schools in
the Hall and Scott
Design a Christmas
card competition!**



**Singing Club did a
brilliant job singing
some Christmas
classics to the school
on Wednesday!**

Could You Be Our Next Otter Valley Federation Governor?

We are looking to recruit new governors to join our federation. Could this be you—or do you know someone who might be interested? If so, please share this information!

The role of **Parent Governor** can be fulfilled by a **parent or grandparent** of a child at the school. This is an incredibly valuable role offering you the chance to make a real difference by providing practical support and contributing to strategic decision-making.

Each governor takes a lead in a specific area, and we are currently seeking someone to serve as our **SEND and Inclusion Lead Governor**.

Governors can give as much time as they wish, but as a minimum, you would:

- Attend one full governing board meeting each half term (One meeting at Tipton St John Primary and one meeting at Feniton Primary, 6.30pm, Mondays)
- Meet with the Head of Schools once a term for about an hour to champion the needs of our most vulnerable children, contribute to the development of our SEND Policy and monitor the effectiveness of our Behaviour and Attendance Policies. (This time can be negotiated for a time in the school day that suits you).

Full training is provided for all aspects of governance as required.

If you'd like to learn more, please contact the school office on **01404 812943**.

Not keen on SEND and Inclusion? No problem! We have flexibility in how responsibilities are shared across the Board, so please get in touch—we'd love to hear from you.

Kind regards,

Amanda Fulford  (Ctrl) ▾

Parent Class Reps

Something we always want to work hard on is communication so the following parents have kindly agreed to be a point of contact for each class. I will be meeting with them about once a term to schedule time to reflect on communication between school and home.

Do feedback to them anything that you think would be helpful to us in improving communication, and making it even better!

Hazel—Angela Hay

Maple—Nicola Archer

Willow—Julie Griffin

Oak - Ali Williams

Internet Safety www.iwf.org.uk

There are a number of useful websites for supporting parents with managing technology in the home and making sure it is as safe as it can be for children. We will continue to signpost these. Sadly, as we know, abuse of all forms can happen and terrible images and content can be posted online. A charity that works to bring this to an end is called Internet Watch Foundation. It's worth looking at the work they do—it includes creating a space to report anonymously concerning images that you may come across. And in this age of AI, should you or someone you know be victim to having your own image used inappropriately, they offer service to work to take these down.