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## NEWSLETTER Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2024


Dear Parents,

The Autumn half term was a great break for all the staff, and we are back in school feeling excited about what lies ahead. Rehearsals and singing have already begun as the requirements of Christmas begin to engulf us all! It looks like we are going to have a busy half term and the FOLS are going to be particularly busy with the Christmas Fair –which is only 3(ish) weeks away!!!

### LANDSCOVE LEARNERS

In mathematics **Class One** have been consolidating their understanding of circles and triangles, by describing the features of both shapes using the correct mathematical language of 'sides', 'corners', 'straight' and 'curved' and using this to reason as to how they know which shape is which.



In DT this half term **Class 2** will be making our very own puppets which we will be using to tell a well-known fairy-tale. Today we tried different methods of joining fabric together and decided which one was the best and most effective. Lots of us enjoyed using the stapler as it was the most fun and we thought the staples were the strongest! What a fantastic start to our new half term we've had in Class 2! In Music we are learning all about pitch and playing pitch patterns 



Mr. Tanner has been teaching **Class three** a variety different gymnastic skills, from star, tuck, and straddle jumps to forward rolls, cartwheels, and using the spring board. The children are really enjoying polishing up their gymnastic skills. We are looking forward to putting all our skills together in routine at the end of the half term.



**Class Four** had a fantastic day at Morwellham Quay. They took a trip back in time to the Victorian Era, experiencing domestic life and the very strict classroom regimes. Their train journey into the copper mine highlighted the tough conditions under which the miners worked.



## SAFEGUARDING & ATTENDANCE

Whole school	95.0%
Class 1	98.2%
Class 2	90.3%
Class 3	96.2%
Class 4	95.3%
Well done to class 1!	

Even among adults, it can be all too common to see disputes and differing opinions grow extremely heated, which is rarely helpful to anyone. When emotions run high, it can be easy to forget yourself and perhaps even say something you didn't mean, hurting feelings or escalating the situation further.

For children, it's just as important to avoid this kind of behaviour whenever possible; without the necessary guidance, however, they could struggle to identify any disrespectful behaviour, let alone recognise what they can do differently. This guide offers you expert advice on teaching children and young people to choose respect when interacting with their peers, helping to create an environment based on empathy and tolerance.

[Top Tips for Encouraging Children to Choose Respect | Free Guide](#)

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](http://nationalcollege.com).

### 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators ENCOURAGING CHILDREN TO CHOOSE RESPECT

Sometimes, differences between children can escalate into bullying, potentially impacting their mental health in a way that can persist into adulthood. While it's natural to disagree sometimes, teaching children the importance of respect is essential – especially in difficult situations. This guide provides strategies for encouraging considerate behaviour, even during a dispute, to foster a kinder, more inclusive environment for everyone.

- 1 LEAD BY EXAMPLE**  
As adults, we play a crucial role in modelling respectful behaviour for children. They observe and learn from our actions every day. Be mindful of the way you interact with others in front of children. Keep in mind that you should always approach others with an attitude of mutual respect, even if you disagree with them, demonstrating this behaviour can influence young people and help them to handle their own conflicts in a healthy way.
- 2 AGREE TO DISAGREE**  
Make sure children know that it's fine to have differing opinions – and that disagreeing with someone doesn't mean you can't get along or respect each other's point of view. Help them understand that sometimes we can 'agree to disagree'. Using active listening skills when doing this can also help to build empathy and understanding of others.
- 3 PROMOTE ACTIVE LISTENING**  
Teach children about the importance of active listening: that is, making a genuine effort to listen to the other person's perspective without interrupting, before responding in a way that shows you understand their viewpoint even (or perhaps especially) if you disagree with it. This makes people feel respected and opens the door to a better comprehension of their point of view, which in turn can make it easier for you to communicate your own opinions to them.
- 4 ENCOURAGE THE USE OF "I" STATEMENTS**  
If a child finds themselves in a disagreement with someone, it can be useful to encourage them to use "I" statements during the discussion. Framing their thoughts and feelings using statements like "I feel..." or "I think..." can help them avoid an accusatory tone and encourages them to take responsibility for their own emotions.
- 5 FOCUS ON BEHAVIOUR, NOT CHARACTER**  
When disagreements happen, encourage children to focus on criticising and addressing the specific actions or behaviours that caused this upset, rather than attacking the person's character. For example, "I didn't like how you interrupted me" is better than "You're so rude!". This can help children avoid hurting someone's feelings, which is likely to inflame the situation.
- 6 STAY CALM AND TAKE BREAKS**  
It's perfectly normal to feel upset during a disagreement – especially if it's getting heated. Encourage children that if they feel overwhelmed, they should try to take deep breaths or even go for a short break to help them stay composed. If a conversation becomes too intense, remind them it's OK to suggest continuing it later or in a different setting. This can prevent things getting out of hand, allowing cooler heads to prevail.
- 7 START CONVERSATIONS ABOUT RESPECT**  
Talk openly to children about what respect means – to you and to them. Discuss how they might show respect to each other, so friends, to strangers and even to people we might disagree with. You could use examples of considerate or inconsiderate behaviour in books, films or TV to open discussions about the importance of giving others due regard.
- 8 SEEK COMMON GROUND**  
When a disagreement has occurred between children, they may find it hard to move past it. You can support them in finding a more positive way forward by helping identify areas of agreement or common ground with the other party. This can help to build bridges between differing opinions and foster a more cooperative atmosphere, as well as preventing those involved from demanding each other.
- 9 AVOID MAKING THINGS PERSONAL**  
It's important that we make it clear to children they must avoid name-calling, swearing or derogatory remarks in a disagreement with others. Respectful language sets a positive tone and helps keep the conversation productive. Reminding children to stay calm and take breaks – as mentioned previously – can help them avoid getting too emotional and saying or doing something hurtful.
- 10 REFLECT AND LEARN**  
After a child has had a disagreement, encourage them to reflect on the experience and think about what they can learn from it. What did they handle well? How might they improve their communication skills to handle conflicts more effectively in the future? You could also help play, writing and drawing pictures, or hypothetical scenarios to further develop their skills in showing respect during a disagreement.

**Meet Our Expert**  
The Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA) co-ordinate Anti-Bullying Week each year. ABA is a unique coalition of organisations and individuals, working together to achieve their vision to stop bullying and create safer environments in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. They welcome membership from any organisation or individual that supports this vision and support a free network of thousands of schools and colleges.

**WakeUpWednesday**  
The National College

Source: See full reference list on guide page 6.  
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If you are concerned about a child's wellbeing, please contact the school or in non-school hours contact MASH on 0345 155 1071. Our designated safeguarding officer is Mrs. Ryder, and the deputy safeguarding officer is Mr. Ansermoz

## FOLS – A message from Michelle

Please look out for Tea towel order forms coming out this week, as it is a really tight turn around in order for us to be able to get these in to school in time for Christmas.

Thank you to those who attended the Christmas Fair planning meeting, the Fair is really not that far away! Thank you also to those of you who have sold and returned raffle tickets, keep selling as many as you can as every ticket sale is a profit for FOLS. Teddy / Bottle and Prize Tombola donations can be left in reception from now onwards. We still have spaces available for any 'Mini Makers' out there, children can have the opportunity to sell something that they have made at home. This can be anything crafty / foody, the ideas are endless. £5 for a place and the children can keep any other monies made. Please book in via the FOLS email [fols@outlook.com](mailto:fols@outlook.com). Please look out for the sign-up sheet in reception and help where possible. Thank you to those who have already offered help, many hands really do make light work!

- 20<sup>th</sup> November – Tea Towel order forms need to be returned!
- 6th December – Christmas Fair 3:30pm onwards.
- 16th December – Sponsored 'Santa Run' during the school day. Please put this fun event in your diary, it was a fantastic atmosphere last year. Marshalls needed on the route or to simply cheer the children on at the finish line.

Many thanks, Michelle.

**COMING UP- DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

21 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Class 4 Forest school day @ community woodland in Broadhempston
29 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Song machine performing in Trust Choir concert.
4 <sup>th</sup> Dec	EYFS/KS1(classes 1&2) Nativity @ St Matthew's 2pm 6pm KS2 Christmas performance 1 for Class 3 families
5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	KS2 Christmas Performance 2 for Class 4 families
6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	3:30 FOLS Christmas Fair
10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Angel Day – Class 2
18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Dinner Day and Mr Phil the Entertainer
20 <sup>th</sup> Dec	End of term carols in church – bring your singing voices and join us at 2:45pm for a good old sing song!

Have a super weekend.

*Jill Ryder.*

**Dartington Trust**

**A WEEKEND OF CREATIVE WORKSHOPS AT DARTINGTON**  
CURATED BY **TORBAY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

**PUPPETCRAFT FAMILY WORKSHOP**  
SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER – 10AM OR 11.30AM  
£6 PER PERSON | AGES 5+

MAKE YOUR OWN SHADOW PUPPET OF A CHARACTER FROM THE FIREBIRD STORY WITH MASTER PUPPET-MAKER JOHN ROBERTS. AND BRING IT TO LIFE BEHIND OUR SHADOW SCREEN. PUPPETCRAFT WILL CREATE A SHORT VIDEO OF THE PUPPETS IN ACTION, TO BE SHOWN BEFORE AND AFTER SUNDAY AFTERNOON'S CONCERT.

**CREATIVE COMPOSITION WORKSHOP**  
SATURDAY 30 NOVEMBER – 9.30AM TO 12.30PM  
£10 | AGES 8-16 YEARS

JOIN US FOR A CREATIVE COMPOSITION WORKSHOP LED BY REPUTED MUSIC EDUCATORS RIP PRATT AND PATRICK SATVLEV WITH MEMBERS OF TORBAY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. THE WORKSHOP WILL EXPLORE AND DEVISE NEW MUSIC TO RETELL THE MAGICAL STORY OF THE FIREBIRD.

**DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY WORKSHOP**  
SUNDAY 1 DECEMBER – 10AM TO 1PM  
£10 | AGES 14-24 YEARS | ALL ABILITIES WELCOME

JOIN KAY CROOK AND CHHAYA DANCE COLLECTIVE TO EXPLORE AND CREATE A NEW CHOREOGRAPHIC WORK FOR THE MAGICAL STORY OF THE FIREBIRD. PARTICIPANTS WILL LEARN DANCE MOVEMENTS AND CREATE THEIR OWN CHOREOGRAPHIES FOR AN ENSEMBLE PERFORMANCE. THE CHOREOGRAPHY WILL EMBODY THE CHARACTER OF THE FIREBIRD IN AN IMPRESSIVE DANCE-THEATRE PERFORMANCE ALONGSIDE TORBAY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA IN THE GREAT HALL.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, AND TO SECURE YOUR SPOT, PLEASE SCAN THE QR CODE, OR VISIT [DARTINGTON.ORG/WHATS-ON](http://DARTINGTON.ORG/WHATS-ON)

The lovely Kip is leading part of this, so why not secure your place!