

TEIGNMOUTH COMMUNITY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

# WAVELENGTH

IN THIS ISSUE

@ Bristol

Year 5 Residential

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I Love Reading

MARCH 2016 EDITION

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## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

***Dr A P Gray***

I'm sure you will have heard by now that the new Principal of Teignmouth Community School, Exeter Road has been appointed and will take up the post in September. The successful applicant, Mr Jason Beardmore, currently the Principal of Stanchester Community College in Somerset secured the post in the face of strong competition and only after a rigorous two-day selection process that attracted a high quality field of applicants. I am personally delighted as he brings considerable skill and expertise to our growing academy and I am looking forward to working with him in my new role as Chief Executive of the Trust.

However, in the midst of the appointment process over recent weeks the day job has been foremost in our minds and right across our school at Mill Lane and Exeter Road students and staff have been focussed on preparation for the upcoming examinations in the Summer Term. The level of intensity seems to grow year on year and managing the stress that students face when preparing for examinations is one of our joint responsibilities as school and home. For us this has meant striking the right balance between pushing students to do their best whilst not pushing them too hard and for you to keep them focused on a prize beyond July but making sure they are not leaving any effort to study too late or too little.

More from me about the future (and the past) in the Summer Wavelength but I must mention the magnificent achievement of the whole school community in raising attendance levels to the second highest in Devon! Many thanks to all of your for your cooperation in this. Have a good Easter break and send back your children refreshed and energised for the push towards future success.

## ParentPay for Rewards Day

During the summer term the annual Rewards Day will take place for Years 7, 8, 9 and 10. Students who have accumulated enough merit points can select the exciting activity they wish to go on and payment will be due. As with all other school trips the best way to pay is via ParentPay.

If you have not yet registered at [www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com) please contact the Finance Office for your login details so that you can set up the account in good time. Details of the activity your child has chosen will appear on the Home screen of your ParentPay account once payment is required. Please note that the school no longer accepts cheques.

ParentPay is also the most convenient way to pay for school dinners, uniform and other items such as revision guides that become available throughout the school year. Using ParentPay is as easy as any other form of online shopping and your card details are not stored by the system.



# NEW DIRECTORS

"We are delighted to welcome a new Director, Sarah Schooling. Sarah was appointed a Director in December 2015 and is a qualified solicitor specialising in Property Litigation. An ex-student of the school and long-term resident of Teignmouth, Sarah has two children whom she anticipates will attend TCS in the future. Sarah is Deputy for the Physical Resources portfolio.



In addition, we welcome back a previous Director, Ruth Dennis, who has been reappointed to the Board."

To contact a Director please email Gaby Willis, the Clerk to Directors, on [gaby.willis@teignmouth.devon.sch.uk](mailto:gaby.willis@teignmouth.devon.sch.uk) or phone 01626 774091



## SPORTS HALL

MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
BODYPUMP 6.00-7.00pm	CIRCUITS 6.00-7.00pm	INSANITY 6.00-6.45pm	ZUMBA 6.00-7.00pm		BODYPUMP 8.45-9.45am	
ZUMBA 7.00-8.00pm	LEGS BUMS & TUMS 7.00-8.00pm	BODYPUMP 7.00-8.00pm	CIRCUITS 7.00-8.00pm	BOOTCAMP 6.00-6.45pm	ZUMBA TONING 10.00-11.00am	

## STUDIO

MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	SUN
INDOOR CYCLING 6.00-6.45pm	INDOOR CYCLING 6.00-6.45pm	PILATES 6.00-7.00pm	KETTLEBELLS 6.00-6.45pm	INDOOR CYCLING 6.00-6.45pm	CHI FIT 9.00-10.00am	KETTLEBELLS 9.00-9.45am
CHI FIT 7.00-8.00pm PILATES 8.00-9.00pm		PILATES 7.00-8.00pm	INDOOR CYCLING 7.00-7.45pm			INDOOR CYCLING 10.00-10.45am

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LEGS, BUMS & TUMS  
ZUMBA / CIRCUITS  
INDOOR CYCLING  
KETTLEBELLS  
INSANITY

TREADMILLS  
CYCLES  
VIRTUAL TRAINING  
FREE WEIGHTS  
RESISTANCE MACHINES  
CONCEPT II ROWERS  
CROSS-TRAINERS

FOOTBALL  
BADMINTON  
CRICKET  
HOCKEY  
BASKETBALL  
NETBALL



**Opening Hours:**

Monday-Friday 5.30-9.30pm  
Saturday & Sunday 8.30am-1.00pm

**EXETER ROAD, TEIGNMOUTH**  
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# I Love Reading!



By Bruce Snell Year 4

Why do I love reading? Well, I love reading because it helps you to learn new words and what those words mean.

I love reading because it is great for your brain – the more you read, the more you know.

I usually read Horrid Henry, I love those because they are really funny and they help you to be on the lookout for what your brother could do to you! But as I get older I am starting to like new books as well as Horrid Henry – sometimes I choose non-fiction books about history and science – the Romans are fascinating. Here's

a fact for you: The Roman Empire was the strongest empire of all. Did you know they invented some fantastic armour? That is part of what helped them overpower other empires and armies.

I also like to look through the dictionary because it helps you to spell new or tricky words, and it tells you what they mean. Comics and magazines – it doesn't matter what you read, just keep reading!

I usually find my books in the school Library – I do like to choose my own, but sometimes Mrs

Corbett and Miss Surtees help me because there are so many to choose from. There must be more than 2,000 books in the Library – there's enough for everyone in the whole entire school.

I worked really hard to learn to read – it's not always easy to learn a new skill, but I eventually got really good at reading, so never give up. And remember – it keeps you smart.

Happy reading!

By Bruce Snell Year 4

# “La Galette des Rois” (Kings’ Cake)

On the first week back after our Christmas break, Mr Barbot baked a traditional French cake for his year 9 class to celebrate a very popular French tradition: ‘La Galette des Rois’. The tradition celebrates the Epiphany (12 days after Christmas) and all over France families enjoy eating this cake on the 6th January and sometimes for the next week or so...!

Most French bakeries will have their windows full of Galettes during the month of January! ‘La Galette des Rois’ is a cake made of flaky puff pastry layers with a center of frangipane. According to tradition, the cake was baked to “draw the kings” to the Epiphany.



The exciting part of this tradition is the fact that a small porcelain trinket/figurine called “la fève”, is hidden in the cake before baking. To make sure that giving out the slices of cake is fair, it is traditional for the youngest person to go under the table and call out in turn who should get each slice. So in our class, Lili had to get under her desk and decide which student would get each slice (no cheating then!) The person who gets the fève in their slice becomes King or Queen for the day and has the opportunity of bossing the rest of the family about! A couple of paper crowns are included with each cake to crown the “king or queen”! Everyone enjoyed the cake (which was very tasty!) and students also translated the recipe from French into English in order to have a go at baking the cake at home for their families!

Tanya Landman (award winning author) visited us at Mill Lane to work with pupils across the school recently. She carried out creative workshops on animals with boys in KS1 and detectives in KS2, which they thoroughly enjoyed and sparked their imaginations. We had a whole school assembly where we were all captivated by her retelling of stories of her children being younger and extracts from her books.



## TANYA LANDMAN





ALFIE MOFFITT  
2015 - 2016

'Alfie Moffitt, Year 3 Awarded Best Endeavour in the Arts' – School awards

The charity provides The Helen Foundation Award for "Best Endeavour in the Arts" to every school in Teignbridge that would like one for primary and secondary aged young people. The prizes are awarded annually by each school following its own judgements as to which young person has consistently tried hardest to achieve their aims in a field of the arts to include performing and visual arts, media arts, design arts or any combination of these.

This year the award went to Alfie Moffit for his outstanding contribution to the Christmas concert held at Exeter Road. Alfie stood very confidently in front of over 200 hundred parents and children, and sang a solo. All of the children involved in the production performed amazingly, but Alfie went the extra mile!



# SUPER STAR!



Year 5 are currently working the topic “To infinity and beyond”. During this topic the class will be learning about our solar system and space exploration. To gain extra knowledge, Class teacher Mrs Dudley took her class to @ Bristol science Museum.

On arrival the children were given a short talk on safety and expectations while in the museum. We were all then given free time to explore the fantastic building and all of the exciting, highly interactive and hands on experiments. It was a huge delight to watch all of the children learning and experimenting

but most importantly, they were really having fun and enjoying themselves. Part of the day included a 3D show in the planetarium teaching us some of the interesting facts about our solar system. Some of the planets came so close it almost felt like you could touch them.

After lunch we were given time to explore the second floor of the building with even more experiments and stands to look at. We finished the day with an educational talk in the classroom.

It was simply amazing and I would highly recommend it for all ages!!

## Year 5 Visit to





# Bristol SCIENCE CENTRE





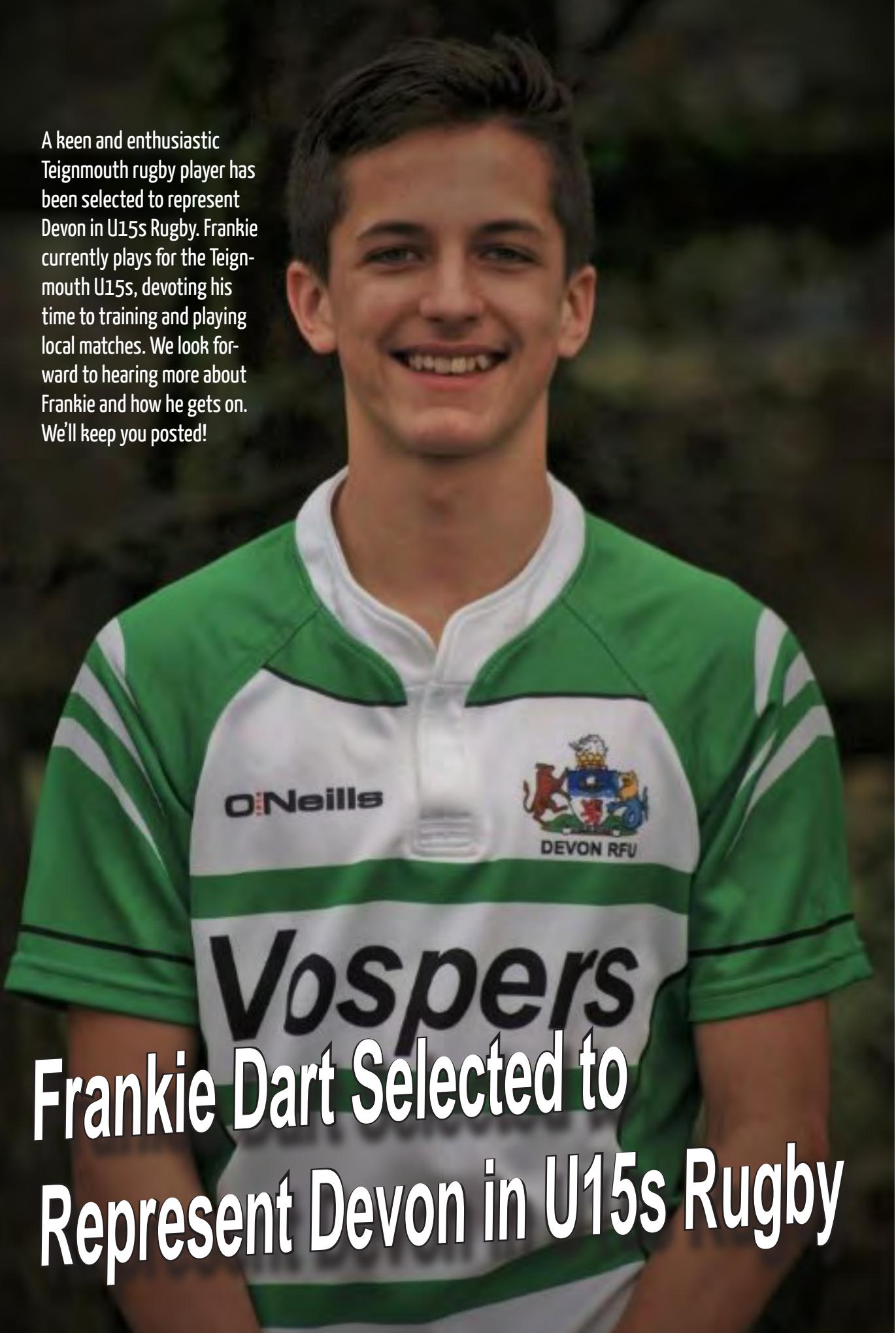
On Monday 29th February, 57 children from Year 5 embarked on a week-long adventure to Grenville House in Brixham for their residential. During the week, the children took part in many exciting and daring activities such as caving, canoeing, kayaking, raft building, climbing and even abseiling down an 80ft cliff! They endured the freezing-cold sea and a variety of weather conditions including high winds and hail but it all added to the fun! Delicious meals, a film-night and quiz night all added to the enjoyment. The children returned to their parents 5 days later full of amazing tales and just a little bit tired as were the staff that were lucky enough to join them for the week!

**FUN!**

## **Year 5 Residential**

**EXCITING!**





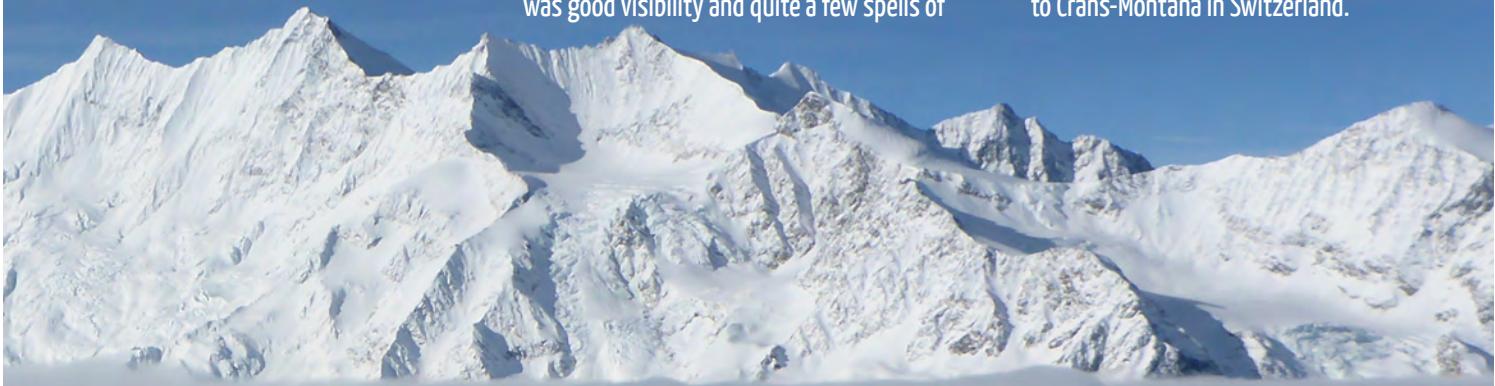
A keen and enthusiastic Teignmouth rugby player has been selected to represent Devon in U15s Rugby. Frankie currently plays for the Teignmouth U15s, devoting his time to training and playing local matches. We look forward to hearing more about Frankie and how he gets on. We'll keep you posted!

# Vospers Frankie Dart Selected to Represent Devon in U15s Rugby

# Saas Grund

27 pupils went to Saas Grund in Switzerland during the February half term holiday for the Teignmouth Community School Ski Trip. During the week the pupils either snowboarded or skied, learning from expert instructors for 5 hours a day. As we were arriving in resort they were in the middle of a heavy downfall of snow which made the snow conditions excellent for the week along with a few snow showers during the week. For most of the week despite being up to 3100m above sea level and even above the clouds there was good visibility and quite a few spells of

sunshine which made the views spectacular. Evening activities such as ice stock which is a game similar to curling, watching the local ice hockey match and tobogganing kept the pupils entertained in the evenings. There were prizes awarded for most improved and top snowboarder. The winners of these awards were Alfie Kelly-Stacey and Charles Bilham respectively. The top skier was James D'Allen and the biggest bail award went to Caitlin Jackson. The pupils had a fantastic time and said they would love to go on next year's trip to Crans-Montana in Switzerland.



# Ski Trip 2016



On Thursday 25th February 160 children from the Teignmouth Learning Community descended on TCS, Exeter Road for the Spring Music Festival. In the morning there were workshops on djembe drumming, samba, violins, folk dance and brass instruments. In the afternoon there was a rehearsal in the Arts Centre Auditorium and

## SPRING MUSIC FESTIVAL

then in the evening everybody came back for a massive concert. This was a huge hit and we managed to fill the theatre with over 230 parents. This was our fifth festival and Kip Pratt is already planning the next one. Many thanks to Jo Lihou and Pat Saturley for their continued support of this event.





# The English Department

The English department have a GCSE Facebook page full of revision tips and links to YouTube sites.

Just search TCS Y11 English and request to become a member.

Any questions, come and find Mrs Palmer in U6.



"2016: Ice Skating Trip

After a demanding first term, the Sixth Form visited the Plymouth Pavilions for an evening of ice skating. Many hadn't been before but still braved the ice and enjoyed – aside from a few scratches and bruises – the indubitable pleasure of skating. Even those who were more confident were taught a few tricks as Pavilion staff demonstrated how to skate backwards and to pirouette with stability. A few falls, and a series of ego adjustments later, the evening was all too rapidly over. A fantastic break from work and another successful trip. "

We were delighted to welcome the amazing author John Townsend to speak at Teignmouth Community School on 26th February 2016. He entertained the whole of Year 7, their English teachers and library staff. He was so full of interesting facts and scary stories that Mrs Masterman, the librarian, forgot to take any photographs of the visit in the auditorium! John believes books to be magical, and he certainly conveys some of that magic to his audience through the stories that he tells. He collects stories from everywhere, some even from individuals that he meets on school visits! He knows a huge amount of information about animals, science, crime, and sport. He likes to keep people on the edge of their seat – and he certainly managed this by talking about his books within the context of the top phobias that people have...

For example fear of spiders, snakes, heights etc. He told us of the real story of the Australian boy on a camping trip with his Dad who narrowly avoided being swallowed by a snake, and that the publisher would not allow him to put this story in a non-fiction book about these reptiles because it was too scary!

He drew students into the talk by asking whether they had found any books that had made them cry, or laugh out loud, or scream with terror. But, best of all he made everyone laugh with his enthusiasm, his impressions and funny accents and he even used some brilliant sound effect gadgets to add to the atmosphere.

Students then had the chance to meet and chat to John in the library at break time. He was very easy to talk to and happy to sign any books that were purchased by individual students. The library has over 50 of his books both fiction and non-fiction and many of these are now being read by students who have been enthused by his visit. We will be getting John back later this year in early June to entertain and inspire our Year 8s, and Mill Lane classes in Year 5 and 6 will also be able to meet him.

## Author John Townsend Visit

