



Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

Autumn term 2 is always a busy one with a few celebrations to get under our belts before the big one. We have taken every chance to be out and about in the glorious sunshine and enjoy the array of colours that autumn brings.

Obviously, I will be updating you with any changes we make in school as a result of the second lock down. We will need to limit or stop some of our community and extra curricular visits, but for everything else it's business as it was before half term with no change to pupils who can attend, which is really good news.

## Pumpkin picking at Darts Farm



Class 9 enjoyed a sunny walk followed by pumpkin picking this week, thanks to Darts Farm in Topsham. They brought their pumpkins back to school and had fun carving these faces before taking them home. Some children relished the opportunity to dress up and I particularly enjoyed some of the scary face masks. (I don't need one!)

## Bookworm and superstar awards



We welcomed new pupil Freddie to Mill Water this week, and he did so well trying his best to settle in that he got 'star of the week'! Well done to you. Have a well-deserved weekend and we look forward to seeing you next week. We also welcomed Jessica, Amy and Abbie to Mill Water and I look forward to hearing about their successes next week.

Scarlett in Class 10 was awarded a 'bookworm' certificate for amazing reading; beautifully read and mostly fluent.

Josh received a 'superstar' award for his own 'personal care target' as well as starting a new pocket money job at home where he walks his dog with his brother while keeping himself and his brother safe.

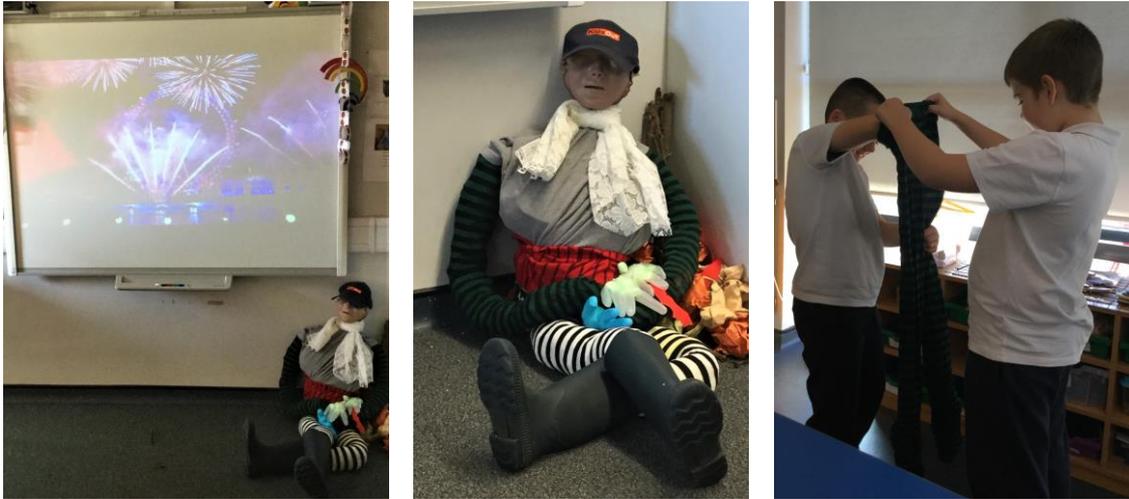
## Remembrance Sunday



Despite Remembrance Sunday activities being scaled back this year, we as a school community have continued to talk about the significance of this important anniversary in class. Our Class 7 pupils spent the week doing activities that commemorated the fallen, culminating with these great displays.

Pupils in Class 12 designed and made this beautiful laminated wreath, which will be placed next week alongside the epitaph at East Budleigh memorial. It is currently more important than ever that we stay connected to our local community. While there will be no Remembrance Sunday ceremonies this year, it has been suggested that people can observe the 2 minutes' silence by standing outside their properties at the appointed hour of 11 am on Sunday.

## Bonfire night celebrations



Fireworks and Guy Fawkes celebrations came to Class 8. Pupils made rockets and their own guy, complete with his own 'fire' to sit on.

## Exciting fundraising news!



We are delighted to announce that Mill Water has been awarded an extremely generous **£19,400** grant from the **Clare Milne Trust**. This will fund brand new sensory integration and soft play rooms. The Trust, based in Otterton, supports people living with disabilities in Devon and Cornwall and its Trustees said that our project is exactly the sort of initiative that they seek to support. Clare Milne was the granddaughter of AA Milne and had a disability. So we are thinking of a Winnie the Pooh theme! For details about the Trust see: <https://www.claremilnetrust.com/> We are now finalising designs for the new rooms, which will provide pupils with a whole wealth of sensory, physical, social and therapeutic benefits.

Thank you to everyone who bought **Otter Valley Rotary Club** raffle tickets. We sold £242.00 worth of tickets, 90% of which will be donated to Mill Water. The grand draw will be on November 24<sup>th</sup>. Good luck!

And we are also grateful to **Tesco in Exmouth** which has donated several bags of stationary, 35 small paddling pools (useful for messy play, bucket sessions and for the summer months), and a load of torches for exploring and use in classroom 'dens' and sensory stimulation activities.



Reader of the Week!  
**Mackenzy** for self-correction and sounding out words with new middle sounds.

Writer of the Week!  
**Jessica B** (Class 5) even though it's her first week at Mill Water

## Signposting

<b>Dates for your diary</b>			
What	When	Time	Where
Children In Need Activities	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	All week	Mill Water School
Occasional Day	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2020		
Occasional Day	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> November 2020		
Last day of term	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	2.15 pm	