



## Bovey Tracey Academy: Providing the gateway to fulfil an ambitious, flourishing future

### Letter from Ms Prywata 9.10.24

Dear Families,

I'm excited to share the latest updates from our Academy.

We have had an excellent start to term and I can't believe what we have already achieved as a school community.

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#### **Stronger together:**

We continue to grow as a staff team and have welcomed Bryony Wells this term in Brimley class. We have also welcomed our Reception new starters who have really shown resilience through their excitement of starting school. It should not be underestimated what a change this is for a 4 or 5 year old! New routines, new classrooms, new friendships, new teachers, new uniforms...the list goes on. We are all incredibly proud of how the children have settled into school life. I would also like to thank you as parents as you have also shown resilience at what can be a very tricky time. The children have enjoyed meeting their year 6 buddies who guide them through assembly and it has been a privilege seeing our school values shown.

**Compassion** – Our value this half term. We have been looking as a whole school at what compassion means, how we exhibit this both within ourselves, outwardly to others and outwards to nature and beyond. The children have had some great conversations about this. The school council will be leading on our next challenge which I set the children on Friday. Have a look at the picture below:



We discussed this lots and have decided to make a Kindness board in school. The idea is that children/adults leave a post it on the board with kind ideas, words, phrases etc. Then, if someone needs a bit of a boost, they simply take one from the board and put it in their pocket. They can then look at it during the day to help them if needed.

We also discussed the need for people to not just take for the sake of taking and, as Murphy

in Year 3 so eloquently put it..."Everyone just takes it if they need it but if they don't then just leave it otherwise there will just be an empty board and someone who really needs it can't then have it!"

We discussed the need for everyone to give something at some point when they can as it will help others.

The school council will update in the next newsletter about the success!

**Traffic outside school** – This is to remind you that the road outside school is **closed to motorised traffic between 8.25AM until 9.05AM and also 2.45PM until 3.25PM Monday to Friday during term time**. This is regardless of whether the bollards are in place or not.

This closure applies to everyone, with a few exceptions that have been prearranged with the county council. We have had occasions where blue badge holders have not been able to park.

The road closure supports road safety and helps to address traffic concerns outside school and encourages more people to think differently about how they travel to school. This creates a healthier, more liveable street environment around the school and local community, encouraging a reduction of car use and making the vicinity of the school community safer and cleaner, improving the quality of life for everyone.

### **Sense of Belonging:**

Our swift but carefully managed school improvement journey continues and more staff, both teachers and learning support assistants, have had the opportunity to work alongside colleagues across the Trust to further their professional development but also to seek connections and meet people.

### **Pumpkin soup!**

A big thank you to last year's gardening club who provided the pumpkins for Reception to harvest and make into soup....apparently a tastier batch this year!



**Staff cake bake for Hospiscare** – In memory of our dear friend and colleague Tina Burkitt, we organised a cake bake for staff to raise money for Exeter Hospiscare. We are pleased to share that we raised £158, which will go directly towards providing specialist care and support to patients and their families. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this important cause and helped us honour Tina's memory in such a meaningful way

### **Year 6 Buddies**

Our new reception children have partnered up with our year 6 children- each reception child has a year 6 buddy. The year 6 children have already got to know and support their buddy by reading stories, playing games and accompanying them to our school assemblies.

### **Realise the possible:**

#### **Physical Education**

We have welcomed Saints Southwest to lead our staff team for PE. As well as offering great professional development for our teachers, you will have already seen the clubs they are offering. We continue to be part of South Dartmoor Sports Partnership for one more year as we had already committed to this partnership. It has taken a few weeks to link our new sports coach to the partnership and to find a PE lead at school. This has now been sorted and so we will be looking to access events from now on. We need to balance when the events are as we are also developing as a whole school and need to avoid clashing of dates.

#### **Choir**

This is open to anyone in Years 3 to 6. It takes place in the studio on Monday from 8am. If you would like to join, please see Mrs Downton who will provide more details.

**Removing barriers:** To place the highest priority on our most vulnerable pupils so that they progress in their learning alongside their peers.

#### **Bovey 50 Pledge**

Every child in school now has a Bovey 50 passport! 50 skills and activities to complete before they leave our school. FOBS have very kindly offered to fund specific aspects of this and as we go through the year, you will hear of the wonderful opportunities your child is having. All Key Stage 2 for example

are travelling to see the opera next week!

Over this academic year we will be including a range of activities from the Bovey 50 passport that the children will be able to tick off.

### **Cycling Proficiency**

25 children have passed their cycling course in the first few weeks of term. They are able to cycle safely on the roads in our town, so huge congratulations to our Year 6 pupils.

### **Playground Workers**

Mrs Bright has been working alongside our Year 5 and 6 pupils to train them as playground champions, referees, reading advocates and more! This enables us to provide a wide variety of activities for all our children, including lego, colouring, sports challenges, basketball, and football skills.

### **Finally :**

I have been asked to contribute to a Trust Newsletter which you will all receive. Whilst writing it I reflected with pride how much we are transforming as a school. My section is as follows however please note every contributor had a word limit of 250! Mine started at 450 as I had lots of great things to say but I stuck to the rules and hit 250 words exactly. I thought you would like a preview:

### **Bovey Tracey Academy**

#### **Flourishing pupils**

We continue to prioritise care and well-being of our children and families. Our children continue to be happy coming to school and are creative and compassionate. They are a delight, making our Academy an exciting place to be.

#### **Flourishing Headship**

By working alongside headteachers across the Trust and joining this professional network where knowledge and experience is shared, it is an exciting and empowering place to be.

Working closely alongside an Associate School Improvement partner, we have quickly aligned to LAP policies and practices. No more working alone! The 'heavy lifting' is done by an amazingly talented and supportive team who lead on Finance, Personnel, IT infrastructure and Premises. My focus is now on Teaching and Learning which is where my heart and passion firmly sits – *we are stronger together*.

#### **Flourishing staff**

We have implemented Read, Write Inc across the school - a powerful approach to phonics as well as streamlining our approach to teaching and learning, implementing whole class reading and adopting a new maths approach. This has provided clarity, confidence and empowerment for leaders. Our outcomes will reflect this as we continue *removing barriers* enabling all children to achieve well.

#### **Flourishing Community**

Continuing to work closely with parents, FOBS and governance beyond our school, the opportunities for our children are endless. The Bovey 50 Pledge is a great example of extra opportunities for all of our children. All of these lead to:

***[Bovey Tracey Academy – Providing the gateway to fulfil an ambitious flourishing future](#)***

Thank you for all your continued support. As always, any questions, please catch me at the gate or send in an email.

We look forward to continuing our school improvement journey with you all alongside.

Best Wishes,  
Louise Prywata

### **Term Dates 2024-2025:**

**Autumn Term: Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> September - Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2024  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November - Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

**Spring Term: Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January - Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

**Summer Term : Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2025  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2025**