

The Beacon

Academic Year 2017/18

Issue No: 15

Date 5th Jan 2018

The Beacon at a Glance

- **Year Group News** – Find out what has been going on.
- **Headteacher's News** – Happy New Year
- **Other news** – Music News, Meerkats Group

Headteacher's News

Happy New Year to you all! It's been a short but very positive week in school. As usual, year groups have begun this term with what we call a 'WOW' starter; an exciting and engaging day of activities to kick-start their new topics. I received a lovely email from a parent yesterday saying how her boys had returned home with one talking about dinosaur fossils and the other Antarctica, having spent the day exploring these in an engaging and hands-on way. Children tend to absorb information best when they're enjoying their learning. It was a great start to the term. I do also wish to say 'thank you' to all those parents who have emailed me with their very supportive and understanding remarks regarding the news of my departure at the end of this year. It was a difficult decision and it's times like this, when children are really buzzing with their learning, that I'll miss the most. This is a great school and a great community, and I'm proud of the staff we have here because, in my experience, they don't come much better than this lot!

Foundation News

Happy New Year to you all. It was lovely to see the children returning this week full of news about their fun at Christmas. Next week we will be talking about Winter and introducing our new focus author 'Julia Donaldson. Please remember to return PE kits. Thanks

Year 1 News

Welcome back! It has been a wild two days in Year 1 as we have started to explore our new topic 'Into The Wild!' We received a special message from Andy the explorer to begin learning all about wild animals.

Year 2 News

This week, you may have heard the breaking news that Year 2 uncovered an enormous dinosaur bone in the outside area! After a little commotion, the children put their detective work to the test when asking and writing super questions about their discovery. What an interesting start to our new topic! Have a great weekend.

Year 3 News

Wow! The children have all made a great start to 2018 in Year 3 and have all settled well into their classes. Our 'Adventure Day' focusing on various outdoor challenges was the highlight of this week. We hope you all had a relaxing Christmas break. Enjoy your weekend.

Key Diary Dates

Mon 12th – Fri 16th Feb Inc. – Half term

Fri 16th March – **Non-pupil day**

Fri 30th Mar – 16th Apr Inc. – Easter holidays

Mon 7th May – Bank holiday

Mon 28th May – Bank holiday

Tues 29th May – Fri 1st June Inc. – Half term

Fri 20th July – End of term - 2:30pm finish (**Yr6 finish at 1.30pm**)

Mon 23rd July – First day of the summer holidays

Year 4 News

Welcome back to school and a Happy New Year to you all! The children have settled back into school and 4M and 4P are already really enjoying their swimming lessons. 4M and 4P are swimming at the Life Centre until Friday 19th January so if you could ensure they bring their swimming bags, costumes and towels every day until then. A reminder that all children need to have their hair tied back and earrings removed before swimming. Have a fantastic weekend!

Year 5 News

We've had an exciting start to our term learning all about Shackleton's adventures. Have a look at the website for photos of what we've been up to! Could we have all PE kits in for Monday please. Thank you!

Year 6 News

Welcome back! We hope you had an enjoyable break. Can we please ask that you continue to check your child's homework to ensure it is completed, marked and up to date. A new homework timetable has been handed out.

Music News

Restart dates for Choirs: Thursday Choir is Thursday 11th Jan; Year 2 and 3 is Tuesday 16th January
Steel Pan- Monday 8th January (Y6) or Wednesday 10th January (Y5)

Instrumental lessons will restart the week commencing 8th January apart from brass, which restarts on Wednesday 17th January. Payment requests for lessons have now gone out. Please pay promptly.

Starting soon, we are pleased to offer singing lessons. Please have a look at the flyer at the end of the Beacon and contact the tutor directly if you are interested.

Meerkats Group

Meerkats Group - for children who have experienced separation within their family. A new group will be starting this term. More information is available on the school website under pupils section.

If you feel your child may benefit from this group, or you would like further information please email janegilbert@mpsplymouth.net or call 216160 and speak to Jane Gilbert (Parent Support Advisor) or Julie Spencer (Learning Mentor) by Friday 12th January.



From January 2018, singing lessons are available at Montpelier Primary School on Monday afternoons and after school.

Singing Lessons

Suitable for all ages, abilities and styles.

Cost: £65 for 10 x 30 minute group lessons

£150 for 10 x 30 minute individual lesson.



If interested please contact the tutor direct:

Clare Lash-Williams

Email clarelashy@yahoo.co.uk

Mobile 07733 040500

