The Beacon

Academic Year 2020/21

Issue No: 10

Date 27th November 2020

Hello from Mr West

My week started with some wonderful news, news that I am going to share with you today.

Through the chaos of our current predicament I was greeted by an email from a football coach about a child attending our school - a child who is going above and beyond with his teammates to raise awareness (and money) for a worthy cause.

It was brought to my attention that Ewan, a child in Year 6, and after speaking to his mum, I know that this has turned into a family event, with Mum, Dad, Kyle (Ewan's brother) - in Year 3 - and the family dog also taking part.

Ewan's football team, Elburton Villa u11s have taken on a unique challenge. The team, throughout the final two weeks of the second national lockdown, are committed to running just over 1 mile every day to raise money for MIND - a mental health charity. The team are raising awareness of the importance and need of mental health support, with the daily exercise also positively impacting on their own health and wellbeing. Their challenge is to run a distance equivalent to running from their home pitch in Elburton to Wembley Stadium (which is approximately 215 miles). At the point of reading the email the team had collectively run over 60 miles and had raised over £1000 for their chosen charity.

I will share that I was filled with pride when reading the message for the first time, knowing that one of our own was part of something so inspiring. Something that at the current time restores faith, that even at times of difficulty, great things can be accomplished.

For anyone that is interested in tracking the progress of the team I have included a link for you to follow: <u>https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-display/showROFundraiserPage?pageId=1215898</u>

I do hope you have a great weekend - I can't quite believe it is almost December.

School Term Dates for 2020/2021

(In light of the current situation dates might be subject to change) Tues 1st – Fri 4th Dec – Christmas Lunch Mon 14th Dec – Christmas Jumper Day – full mufti Fri 18th Dec – last day of term Mon 21st Dec – Thurs 31st Dec – Christmas Holidays Fri 1st Jan 2021 – Bank holiday Mon 4th Jan – Non-pupil day Mon 15 – Fri 19th Feb Inc. – Half term Fri 2nd Apr – Bank holiday Mon 5th Apr – Bank holidav Tues 6th – Fri 16th Apr – Easter holidays Mon 3rd May – Bank holiday Fri 31st May – Bank holiday Tues 1st - Fri 4th June Inc. - Half term Fri 25th June – non-pupil day Fri 23rd July – Last day of term (1:30pm finish for Year 6 / 2:15pm finish for Foundation through to Year 5) Mon 26th July – start of the summer holidays CALENDAR

Covid Update - Reminders

Please continue to help us to keep your children, and our staff safe.

Face masks

Can we remind parents to wear their face covering when they come on to site for drop off and pick up at the start and end of the day, unless you are exempt from wearing one.

Limit of one parent at a time on site please.

Can we also remind parents not to come as pairs of adults to do the school run, and also to stay 2 metres from members of staff, and each other, when you are here. We appreciate that this is particularly tricky for parents of the youngest children when they are managing the handover with the team.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Have you booked your space yet?

Join us for an extra special Christmas event this year: Miss JR's Christmas Zoom Family Singalong to be held on Monday 7th December from 6.30pm to approx 7.15pm.

Normally, at this time of year our pupils would be rehearsing for the Choirs' Carol Service, Carols Round the Tree etc and we're all going to really miss those special opportunities to be together!

However- we don't want anyone to miss out on singing those Christmas favourites, so please join Miss JR for fun, games and our favourite Christmas songs!

Dress up in your Christmas finery or nativity outfit (optional!), grab some snacks or drinks and enjoy some family fun time! Suitable for all ages; little ones, ex pupils who'd like to reminisce, grown-ups, pets- there will be something for everyone! We have space for 100 families on this zoom event, so if you'd like to join us, please email admin@mpsplymouth.net with the subject line: zoom singalong. We will then be in touch nearer the time with codes.

Hope to see you on the 7th!

Miss JR



Please support our PTFA Christmas raffle, there are lots of fantastic prizes available.

Tickets are available through SchoolMoney - shop items.

If you are unable to purchase tickets through SchoolMoney you can pay money directly into the PTFA bank account

Account number: 01036006

Sort code: 30-96-68, using your child's name as the reference.

You can then confirm this by email to ptfa@mpsplymouth.net