

Deputy Headteacher News

What an incredible start to the new academic year it has been. I am heartened and encouraged to see the children display a 'can do' attitude as they have settled into their new classes, new routines and built relationships with their new teachers.

Here at Montpelier Primary School the children's behaviour and the promotion of what is expected by all staff is exemplary. An ethos like this does not happen by chance, it takes hard work, patience and understanding from everyone involved. And it is my opinion that credit for this should be given to the children, you as parents and the school's dedication, commitment and drive to model and implement the standard of behaviour that children at Montpelier are invited to show.

The school has an established behaviour policy and children are aware of the expectations placed upon them. The children are engaged and motivated by the gold system for rewarding positive behaviour and as you are all aware significant achievements are rewarded and celebrated.

A big thank you must be given to all for acting as brilliant ambassadors at such an important time of the school year. The start of a new year brings significant change for everyone, but we must remember, that for a small number of children, this change is huge. The foundation children, over the past two weeks, have taken their first tentative steps into school as they begin their journey as part of the Montpelier family. They have, as expected, made the step brilliantly and we look forward to welcoming all of the Foundation stage children for their first full day with us on Monday. Have a great weekend. See you all again on Monday for the start of week four.

Football

Wednesday 21st September 2016 - a great start to our series of Primary and Special Schools Football at Goals. 6 teams took part and the standard was great. Teams from Montpelier, Plympton St. Maurice, St. Peters and Whitleigh all came along to take part in our friendly competition. It was a round robin event with all of the teams playing each other. 5 points were allocated for a win, 3 for a draw and 1 point for a loss. Although this was a competition, the ethos, as always, is more about team work, respect, friendship and determination and there was plenty of this on display. Everyone who took part received a well-deserved certificate but there was also one medal awarded to one member of every team for demonstrating the qualities mentioned above. Congratulations to everyone who took part today – you all played so well and showed outstanding respect for yourselves and others. Our overall winners were Montpelier 'A' team – well done to all of you. Close behind them were Montpelier 'B' – only 3 points behind their class mates. Well done to everyone who took part today.

Year 4 News

We have been really impressed by year 4's focus and enthusiasm for their learning this week. In Maths we have been rounding numbers and investigating Roman Numerals. In English the children have really enjoyed reading and discussing the story 'Flat Stanley The Great Egyptian Grave Robbery.' We have been predicting what might happen and discussed the main parts of the story. During our SPaG lesson we were investigating different types of punctuation and prefixes.

We look forward to seeing you on our Year 4 Meet the Teacher day, on Monday 26th September at 5pm. Enjoy your weekend!

Diary Dates

Fri 7th Oct 2016

- PTFA AGM

Fri 14th Oct 2016

- Yr5 parents - Invitation to come into school during Golden Learning Time

Thurs 20th Oct 2016

- Foundation & KS1 individual photos (family groups from 8am)

Mon 24th to Fri 28th Oct 2016

- Half term

Mon 31st Oct 2016

- KS2 individual photos (family groups from 8am)

Fri 2nd Dec 2016

- 3:15 to 5pm Christmas Fair

Thurs 8th December 2016

- Christmas lunch

Mon 19th Dec '16 - Tues 3rd Jan Inc.

- Christmas Holidays

Mon 13th - Fri 17th Feb 2017 Inc.

- Half term

Mon 3rd - Tues 18th Apr 2017 Inc.

- Easter holidays

Mon 1st May 2017

- Bank holiday

Sun 21st - Fri 26th May 2016

- Bude Residential (Yr 6)

Mon 29th May - Fri 2nd June '17 Inc.

- Half term

Tues 25th July 2017

- Leavers' assembly
- Last day of term 2:30pm finish (Yr 6 finish at 1.30pm)

Wed 26th July 2017

- Start of the summer holidays



Monty's Den

Monty's Den is our onsite after school care. Call Tammy on 07522 429599 for more information or to book a session. Sessions start from £6.50. Flexible booking available www.thedens.co.uk

After school Clubs

Wednesday 28th September Year 5/6 - netball

Friday 30th September Year 3 – multi skills / football

Monday 3rd October year 5/6 - indoor athletes

Foundation News

Our new classes in Foundation have been fantastic and started school in such a positive way. They have learnt lots of new routines and our school rules. We have already been able to give out the first certificates for those reaching 5 house tokens- Brilliant! They have been busy exploring the different classes and outdoor areas. Next week the children will be meeting 'their other half' and staying all day. We look forward to seeing you join them for lunch if you are able to.

Year 1 News

It's been another busy week in Year 1 this week! We've enjoyed practising our cursive handwriting outdoors using paintbrushes and chalks, created our own giants inspired by the BFG and had a blast from the past when learning about technology from many years ago. It was great to see lots of parents at our Meet the Teacher event. If you couldn't make it, or need any additional information, a letter will be sent home with further details. Thank you for your support with reading at home, we love hearing from the children about the books they've enjoyed reading with you! Have a fantastic weekend!

Year 2 News

Firstly, a huge thank you for coming to our 'Meet the Teacher' event. It was great to see so many of you there. It has been another fantastic week in year 2 where the children have been delving deeper into our rainforest topic and locating them on a world map. The great response we have had with the 'Big Maths, Beat That' homework has really helped boost the children's confidence and their scores! Have a great weekend.

Year 3 News

We've had a great week in year 3 working very hard to improve our conjunctions and sentence openers. In Maths, we have been looking at representing numbers. We would like to thank everybody for their attendance at our meet the teacher and we look forward to a very successful year. The new reading challenge has started off very well and children have risen to the challenge fantastically, the first stars have already been awarded. Many Thanks the year 3 team.

Year 5 News

The children have been working hard this week, continuing with their Moonfleet narrative story and working with negative and positive numbers along with square and cubed numbers in Maths too.

Thank you to those parents/carers who have returned the permission slips for the forthcoming Buckland Abbey trip. Please return any outstanding slips as soon as possible to the class teacher. If you require another letter we will gladly issue another copy. Class 5M will be visiting on Thursday 3rd November with 5S on Friday 4th November. Class 5P will be split over the two days with notification two weeks before the trip takes place.

Keep practising your times-tables and reading at home.

Year 6 News

What a wonderful time we had yesterday dressing up for our 'Fight for Freedom' topic! Thank you so much for the effort and support you gave the children in preparing their costumes. They looked fabulous! Great fun was had by all and the children learnt so much in the different activities they took part in. They learnt all about the history of slavery, the Underground Railroad, and took part in drama activities that helped them to understand the feelings of a slave. They even made clay pots using a style employed by slaves.

In our Art topic we are studying the work of Picasso. Please could you start to collect any glossy magazines that you might have. We especially need pictures of faces to make Picasso style collages soon.

Could we also ask that you make sure children have access to a water bottle. We have found that too much learning time is wasted heading to the water fountain. Particularly on PE days. Thank you!

Staff Car Park

May we remind parents that the car park in North Down Road is for STAFF ONLY. As such the gate will be locked at 8:30am each morning. We would also like to remind parents that they should keep to the pedestrian areas around the carpark and not walk across the carpark itself.

Jam Band Families

We would like to invite you to visit our new cafe which has been partly funded from an MOD grant for which we made a successful bid last year. We would like input from you as to how you would like to see it used to support service families.

Please feel free to visit from 3:30pm on Wednesday 28th September to coincide with collecting the children from Jam Band at 4.15pm. We look forward to showing you our amazing new facility.

Music News

Last reminder for instrumental tuition: Please pay by Monday or lessons will cease until payment is received. Many thanks to all parents who have paid promptly.

Thursday Choir got off to a great start this week. Unfortunately it is cancelled next Thursday as Miss JR has to go to some training. We will meet again on Thursday 6th October.

Illness

The school should be notified on the first day of absence, for whatever reason, for a child's absence. All absences must be accounted for by letter, telephone or in person. Please expect a call/text from one of our Administrators if we do not receive a call explaining the absence first thing on that first day. There is a dedicated absence answer-phone so messages can be left 24 hours a day.

If your child has had diarrhoea or has been vomiting in the past 24 hours, please keep him/her at home until the child has been symptom-free for 48 hours.

If your child is experiencing itchy, watery eyes (often symptoms of conjunctivitis), please keep him or her home until the condition has improved (no pus or crusting) and treatment has begun.

If your child exhibits an unexplained skin rash, again please keep him or her home until the condition has been evaluated and treated. E.g. impetigo - lesions must be crusted or healed, no wetness or pus. For chickenpox - all blisters must be crusted; period of exclusion from school is a minimum of 5 days from the onset of the rash.