

The Beacon

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Deputy Headteacher News

Every day I am astonished by the children at Montpelier, they are an absolute pleasure and make coming into work everyday something to look forward to. I would like to say a huge well done to all the children and staff in the EYFS for the brilliant performance of 'What the ladybird heard'. The enthusiasm shown by the children was a pleasure to see and the dance moves were something to behold. I know the children had a wonderful time performing for you, I just hope you enjoyed it as much as they did. As we approach the end of term I find myself reflecting on the events of the last six weeks. The children have demonstrated great determination, resilience and perseverance over the last term. Our athletics squads have broken records, we have competed it regional football competitions, attended numerous festivals, received defibrillation training, held a 50 Things 'mud' day and so much more. There has been laughter, smiles, a few tears, but the attitude to come in and give it everything really stands out as we approach a well-deserved break. Have a great half term and we will do it all again next term, starting on February 22nd.

HeartSWell

It is a proven fact that following a Cardiac Arrest the chance of survival decreases by 23% per minute. The UK Resuscitation Council suggests an AED should be available wherever medical treatment is more than 5 minutes away. This week the children have been shown the importance of the defibrillator and made aware that the AED is a portable defibrillator especially designed for people with no medical background. When applied to the victim, voice commands and screen messages will guide the user step-by-step through the process and its intelligent technology will only allow it to shock a 'shockable' heart rhythm. On the 11th February, to support the work we are doing with HeartSwell, Sarah Dormor, a Senior Resuscitation Officer from the Resuscitation and clinical Educators Department at Derriford Hospital, kindly gave her time to work and support our school. It is also important to say thank you for all of your support, it really does mean so much. I am currently in the process of counting the money raised for the 'Wear It Red' day and will share the total with you all as soon as I have it.

Drop-In Sessions - E-Safety team, Governing Body and ICT Staff

During the Parents Evenings on Tuesday 23rd, Wednesday 24th and Thursday 25th February (15:30 - 18:00) members of the E-Safety team, Governing Body and ICT Staff will be available outside the ICT suite.

Feel free to drop-in if you have any questions regarding E-Safety, would like to complete the Ofsted Parent View questionnaire (online) or have any issues with eSchools and School Money.

Foundation News

Mud, mud, glorious mud! Despite the weather, the children had a fantastic time outside creating mud faces, animals and cakes. Thank you to you all for coming to see the children in their performance this week. We hope you enjoyed it- they did so well learning the songs and Fri 25th Mar – Fri 8th Apr their lines and dances. Have an enjoyable half term and we look forward to seeing you all for the Parents evenings the first week back.

Year 1 News

What a fantastic first half of this Spring Term and we have many more exciting learning Mon 2nd May 2016 opportunities coming in the second part. We have our trip to Paignton Zoo and World Book Day where we will be learning all about Jack and the Beanstalk with Year 4! Have a wonderful break and we look forward to seeing you all hopefully with more sunshine.

Year 2 News

The children have had another busy week. On Monday, we were lucky enough to watch • Foundation's performance of What the Ladybird Heard - what a show! On Tuesday, 2P and 2S Mon 6th June 2016 were treated with some special visitors from Plymouth University. The classroom was transformed into ocean, arctic and woodland habitats for the children to explore. There are a selection of photos on eSchools. The children looked great in red, whilst raising some vital funds for our HeartSWell charity on Thursday. Finally, to encourage a love of exploring the great Wed 7th Sept 2016 outdoors, today we had an afternoon of muddy fun!

We look forward to seeing you all after a well-deserved half term break.

School Meals

Change of menu - Mon 22nd February 2016 will be as week 1 and NOT week 2 (Beef burgers and Bolognese and NOT cheesy wheels and fish pie) The remainder of the week will revert back to week 2.

Garden Club

Gardening Club will restart on Monday 22nd February (first day back after half term) all new members welcomed please see Castles for more Mrs lynnecastles@mpsplymouth.net.

Diary Dates

Mon 15th - Fri 19th Feb

Half term

Fri 4th Mar

Tempest Photography -Foundation & Yr6 Class **Group Photos**

Thursday 24th Mar 2016.

- 'Wear a Hat' Mufti
- Easter holidays

Mon 11th Apr 2016

Non pupil day

Bank holiday

Mon 30th May 2016

Bank holiday

Tues 31st May - Fri 3rd June Inc.

Half term

Non pupil day

Fri 22nd July 2016

Last day of term

First day of term

Tempest Photography 4th March

Foundation and Year 6 will be having their informal group photos taken on Friday 4th March.

Year 3 News

Yet another busy week - 'Safer Internet Day, Red Mufti Day and 50 Things along with writing our Extreme SW Guides, starting our round-the-world journeys and finding perimeter in Maths!! This half-term has flown by with lots achieved as always. Enjoy your half-term break as we have plenty more to do next term. We kick off with Parent Evenings (Wed 24th/Thursday 26th Feb -please book your appointment by E-schools), followed by World Book Day (3rd March) where we will be looking at The Three Little Pigs. Don't forget to keep reading and learning those Spotlight Spellings. Thank you again for all your support so far this year. Have a lovely halfterm. The Y3 Team

Year 4 News

Half term already! Year 4 have had a very busy few weeks. The children's writing is really taking shape and progress is definitely happening... we continue to be amazed by their writing skill! They do however need to continue practicing spellings and reading to an adult at home as much as possible. Maths skills continue to WOW us all, especially their fraction work this week. Timetables practice is still needed... Remind your child to log onto TT Rockstars! We hope that you continue to promote your child's learning at home and thank you for all your support. Have a great half term. The Year 4 Team.

Year 5 News

The Year 5 teachers have been impressed with the array of Viking projects brought in this week, and the amount of work which has gone into them. In class, the children have been completing their Kenning poems and undertaking a few assessments.

During the half-term break make sure you take every opportunity to read to an adult and record it in your reading record. It is also important that you continue to learn and practice your spellings next term as you all know how important your spelling ability is going to be! Enjoy the half-term break.

Year 6 News

Yesterday the children enjoyed learning the fast paced game of handball. Each class had a session with Darrel (a Plymouth Argyle coach) and in the afternoon we had a year group tournament. It was great fun and the children were fantastic. Today we all enjoyed getting muddy in the woods, working together to build dens. Thank you to all the parents that attended the SAT 's talk on Wednesday.

Music News

A reminder that if anyone wishes to stop instrumental lessons for their child, 6 weeks written notice is needed.

Please let Miss JR know via email jessrowe@mpsplymouth.net by Monday 15th February if you do not wish your child to continue after Easter. Thank you

Lost

Jack Colwill (2S) has lost his red 'George at Asda' coat. Size either 6 - 7 year old or 7 - 8 year old. Has Exp. 46 Mountain Explorer written on the front. There is also a pair of black gloves, with eyes on them, in the pocket. If you know of their whereabouts then please inform the school office.

School Games

Boccia - Congratulations to the teams that took part in last weeks Boccia festival, both team played extremely well showing great skill and sportsmanship. It was also fantastic to hear from the organisers that our children's behaviour and attitude was incredible. Well done.

Indoor Athletics - On Tuesday our year 5/6 athletes team completed in the level 2 competition after winning in our family heat. This event as always was going to be tough, the girls started strong with the up and over relay leaving the other teams in our heat at a standstill, while the boys were put to the test in the field events. Excellent effort by all athletes, the girls finished in joint 3rd overall with an incredible 152 point and the boys with 94 points. Well done team, finishing 7th overall.

Fusal - Yesterday the girl's year 5 Fusal team travelled to Paignton to continue with their success in the level 2 competition. With only 10 teams across Devon reaching this stage the girls had to put any nerves behind them, which they did. Winning all their pool games with ease and only conceding 1 goal. With confidence and superb team work winning the semi-final 2-0. The final was going to be tough, but with determination once again the team played outstandingly, but unfortunately losing 3-1. This is a huge achievement girls you should be very proud.

No athletics on Mondays after school, during the next term, rest and refuel yourself ready for the outdoor season.

A Plea from a Parent

Did you take photos of the Carol Service back in December? Eryn McGregor (6S) did a Reading at the Service but sadly the files have disappeared from her parent's computer. They are desperate for a record of this event. Please inform the school office if you can help. Thank you.

Street Jazz Year 2 and 3

Street Jazz starts again after half term on Friday 26th February and runs for 4 weeks. Sign up letters are available from the school office or to download from the school website.

Family Learning Fun Day

A Family Learning Fun Day aimed at families with primary aged children on the Wednesday of half term (17th February) 10:00 to 16:00 at Tothill Community Centre, Knighton Road, St Judes. All of the activities are free with resources provided but participants will need to bring a packed lunch and something to drink. All children should be accompanied by an adult for the day.

If you are interested you will need to either drop into the shop at Hyde Park House (Mutley Plain, opposite the Hyde Park pub) or phone 660713 to enrol for the day. You won't just be able to 'drop in' on the Wednesday at Tothill; it is an enrolment only event. Enrolment will close at 5.00 pm on Tuesday 16th February.

A plea from the school library.

The numbers of overdue library books seems to be ever increasing. I would be grateful if those of you with outstanding books could spare a little time over half term to have a thorough search at home and either return your books or pop in to see me and let me know if you haven't been able to find them. Thank you for your help.

School Librarian

Clothes for Canoes

Help Year 3 achieve their aim of going canoeing by donating the clothing items in the list below. Please place all clothes in a plastic bag and send in on Monday 7th March. Thanks in advance for your support.

WE DO ACCEPT:

