

The Beacon

Academic Year 2017/18

Issue No: 12

Date 1st Dec 2017

The Beacon at a Glance

- **Year Group News** – Find out what has been going on.
- **Headteacher's News** – MAT/TA restructure
- **Other news** – Netball, Fund-raising

Headteacher's News

Thanks to those who attended the parent's consultation meeting regarding the proposed merger between our Multi Academy Trust (The Inspiring Schools Partnership) and the Reach South MAT. It was a small turnout but we had a really good, robust discussion about the various pros and cons of joining together the two MATs. There was concern voiced regarding the recent TA restructure and the potential impact on the support for pupils across the school. Although, strictly speaking, the redundancies associated with this restructure are not as a result of the proposed merger, I did attempt to reassure those present that we are working hard to ensure the impact of losing those TAs is kept to an absolute minimum. Working alongside a group of other primary schools will bring many benefits in terms of sharing best teaching practice, pooling resources, organising collaborative working, shared projects, centralised back-office services, etc. ISP Trustees vote on the proposal to merge this coming Monday 4th December (during which I will communicate the opinions raised by parents). So I will be able to update you soon on developments. Have a great weekend.

Foundation News

It has been a great week watching the childrens confidence and bike skills grow over the week during our Balanceability sessions-Well Done Foundation. Next week we will be busy visiting the theatre, taking part in a Maths Fun Day and preparing for the Christmas Fair!

Year 1 News

Well it has been a busy time in Year 1 as we have been learning all about 'The Jolly Christmas Postman.' We have been using capital letters for names and places when writing sentences about characters. We have been shape spotters this week in Maths where we have been learning all about 2D and 3D shapes in particular how many vertices each shape has!

Thank you for all your replies so far for those who are attending our Christmas Play on Wednesday 13th December at either gam-10am or 2pm - 3pm.

Year 2 News

Year 2 have been very busy writing their reports all about their very own creature, as requested by Steve Backshall! The children have also enjoyed heading out into the forest to identify 'habitats' and 'micro-habitats' in science. Next week, we look forward to preparing something exciting in anticipation of the Christmas Fair! Have a fantastic weekend!

Year 3 News

Year 3 have had another exciting week of learning. In maths we have investigated the properties of angles, shapes and lines to create our own Kandinsky inspired picture. In English we have continued reading different forms of poetry and have even planned our own Stone Age poem. We are incredibly impressed with all of our homework projects we have received and thank everyone for their efforts and support at home. The year 3 team looks forward to seeing everyone next Tuesday morning for maths fun day!

Key Diary Dates

Thurs 7th Dec – Trutex pop-up shop 3pm

Fri 8th Dec – PTFA Christmas Fair

Mon 11th Dec – Carol Service, Mutley Baptist Church

Tues 12th Dec – 2pm Foundation Christmas Sing-along, mince pies and a cuppa.

Wed 13th Dec – Christmas Lunch

Wed 13th Dec – Service family Christmas event

Wed 13th Dec – Yr 1 Christmas Play 9-10am or 2-3pm

Wed 20th Dec 2017 – Tues 02nd Jan 2018 incl. - Christmas holidays

Wed 03rd Jan 2018 – Non-pupil day

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

Year 4 have had a great week! We have been busy exploring angles, mummification and the digestive system. On Monday, we have our second Egyptian Quest day and are very much looking forward to sharing our fantastic learning with you. If you are joining us, we will be in the KS2 Hall from 2:30-3:00pm. Have a fantastic weekend!

Year 5 News

Great excitement with our 'Moz the Monster' unit of work, as we have sent off the entries for the competition and we hope we might be lucky with some of our entries.

We have been using similes to help describe our monster, while in Maths we have begun to look at short division.

Enjoy the weekend and keep warm.

Year 6 News

Just a reminder that year 6 will be holding a meeting on Monday 4th December at 5:30pm. We will discuss how we are preparing the children for the tests. It would be very useful for parents of year 6 children to attend.

Fund Raising

Samuel Hengle and Cole Fisher from Yr 6 will be hosting a penalty shoot-out and kick up challenge in the playground by the school main entrance at the Montpelier PTFA Christmas Fayre next Friday. Funds raised will go towards a trip to Jersey next year where they will be representing Montpelier as part of the Plymouth Schools FA squad.

Netball News

Congratulations to the Netball team that competed in their first tournament on Wednesday. Playing 3 matches and won all 3. Fantastic teamwork, well done.

Friday, 8th December

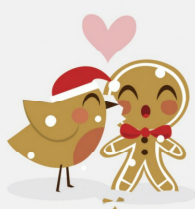


Montpelier Primary School's

Christmas Fair

3:15pm - 5:15pm

- * Crafts & Stalls
- * Santa's Grotto
- * Festive Games
- * Face Painting
- * Hot Dogs
- * Refreshments
- * Chocolate Tombola
- * Christmas Raffle



*A free event organised by your PTFA
for all the family to enjoy!*



Dear Parent/Carer,

The school has been given the opportunity to take part in a project that will run jointly between schools and Devon and Cornwall Police

Operation Encompass is the reporting to schools, prior to the start of the next school day, when a child or young person has been exposed to, or involved in, any domestic incident.

Operation Encompass will ensure that a member of the school staff, known as a Key Adult, is trained to allow them to liaise with the police and to use the information that has been shared, in confidence, while ensuring that the school is able to make provision for possible difficulties experienced by children, or their families, who have been involved in, or exposed to, a domestic abuse incident.

We are keen to offer the best support possible to all our pupils and we believe this will be extremely beneficial for all those involved. For more information about the project please visit <http://www.operationencompass.org/>.

Kind Regards

Mr. West
Deputy Head Teacher