



### Deputy Headteacher News Current Affairs – British Values

The deadly attacks in France on Friday 13th November left schools and parents around the world grappling with what to say to children, and how to say it. When our children returned to school this week, many of our teachers struggled to decide whether to discuss what happened in Paris. I'm sure many of you, our parents wondered whether to talk about the violence or how to explain it. From country to country, the topic was tackled in different, and similar, ways. As a school we joined the rest of our country in a moment of silence, standing alongside France to show our support and to honour the hundreds of people who were killed or injured while out simply enjoying a Friday evening.

Under the current framework the promotion of British values is a key driver in our everyday curriculum and it is important to remember that British values essentially are the cornerstones that individual who live in Britain adhere too. The language we hear from government is of 'promoting fundamental British values' and of young people 'accepting', 'respecting' and 'tolerating'. These are values that we have and will continue to promote and encourage at Montpelier. At this time it should also be remembered that these values are shared with many other countries across our world and that this has been evident as this past week has unfolded.

### Social Media Accounts

As you all know the past week is nationally recognised as Anti-Bullying Week. The children have been learning about what bullying is and how we can work together to eliminate it. The children do have an understanding that bullying takes many forms and are aware that it is especially prevalent online in society today. From conversations with the children, parents and colleagues it has become increasingly evident that a number of children at our school have social media accounts. I would like to bring to your attention that the minimum age to open an account on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, Tumblr, Kik, and Snapchat is 13. YouTube requires account holders to be 18, but a 13-year-old can sign up with a parent's permission. This is to create an environment that protects children from data tracking and 13 is generally considered to be the age when children start developing a broader understanding of the world around them and, along with that, a better sense of what's appropriate to share online.

### Foundation News

There have been many sightings of a Gruffalo this week and the children have really enjoyed retelling the story with puppets and masks that they have made. You should have all received your Tapestry Log in details to access your child's Learning Journey this week. Thank you for the feedback we have been sent, any problems please let us know. A date for your diaries: The children will begin learning songs for our Christmas Sing Along which will be held on Tues 15th Dec at 2.15pm.

### Year 1 News

What a webtastic week! The children were excellent when Spider-Man visited especially when they asked him lots of great questions. We found out how his web shooting works and that his favourite food is chicken wings! We have sent home with the children their part in the play and have been busy rehearsing in school. Tickets are still available for both performances ask your class teacher if you require a request form. Next week the children will be taking part in "Balancability" so if they have sensible footwear for riding bikes they will be much appreciated.

### Year 3 News

This week the children have been impressing us with their creative talents as they have been inventing their own ancient tales. As you know the children will be sharing their magical story with you on the evening of Friday 27th (4:30-5:00pm). To help them illuminate their super story telling we are due to have a lantern making workshop at school this coming Wednesday, 25th November. Through this workshop, which is led by a skilled artist from Stiltskin Children's Drama group, the children will have the opportunity to develop their designing and making skills. To allow this workshop to go ahead we are asking for voluntary contributions of £4.00 per child. Payments can be made through [www.schoolmoney.co.uk](http://www.schoolmoney.co.uk) as usual. We would like to thank all of the parent/carers who have already made a payment. In maths we have been consolidating our understanding of both multiplication and division through the creation of related fact families. You might like to ask your child to give you some examples and also get them to explain what switchers are!

### Year 4 News

Ready, steady, go! We have been looking at structures in DT this term, identifying the various designs and why certain designs are stronger than others. As part of this learning, the children took part in some challenges using straws. The first challenge was to build the tallest structure that had to support a multilink cube. The second challenge was to build a bridge over a 30cm gap to hold at least 1kg. The children have shown some really good understanding and worked really well in groups. Well done all... your teachers are really proud of you!

### Year 5 News

The children have had a fantastic week improving their cycling skills and awareness of road safety working with the Bikeability instructors. Thankfully the weather didn't interfere with their training too much, although each group did experience some wet weather! Well done to all the children of the year group.

We are still in need of some 'junk' for our D&T work next week. If you have any cardboard boxes, plastic bottles, cereal boxes, kitchen roll tubes etc., we would be extremely grateful.

### Diary Dates

**Fri 4<sup>th</sup> Dec 2015**

- Chocolate **Mufti**

**Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> Dec 2015**

- Christmas lunch

**Fri 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 2015**

- Christmas Fair

**Mon 14<sup>th</sup> Dec**

- Christmas Carol Service

**Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Dec 2015**

- Christmas Jumper **Mufti**  
- Text Santa Appeal

- Last day of term

**Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2016**

- Non pupil day

**Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2016**

- First day of term

**Mon 15<sup>th</sup> – Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Feb Inc.**

- Half term

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> Mar 2016.**

- 'Wear a Hat' **Mufti** Day

**Fri 25<sup>th</sup> Mar – Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Apr Inc**

- Easter holidays

**Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Apr 2016**

- Non pupil day

**Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2016**

- Bank holiday

**Mon 30<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

- Bank holiday

**Tues 31<sup>st</sup> May - Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> June Inc.**

- Half term

**Mon 6<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

- Non pupil day

***"Remember to check the  
Lost Property Bins"***

## Year 6 News

On Wednesday the children visited the Synagogue, Barbican and Hoe. It was a great day and the children enjoyed it. Please log on to eSchools to see pictures from the day. If any of you eat any soup over the weekend, please could you keep the packaging and send it into school with your child on Monday. We need tins, pouches and plastic containers for our DT topic. Labels still on please.

## Music News

Our School Carol Service takes place on Monday 14th December at 6pm at Mutley Baptist Church. Letters have gone out today to children who sing in any of our choirs or play in the steel bands to announce that tickets are on sale through school money. This is wonderful event, hugely popular with families so please order your tickets as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. Actual tickets for the event will be given out in December. Thursday Choir is cancelled next Week (26th Nov). All other music clubs will run as normal.

## Headlice -They're back!

The most common places for headlice to lurk are in the hair behind your ears and at the nape of your neck.

If you still can't spot any lice, comb the child's hair with a special 'nit comb'. These are available from most chemists. It's easier to spot the dark brown headlice as they fall out if you comb the hair over a piece of white paper.

Now you need to treat your child. Headlice are tough – they can't be killed by washing with normal shampoo or normal combing. Because they reproduce so quickly, you've got to kill them before they spread. If your child has headlice, check everyone in the family. You'll need to treat everyone affected to get rid of them.

## Staff Car Park

May we remind parents that the car park in North Down Road is for STAFF ONLY. We ask that parents refrain from using it, even if you are just dropping off children. A lady driving a black Mercedes, registration number possibly HD10 DEU, has been reported coming in to the car park, dropping her children off, manoeuvring her car around and then driving back out the 'in' gate. Yesterday morning a car was coming into the car park at the same time. Please refrain from doing so.

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. There have been a couple of close calls with the minibus and pedestrians this week.

## PTFA NEWS

The PTFA will be holding a Mufti Day on Friday 4th December, chocolate donations for the Christmas Fair tombola would be appreciated. Our Christmas Fair will be held on Friday 11th December 3.15pm - 4.30pm we look forward to seeing you there. We will also be holding a Christmas Raffle, tickets will be sent home in book bags shortly. If you are able to donate a raffle prize, it would be gratefully received. We will also be holding a cake competition more info will be send home in book bags shortly.

## FREE Dodgeball Taster Session

Chris from the dodgeball tournament at Hele's School is running a FREE dodgeball taster session this Sunday (22nd November 2015) for all local schools.

The session is limited to 36 participants on a first come first serve basis. Can each individual looking to attend please email [chris@dodgehub.com](mailto:chris@dodgehub.com) or call 07983 987437 to book a place.

The session will be from 10am - 11am at the Plymouth Life Centre.

## Year 2 News

Another fun-filled week in Year Two! 2P represented the school proudly on their trip to the allotments on Monday. We even managed to stay dry! It's 2S's turn this Monday, so don't forget coats and wellies. We've been enjoying lots of different activities this week, to try and help us remember our word classes. Can your child teach the verb rap, and tell you some powerful verbs. Mrs Jones' favourite was slurp! In Maths we've been investigating symmetry. The children have painted some great symmetrical butterflies. Have a look next time you're in school.

## Balanceability

All year 1 children will be participating in the Balanceability programme on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Bikes and helmets will be provided, if your child owns a helmet this can be brought into school. The children will wear their school uniform but appropriate footwear will need to be worn, e.g. trainers/plimsolls.

## School Lunch and Breakfast Club

Firstly we would like to thank those of you who always pay so promptly, it's much appreciated. However, as the term has progressed the number of late payments has steadily increased. May we respectfully request that every endeavour is made to make payments in advance as per school policy. If you are experiencing difficulty please do contact the school office.

## Eco Team Competition

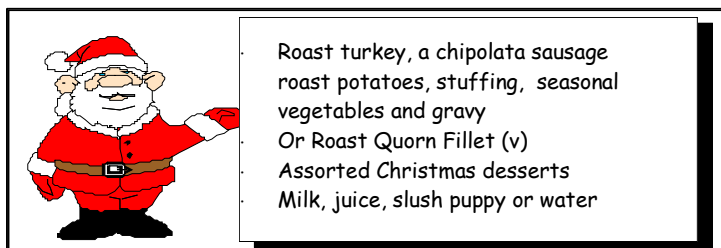
The Eco Team have launched a competition for energy month which you may have seen on eSchools. We are looking for great presentations about energy sources. Be a creative as you like, you could make a poster, poem or collage. Please send your entries in by Tuesday 1st December. The winning entries will be displayed in school and prizes will be awarded.

## SCHOOL CHRISTMAS LUNCH – Thursday 10th December

**As Foundation & KS1 children are entitled to Universal Free School Meals we have assumed that they will have a Christmas lunch.**

Christmas Lunch will be served on **Thursday 10th December** at a cost of £2.00 (to be paid in advance using the cashless system [www.schoolmoney.co.uk](http://www.schoolmoney.co.uk)). To help us cater for such large numbers of children we need to know if your child will be participating on the day. Please complete and return the slip below to your child's class teacher by **Monday 30th November**. Thank you.

**ONLY Christmas lunch will be served on this day – no alternatives.**



✂ .....  
☐ **FAO Class Teacher - SCHOOL CHRISTMAS LUNCH – Thursday 10th December**  
☐ My child: ..... Class: ..... would like Christmas lunch on **Thursday 10th December** at a cost of £2 (please tick 1 item)  
☐ My child is entitled to a free Christmas lunch

## Children in Need Update

After a few last minute donations the final total raised for Children in Need was a massive £533.58. Thank you again.