



Deputy Headteacher News

I have been told and I am sure I have read somewhere at some point, that when you move house, start a new job or experience any significant change in your life you need to experience all seasons before deciding if you had made the right choice. As we approach the end of the last full week of the school year (and my first full academic year at Montpelier) I can honestly say that I have had a fantastic time! In some ways the year has flown by but then, when you stop and think back over all the things that we've achieved and the journey that everyone has been on (both pupils and staff), you start to realise how long the school year has actually been.

As the year 6 children prepare for the next step in their education, we wish them well. We are proud of each and every one of them. They have faced and overcome many challenges during their time here, as well as provide us with one or two challenges of their own.

They will not be the only ones moving on this year. We will also be saying goodbye to some members of staff who are moving to pastures new. We are saying farewell to Sue Daniels, who is taking the first steps towards retirement after spending many years as part of the Montpelier family. We also say goodbye to Elaine Shaw, who is off to sunny Spain, Marion Phipps, who after 25 years as part of our school, is retiring and Theresa Meadows, who has been part of our EYFS for a number of years. They will all be missed and we wish them well.

That just leaves me to say a huge 'thank you' to everyone. My thanks must go to the children because they are delightful and are the reason I come into work every day. They have worked incredibly hard, learnt an awful lot (I hope), had lots of fun and tried their very best which is all we can ask. The staff team here are brilliant. I have worked in a number of schools and I can tell you that the Montpelier staff really are a fantastic group of professionals. They have worked tirelessly this year to make the children's experience the best that it could possibly be. Also thanks to the Governing Body who have been especially supportive throughout the year. And, finally, thanks to all the parents who have made me feel so welcome. I am certainly looking forward to the next academic year, but that won't stop me enjoying the summer break. I hope you all have a relaxing holiday and I will see in September to do it all over again.

The Lighthouse Keepers Lunch

The Year 2 performance this year was wonderful, the children's confidence and enthusiasm was a delight to see. At times I forgot that I was watching a primary school production. The story of Mr and Mrs Grinling was told in a way that I will never forget, it really did come to life. The Year 2 team really do 'love a challenge' and they certainly were up to this one. They had a limited amount of time to put together the performance, but that did not stop them. A huge thank you to all the children for putting on such an enthusiastic and entertaining show and thanks also to the Year 2 staff who put it all together, it truly was a team effort.



Foundation News

The Foundation classes have had a great end to the year and especially enjoyed the Den Building Day. They worked so well together and enjoyed playing in it afterwards. We would like to thank you all for your support this year and wish the children the very best as they move into year 1. It has been a pleasure to teach them in their first year at school. We hope you all have a super summer.

Year 2 News

Please note that as from September all school meals will need to be paid for using the School Money website – see sheets attached to this newsletter for instructions on how to do so.

Year 5 News

Well done to year 5 and good luck as you head in to your final year. You have all worked really hard this year and deserve your break. Remember to take part in the Olympic Reading Challenge if you can. We wish the leaving year 6 children every success in their new schools. Have a great holiday everyone, whatever you are planning to do.

Year 6 News

Well what a last week it's been for our amazing Year 6 children. They have enjoyed Sports Day, build-a-den day, a leaver's lunch, the celebration disco and today's assembly. We wish them all the very best as they leave today and we could not be prouder of them. Well done Year 6. You have been a truly wonderful year group and we will miss you.

A message from Miss Shaw

I have truly enjoyed my time at Montpelier and am very sad to leave. I would just to say thank you to all the parents who have supported me throughout my time here and wish me well in my new adventure. I have been overwhelmed by the gifts, cards, emails and messages that I have received. I wish you all the very best.

Miss Shaw

Race for Life - update

£969.60 is our total so far. Once again thank you for taking parting and raising this fantastic amount for Cancer Research UK. Any outstanding sponsorship money will be accepted in September or donate on our Justgiving page:
goo.gl/zhovoX where you can also Gift Aid.

School Uniform

We appreciate that it is coming to the end of term but we would like to remind parents about our school uniform code. Shoes – in September we expect every child to be wearing proper school shoes, not black trainer shoes please.

Boys - Dark grey trousers or shorts. White shirt & school tie or a white polo shirt, green pullover or green V-necked school sweatshirt. Grey socks. Sensible shoes - fashion shoes, trainers or boots are not permitted for Health & Safety reasons

Girls - Grey pinafore or skirt or dark grey trousers. White shirt & school tie or a white polo shirt, green pullover, cardigan or green school V- necked sweatshirt. White socks. Tights - school colours or white, beige or black. Hair bands/ribbons - plain & in school colours. Sensible shoes - fashion shoes, trainers or boots are not permitted for Health & Safety reasons. DURING SUMMER - green/white check dress

Footwear: Children should wear shoes and NOT trainers to and from school and during the school day. The appropriate footwear for P.E. and games is indicated below. 'Fashion' shoes and trainers, i.e. large tongues, multi coloured laces, high ankle shoes/boots are not acceptable in any circumstances. Flat practical sandals not open toed, are permissible when worn with socks. Sandals should be white, black, or brown in colour – not Jelly Beans.

There is no preference to colour for coats. Parents are reminded that very dark colours pose a safety problem on winter mornings/evenings.

Please ensure all clothing is clearly labelled. If you are considering having your child's ears pierced, please do so at the beginning of the summer holidays. In KS1 children are permitted to wear discrete studs during P.E lessons. However, for Health & Safety reasons in KS2, all jewellery including ear-rings must be removed for all P.E. sessions; this is due to the increased physical nature of activities undertaken. When worn in school ear-rings should be small studs. If your child's ears have been recently pierced (within the last six weeks) and their ear rings cannot be taken out then your child must wear plasters over their ear rings. Due to Health and Safety reasons children must bring in their own plasters from home and be able to apply them themselves, this cannot be carried out by a member of staff. Nose rings or other piercings are not deemed suitable. It is not desirable for children to wear other jewellery to school. Jewellery and watches are often lost and are the responsibility of the child and not the school. **No leggings, make up, nail varnish. Non- natural hair colours or extremes of haircuts / styles are not permitted.**

Devon Children's University Graduation Ceremony

This year the Graduation ceremony will take place in Rolle Plaza Marquee, Plymouth University and will take place on Thursday 20th October or Friday 21st October depending on spaces when we book our place in September. Arrival is at 5pm with the ceremony beginning at 5.30pm. Each student is entitled to bring two guests to attend the ceremony, with a reserve ticket list should more spaces become available. Graduation is open to anyone who has reached a gold level since last year's graduation. So for example you may have reached 100 hours last year, attended the graduation and now have reached 200 hours you will be eligible and so on to 1000 hours. You may have just reached 100 hours of learning and this will be your first graduation.

If by Wednesday September 14th 2016 this is you, please bring your passport to Mrs Gilbert who will validate it for you and ensure you and your family is invited to the Graduation. Don't worry if you have only just stated collecting learning hours and you haven't reached a gold yet there will be a graduation ceremony every year.

Diary Dates

Wed 7th Sept 2016

- First day of term

Mon 24th to Fri 28th Oct 2016

- Half term

Mon 19th Dec '16 - Tues 3rd Jan Inc. '17

- Christmas Holidays

Mon 13th to Fri 17th Mar Inc. 2017

- Half term

Mon 3rd to Tues 18th Apr Inc. 2017

- Easter holidays

Mon 1st May 2017

- Bank holiday

Mon 29th May to Fri 2nd June Inc. 2017

- 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

Library Books

Please could you remind your children to bring in any overdue school library books as soon as possible, especially Year 6 children!

Children's University Passports

Many Thanks to all of you who have signed up for the Children's University. Some of you will have received your passport today but unfortunately due to the high demand for passports across Devon they have run out of passports and the expected delivery has not arrived in time for you to receive your passport before the summer holiday.

If you would like to receive your passport during the break, Philippa Oxley, Outreach officer has asked that you to email her on devoncu@plymouth.ac.uk with your details and she will post a passport to you.

Alternatively keep a record of your activities and evidence of your visit with a stamp or signature and transfer it to your passport when you receive it.



July 2016

Dear Parents,

Montpelier is delighted to offer the facility for parents to make payments online for school activities such as school dinners, school trips, Breakfast Club and music!

From time to time you will receive a text message from the school inviting you to access a website as an option to make a payment for an activity. We would appreciate your support in this matter.

To ensure that we all experience maximum benefit from this service, we would ask all parents to notify us if you have recently changed your mobile number and/or email address.

Please be aware that we do ask for **ALL** payments in **ADVANCE**. You can access the School Money website to make payments at any time 24/7.

Year 2 pupils (Year 3 as from September 2016) will no longer be entitled to Universal Free School Meals (UFSM) & therefore any lunches had will have to be paid for using the cashless system School Money.

The School Money website can be found at www.schoolmoney.co.uk

Thank you for your cooperation.

July 2016

Dear Parent / Carer

Re: Payment for School Meals

I wish to inform you of our School Meals Debt Recovery Policy. This policy relates to pupils in Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) whose parents pay for school meals - a copy is on our website.

For some time we have used the School Money system to record your child's daily menu choice in school and to collect your school meals payments online. In the main this works well as our parents are supportive of the payment system. You can access the School Money website to make payments at any time 24/7. Please refer to the Parents' Guide for full information. We suggest you pay at least one week's dinner money in advance and keep your account topped up at all times. This will avoid you incurring a school meals debt.

School meals must be paid for in advance using either of the methods of payment outlined below:

- Online at www.schoolmoney.co.uk – your online payments will show up almost immediately on our system; refer to Parents' Guide.
- PayPoint bar code (available from the school office) – you can pay cash in at local shops. Be aware that your payments can take about a week to show up on our system and until then it will still look as though you have a debt. Therefore it is really important that you keep your account in credit at all times, to avoid any problems.

We appreciate the support from the majority of parents but at times we experience difficulties with parents who regularly incur a school meals debt because they have not topped up their online account. Therefore, in common with other local schools, Montpelier Primary School has adopted a NO DEBT policy relating to school meals.

The school must avoid a situation where parents accrue a debt for school meals which they then find difficult to clear. By implementing this Debt Policy we are aiming to help parents manage school dinner money better. The school's Parent Support Adviser (Miss Jane Gilbert) will be asked to liaise with the parent to support them in clearing the debt. Should a case arise where payment of the debt is still not received, the school's Governors have requested that I inform the Chair of Governors who may decide to begin legal proceedings through Plymouth City Council against the parent to recover the debt. Whilst we hope that we will not have to progress such a claim, we have to adopt a policy to ensure that school meal money debts are collected promptly. The Local Authority's Education Welfare Officer and Social Services may also be informed that a parent is not carrying out their responsibility of care by failing to pay for or provide food for their child at lunchtime.

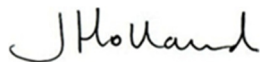
For parents who are experiencing difficulties, please contact the Senior Administrator (Mrs Christine Simpson) on 216161 or School Business Manager (Mrs Beverley Bell) on 216165 who will be able to offer the relevant support. Please see below our Timeline which outlines our School Meal debt recovery programme.

Entitlement to Free School Meals:

If you believe that you may qualify for entitlement to Free School Meals, please contact the office for more details. This allowance is a statutory right and it is important that you use it if you qualify. We will help you all we can with your application. Also, all pupils in the Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 are now entitled to receive Universal Infant Free School Meals paid for by the government.

Therefore, this policy relates to pupils in Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) whose parents pay for school meals. If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact me. We are here to help you and will do all we can to enable the system to run smoothly for everyone concerned.

Yours sincerely



Jason Holland
Headteacher

SCHOOL MEAL DEBT – ACTION TIMELINE

Timeline	Action to be taken by Montpelier Primary School
Day 1 – meal taken by child	Text reminder sent to parents to remind them of policy and balance amount. Request to clear and consider applying a credit amount.
Day 2 – debt remains unpaid	Phone call to parent to ask them to pay online / collect a PayPoint slip to pay cash at a local shop / post office. Request for packed lunch for following day to be provided by parent until debt cleared.
Day 3 – debt remains unpaid	Ensure a packed lunch is provided until cleared. If necessary provide only a school packed lunch - School's Parent Support Adviser involved.
Day 4 – debt remains unpaid	Headteacher informed as well as Educational Welfare Officer for support, if necessary. Continue to refuse further school meals until the debt has been cleared / as long as the child is being provided with a home packed lunch. Only provide a school packed lunch if none is provided from home.
Day 5 – debt remains unpaid	Headteacher to consider action which may include reference to Plymouth City Council debt recovery team. Continue to refuse further school meals until the debt has been cleared / as long as the child is being provided with a home packed lunch. Only provide a school packed lunch if none is provided from home.



ed's BIG SUMMER FOOD TOUR

CATER^{ed}
FEEDING AMBITIONS

2



Kindly supported by

Bidvest
Foodservice
inspired by you



SCORSE FOODS
QUALITY BUTCHERS

**Tamar
Fresh**
FOOD SERVICE

We're back and Ed and Cate will be handing out 300 free bagged lunches every Tuesday & Thursday throughout the summer holidays:

Tuesday 2nd August 2016
Central Park
(by the children's play park)

Thursday 4th August 2016
High Street Primary School

Tuesday 9th August 2016
Whitleigh Green

Thursday 11th August 2016
Mayflower Academy grounds

Tuesday 16th August 2016
City Centre
(outside the Civic Centre)

Thursday 18th August 2016
High Street Primary School

Tuesday 23rd August 2016
Whitleigh Green

Thursday 25th August 2016
High View Primary School

Tuesday 30th August 2016
Asda, Estover

Thursday 1st September 2016
Central Park
(by the children's play park)

We'll be at each venue with Radio Plymouth's Lighthouse crew from 12 noon each day – when they're gone, they're gone!



Check out our web site for more details and updates
<http://www.plymouth.gov.uk/cateredwhatshappening.html>

CATER^{ed} is a company jointly owned by schools across the City and Plymouth City Council serving great tasting, freshly prepared food to children and young people every day.

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