

The Beacon

Academic Year 2018/19

Issue No: 12

Date 7th Dec 2018

Hello from Mrs Hunter

If you are anything like me, you will feel like your feet aren't touching the ground at the moment! There is much happening both at school and at home at this special time of year that I am not sure if I am coming or going. However, I do think that being in a school at Christmas gives you the warmest of festive hugs. The Christmas Tree Festival this week was amazing – thank you to everyone who supplied decorations, created the displays or came to appreciate them. The school was awash with glitter and fairy lights. Then this evening we have our Christmas Fair. The PTFA have already been busy getting this ready for several weeks; they are just amazing. I do have my elf costume ready for later today! Then next week we have our Carol Service (Thank you to Miss JR who is sorting hundreds of children to be in the right place at the right time) and then there is the parent helpers' Christmas tea on Wednesday and our lunch and jumper day on Thursday. Phew!

This week in our assemblies we have been thinking about advent and what that means. We have introduced the children to our new advent wreath. If you ask your child they might be able to tell you about the meaning of the five different candles. I am sure that many of you will have a variety of advent calendars or candles at home (there are x2 in the Hunter household!) and we have them in school including one for our guinea pigs. I hope that you are able to find some quiet time in amongst the festive fun this advent to be able to be calm and appreciate what is so special at this time of year. Our Wishes Around the Tree on the last days of term will provide just that opportunity so please speak to the lovely ladies in the office if you haven't requested a seat yet.

Thank you all for your ongoing support, enthusiasm and appreciation for all the school is setting out to achieve. I hope to see many of you later at the fair!

Mrs Hunter ☺

School Term Dates for 2018/2019

Mon 10th Dec – 6pm Montpelier Choirs' Carol Service, Plymouth Methodist Central Hall

Thurs 13th Dec 9.30-10.30am – Yr 1 Production Lights, Camel, Action!

Thurs 13th Dec – Christmas Lunch

Friday 14th December 2-3pm – Yr 1 Production Lights, Camel, Action!

Thurs 20th Dec – Last Day of Autumn Term 2018.

Fri 21st Dec 2018 to Fri 4th Jan 2019 – Christmas Holiday 2018.

Mon 7th Jan 2019 – Non-Pupil Day.

Tues 8th Jan – Spring Term 2019 Begins.

Thurs 10th Jan - Parent Forum at 2.15 for an hour.

Mon 18th Feb to Fri 22nd Feb – Spring Half Term Break 2019.

1st April to 5th April - The Big Pedal

Fri 5th April – Last Day of Spring Term 2019.

Mon 8th to Mon 22nd April – Easter Holiday 2019.

Tues 23rd April – Non-Pupil Day.

Wed 24th April – Summer Term 2019 begins.

Mon 6th May – Bank Holiday.

Mon 27th to Fri 31st May – Summer Half Term Break 2019.

Wed 24th July – 2:30pm end of term finish (**Yr6 finish at 1.30pm**)

Thurs 25th July 2019 – Non-Pupil Day.

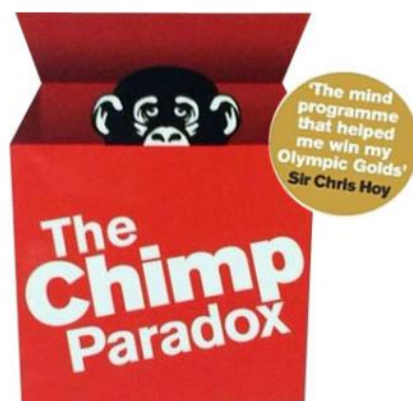
Music News

We are all looking forward to the Choirs' Carol Service on Monday. Doors open 5.30pm at Plymouth Methodist Central Hall (new venue). Children performing to wear school uniform. Don't forget your tickets!

There are no more Montpelier choirs or steel pan with Miss JR this term, apart from pupils from Green Squad singing with the Plymouth Police Choir on Friday 14th who have 1 more rehearsal on Thursday 13th December, from 3.15pm-4.15pm. Instrumental lessons are now finished for this term.

Parent Information Evenings

We have two dates for your diaries for the New Year. One is Tuesday 5th February at 6.30pm where Mr Thomson and the Learning Army will be explaining what our Golden Learning Behaviours mean and how this fits with a Growth Mindset. The second event is a parent interest evening looking at the model of The Chimp Paradox. This idea helps us to understand why we think and react like we do and how we can use it help us manage our emotions and keep our chimps in their box! This session will be run by Mrs Hunter and will take place on Wednesday 6th March at 6.30pm. More information will follow for both events in the New Year.



Sports Clubs – finished for Christmas

The Athletics, Netball and Hockey after school clubs have now finished for the Christmas break.

Christmas Jumper Day – Thursday 13th December

Please note Thursday 13th December will be Christmas Jumper Day. Children to wear normal school uniform with a Christmas jumper (no donation for this day).

Montpelier Maul Heart-broken Horrabridge

After defeating a sturdy opponent of Bickleigh in the last round of the Plymouth Schools Knockout Cup, the boys took the energy sapping trip all the way out to Horrabridge on the moors to play their second round fixture.

On a big pitch, which was a little heavy due to the recent wet weather, the team faced literally an uphill battle (the pitch had a slight slope!) in the first half.

Immediately though, 'The greens' went on the offensive, peppering the hosts' goal with shots. Soon, a 3-0 lead was established, with goals from Charlie, Harley and the 'Rolls-Royce'... Elliot.

The second half saw more of the same, with further goals from 'The Hammer' (Harrison), Harley (again) and Charlie (again), Finley and finally from the unlikely source of defensive 'lynch-pin' Carter, giving an 8-0 final score, which would have been much higher but for a 'world-class' display by Horrabridge's keeper. Sam's bright orange goalie top hardly needed a wash, which hopefully pleased his mum.

Bring on the next round- who can stop this 'Montpelier Momentum'?

Year 2

This week Year 2 received a golden ticket and a challenge from Willy Wonka to design, create and evaluate delicious chocolate bars for the Christmas Fair! Our Oompa Loompas willingly took on the challenge and are looking forward to buying their bars at the fair. Have a great weekend!



The Little Princess Trust Charity

They did it! Delilah and Jennifer had their hair cut for The Little Princess Trust charity. Well done girls, we are all proud of you! The fabulous charity team managed to raise £90, which we will send off with the hair.





key stage 2

XMAS

PARTY

21st December 2.30 - 4.30pm

Woolwell Centre, Darklake lane, PL6 7TR

£5 per ticket, limited availability

Photo booth £1.00

pay via paypal on mpsks1@gmail.com

confirm via text 07530751904





Head lice -They're back... in a class near you!

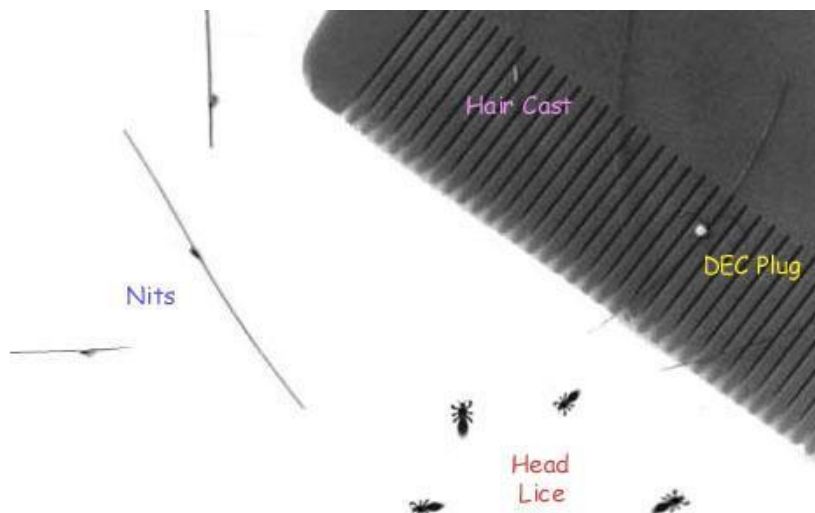
How to spot head lice

- Head lice are most commonly found behind the 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 head lice as they fall out if you comb the hair over a piece of white paper.
- Now you need to treat your child. Head lice 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 head lice, check everyone in the family. You'll need to treat everyone affected to get rid of them.
- Experts agree that no medication should be used unless a live louse has been detected to prove infestation is active. Combing wet, conditioned hair with a 'nit' comb is a reliable detection method even when very few lice are present (wet lice stay still); dry or damp lice move quickly away from disturbance evading detection.

The wet combing method

This is a method that avoids using chemicals.

- Wash your child's hair using a normal shampoo.
- Use plenty of ordinary conditioner to make the hair slippery so the lice will lose their grip.
- Comb your child's hair with a normal comb, then with a nit comb. Start at the root of the hair and go all the way along to the ends. Check the comb for lice after each stroke and clean it if any are there. Keep combing over the whole head for at least 30 minutes.
- Rinse their hair, and comb it through again.
- Do the whole thing again four times over the next two weeks. The rule is carry on until you haven't seen any full-grown lice for three sessions.



AFC DEVONPORT LITTLE KICKERS

Football coaching for children aged between 3 and 8, non-competitive with a fun environment.

When? EVERY WEDNESDAY 17:00 – 18:00

Where? STOKE DAMEREL COMMUNITY COLLEGE (SPORT CENTRE, INDOOR HALL, ENTER THE PREMISES VIA BACK GATE ON PENLEE WAY)

Price? FIRST SESSION FREE, £2.50 EACH SESSION AFTER

For? CHILDREN AGED 3 – 8 YEARS / BOYS AND GIRLS

Contact? CLUB CHAIRMAN – DARREN LYON 07792 061779

OR

CLUB SECRETARY – MACAULEY RICKARD 07905 139193



Forces Children who'll be separated from their Mum or Dad this Christmas

Christmas is just around the corner and the Ministry of Defence estimates 11,000 Forces personnel will be deployed over the festive period, so many families will be separated.

Reading Force is on a mission to help connect those families by giving them the gift of shared reading. Their Christmas Crowdfunding Campaign aims to send families free story books and scrapbooks to read during the festive season and talk about over Facetime, Skype or phone.

If you have children who will be separated over Christmas, try shared reading with them over Skype and FaceTime. Reading Force is FREE and a lovely way for families to bond as well as learn and boost literacy - *and it couldn't be easier to join.*

View the following website for more information, and to register <https://www.readingforce.org.uk/>