

The Beacon

Academic Year 2018/19

Issue No: 07

Date 2nd Nov 2018

Hello From Mrs Hunter

First of all I wanted to start with a massive thank you to the PFTA who organised a brilliant Christmas Shopping Evening last night and those of you who came to spend your money, have a mince pie and enjoy a glass of bubbly. There was a super range of stalls and shoppers were greeted by a corridor of tea lights. As well as raising £847 for school funds it also was a lovely chance for parents to get together. Brilliant!

Hopefully you will all have seen the email that we sent out earlier this week regarding the Parent View survey that we sent out earlier this week. I was so pleased with the results and it is a lovely celebration of how highly you regard the school. We will always have things to work on but this was a great starting point and something that we can all be proud of. I met with ten parents' yesterday morning for our first Parents Forum. We met for an hour over coffee in the café and discussed issues such as streaming, the summer term reports and how we go about arranging cover for classes when teachers are ill. I will try and fit a second one of these in before Christmas.

Finally, we have sent out two letters this week for new events that we are going to try. This is the Remembrance Day service and also the Toy and Gift Giveaway. It is exciting to be trying new things although I do get a little nervous as we are stepping into new territory. However, I would rather be in the learning pit and try and fail then not try at all, I believe this is a good attitude to be modelling with our children.

Have a lovely weekend – Mrs Hunter ☺

School Term Dates for 2018/2019

Mon 29th Oct - Tempest Individual & family group photos Years 3 - 6, from 8am KS1 Hall.

Mon 22nd to Fri 26th Oct – Autumn Half Term Break 2018.

Thurs 1st Nov 9am – 10am Parent Forum with Parents – details to follow

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.

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

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**)

Thursday 25th July 2019 – Non-Pupil Day.

Tempest Photo Orders

Please return all Tempest photo orders to school by Tuesday 7th November. Unfortunately, after this time orders will be returned unprocessed.

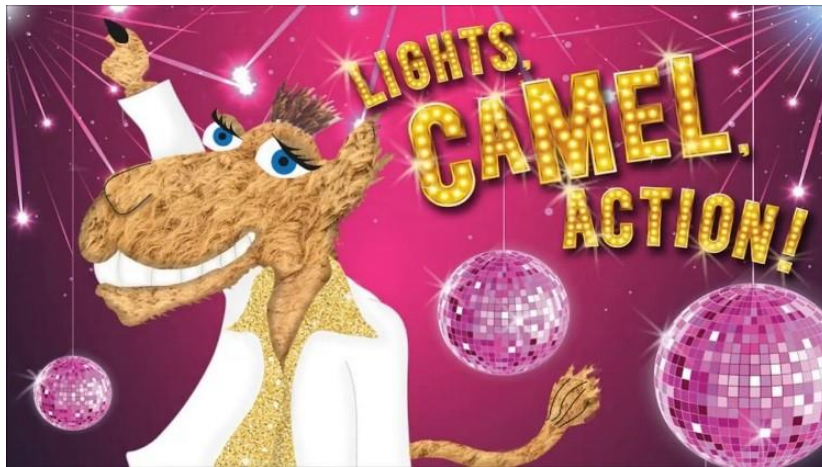
Parking

Please be considerate to others when parking/driving around the school. Please do not park over our neighbours driveways.

Foundation

Next week in Foundation we are very excited for our Balancability sessions. If your child has their own helmet then please can they bring it in (named) on Monday.

Year 1 – Lights, Camel, Action



Year 1 are excited to announce that our Christmas production of 'Lights, Camel, Action!' will be showing for parents/carers on Thursday 13th December 9.30-10.30am and Friday 14th December 2-3pm. This is just an advanced date for your diary and a letter will follow shortly. Think 'Strictly' meets the nativity story!

Children in Need

Montpelier have a new pupil voice group called the 'Charity Champions' who will be in charge of fundraising for various charities throughout the year. We are very excited about our first event, Children in Need, on Friday 16th November. We are planning lots of fun fundraising for this day; including, coming to school in your PJ's/onesies, and a staff spotty bake off! More information to follow next week. We are very excited!



Year 4 Visit Ancient Egypt

The Space Lab was very entertaining and epic. The Space Lab was a big tent where inside there was a visitor who guided us and told a tale of Ancient Egypt using constellations. He told us lots of facts about Ancient Egypt as well. The tent had a projector in it which the man used to show us pictures of hieroglyphics, pharaohs and Egypt.



Year 6

In Year 6, we are always looking for ways to motivate children to write. Next week, we are going to use the film 'The Boy in a Dress' to inspire children to write a balanced argument. This film is PG. If this concerns you, please contact us.

A Close Encounter for the Year 3/4 Boys

On Tuesday, The Year 3/4 boys team played a football match away to Leigham Primary. Cheered on by some enthusiastic, supportive parents, the boys played with super determination, as well as skill.

An even first half resulted in a half-time score of 0-0, with chances at a premium against two tight defences.

Shortly after half-time, our hosts scored a quick-fire double to gain some breathing space. MPS did not give up however, and a rapid break saw Ewan L drill the ball into the net, leaving their goalie helpless. Tremendous pressure was then applied by our boys on grey, who showed amazing passion and teamwork, but Leigham held firm to register a narrow victory, 2-1. Well played to Harry, Daniel, Fletcher, Ewan, Blake, Zach, Finlay, Archie, Byron, Jayden and Freddie



Anti Bullying

The message of Anti Bullying Week this year is all about 'Choose Respect' We at Montpelier Primary School want to help children to understand how important it is that every child feels valued and included in school, able to be themselves, without fear of bullying. During the week (12.11.18 - 16.11.18) it would be great if your child could wear odd socks for the week to promote and share the important message of 'Choose Respect'. Thank you for your cooperation!

Book of the Week



One day, Colour Monster wakes up feeling very confused. His emotions are all over the place; he feels angry, happy, calm, sad and scared all at once! To help him, a little girl shows him what each feeling means through colour. What is the Colour Monster feeling? And can you help him feel a little less mixed up? A gentle exploration of feelings for young and old alike.

If you have shared a book with your child and would like to recommend it, please email me. daniellejones@mpsplymouth.net

Pebbles of Remembrance

As a school community, we would like to create a 'Pebbles of Remembrance' display to commemorate the 100th Anniversary marking the end of World War 1.

It will act as our mark of Remembrance, coinciding with the National events for Remembrance on Sunday 11th November 2018.

We would like you as a family to collect and paint a pebble (s) red or with your own poppy design. On the reverse of your pebble, we would like you to either write the name of the family member you are remembering or a message of remembrance. Please feel free to do more than one pebble.

It would be lovely if you can do this at home but for those who aren't able, we will have a table with red paint and brushes outside the main reception at the end of each school day from Monday 5th - Friday 9th November. Just bring along your pebble and create your personal remembrance.

On Monday the 12th November 2018, we would like you to bring your 'poppy pebble' to place on our 'Pebbles of Remembrance' display, which will be located outside the main entrance. This will remain in place until Friday 16th November 2018.

The hope is that we will have enough 'poppy pebbles' to make a design something like this.

We hope that you and your family will be able to support us as part of our school community's act of remembrance.



Reading Rewards

Well, what an absolute treat! Firstly, a huge thank you to the PTFA who kindly gave us £120 of book tokens as reading rewards. The children enjoyed their Waterstones experience, choosing their books and hot chocolates in the cafe! They all represented Montpelier extremely well - members of the public commented on their beautiful behaviour and exemplary manners. As always, we're very proud of them.

