

The Beacon

Academic Year 2017/18

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Headteacher's Comment

Last week, Mrs Sam (Samantha) Hunter our new Headteacher from September 2018, came to visit Montpelier for three days. The reason behind her visit was to get to know the school in more detail and to begin the hand-over process between the two of us. It was a very busy three days! I think the highlight for her was watching our Proms in the Playground event on the Thursday evening. Personally, I was absolutely bowled over by the performance, which is a delightful showcase of the singing talents the children have been working on during their time at Montpelier. To see so many children on stage, at various times, with such confident and powerful voices who were just loving every moment in the spotlight (or, rather, the sunlight) was amazing. They certainly created a lasting impression on their new Headteacher. Although leaving her current school will be a wrench, Mrs Hunter is very much looking forward to joining and leading the team here.

Foundation News

On Monday we received a mystery story in a bottle from Pirate Pete and the children have enjoyed writing their stories in a bottle to send back. We have explored money and Pirate Pete's coins, learning about the value of coins and comparing them - even walking the plank if their value was the lowest. With sports day fast approaching, please ensure your child has their PE kit and plimsolls in school at all times.

Year 1 News

Wow yet another fantastic week in Year 1! The children have been working incredibly hard on their writing this week. They wrote about Traction Man and his adventure at the beach. Priscella the Pen License Pussycat visited the classrooms to see how Year 1's writing is progressing. She was very impressed! In Maths, we have been counting in 2, 5 and 10's from any number up to 100.

Year 2 News

Year 2 Show ~ Date for your diary!

The Year 2 show will be held on Tuesday 17th July at 2:45pm & 6pm
More details coming soon! - Thanks, The Year 2 Team

Year 3 News

Year 3 have had another brilliant week filled with exciting learning. In English and topic we have been learning about life as an evacuee and the children have thoroughly enjoyed sharing Flossie Albright's WW2 diary. In maths we have revisited fractions and persevered with some tricky challenges. Next week when half the year group visits Calstock, the other will be completing a WW2 challenge in school involving building Anderson shelters. Could we ask that on the day your child is not attending the trip they bring in any clean recycling that could be used to build their shelters. Have a brilliant weekend in the sunshine and thank you for your continued support at home!

Year 4 News

Another great week in Year 4! This week, we have finished writing our very own Morwellham Quay leaflets; made a human circuit as part of our electricity topic and have been multiplying and dividing by 10 and 100 in Maths. Have a great weekend- let's hope the sun continues to shine.

Year 5 News

Year 5 have had a fantastic week on their Stand Up Paddle Boarding adventure! The children were fantastic ambassadors for the school and all thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Photos will be on the website soon so you can see what we got up to. We have also made a great start to our 'Ghosts of Pere Lachaise' stories and tackled various problems in Maths. Next week, as part of our Art day, we will be looking at landmarks in the local area. In preparation, if you could take a picture and bring it in we would really appreciate it. Have a great weekend!

School Term Dates for 2017/2018

Mon 2nd July (am) – Foundation / Yr 1 & 2 Sports Day
Tues 3rd July (am) – Yr 3 & 4 Sports Day
Tues 3rd July (pm) - Yr 5 & 6 Sports Day
Wed 4th July – Reserve Sports Day in case of inclement weather
Fri 6th July – Summer Fair
Fri 20th July – 2:30pm end of term finish (**Yr6 finish at 1.30pm**)
Mon 23rd July – First day of the summer holidays

School Term Dates for 2018/2019

Tues 4th Sept – Non-Pupil Days.
Wed 5th Sept – Non-Pupil Days.
Thurs 6th Sept – Autumn Term 2018 begins.
Mon 22nd to Fri 26th Oct – Autumn Half Term Break 2018.
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 – Non-Pupil Day.

Year 6 News

On Wednesday 27th June, Year 6 will be holding their Fiver Challenge event. We hope that you are able to support the children by attending after school between 3:15 and 3:45. We would be very grateful if you could provide some money for the children to spend at this event.

One of the stalls at the Fiver Challenge is selling second hand books and DVDs. If you have any unwanted books or DVDs, please could you ask your child to bring them in.

MPS Race for Life

Many thanks to all the families who took part in our 'Race for Life' on Monday. It was fantastic to see so many of you running and all with your own personal reasons for supporting Cancer Research UK. With our Sports Mufti and sponsorship we have already raised just over £500. We know that many of you are still collecting in money and would ask that you return it to us by Monday 9th July. Alternatively we have a 'Just Giving' page where you can make your donations.

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/mpsplymouth>

The PTFA were pleased to be able to provide refreshment in the form of ice poles

Tower Scaffold

The school are in need of a tower scaffold to access the ceiling of our halls. If you have one or know someone who has one that we are able to borrow for a couple of days, please contact Mr Farr paulfarr@mpsplymouth.net

Hugs for Henry

Well done to Calvin and his band of helpers for raising an amazing £105.01 selling cakes at break time on Thursday.

Open Evening

St Boniface College - Open Evening – Tuesday 26th June 6pm

Sports News

ALL CLEAN KIT TO BE RETURNED ASAP PLEASE

Magical Montpellier Claim Premier League Stars Title

On Monday, the school sent 2 teams to GOALS football centre to compete in the annual 'Premier League Stars football championship, open to schools which receive the Primary Programme, provided in conjunction with Plymouth Argyle.

The tournament initially consisted of 2 groups of 8 teams, followed by knockout for the top 4 in each group. 'Montpelier Greens' (Samuel, Liam, Aaron, Cole, Aiden, Henry, Brody and Lucas) showed their class and experience by winning 6 and drawing 1 of their group games, topping the group.

The youthful, largely Year 5, 'Montpelier Greys' (Connor, Tom, Carter, Harrison, Harry, Daniel, Finley and Charlie) impressed also with their slick passing style, winning 5, drawing 1 and narrowly losing the other, resulting in a 3rd place group finish.

The knockout matches began and it pitted the Greens against the Greys in a quarter-final grudge match. A titanic, keenly contested battle commenced with neither side willing to give an inch. Because the teams knew each other so well, chances were at a premium. The decisive moment happened when the greens smartly took a quick free-kick, resulting in what proved to be the only goal of the game. The Greys therefore left the competition disappointed, but not disheartened- this bodes well for next year. In the semi, the Greens challenge was now gathering momentum and a straightforward victory led to a final against Leigham Primary. Montpelier Greens, Devon Champions remember back in January, oozed class as they trounced the luckless Leigham squad emphatically 5-0, bringing more silverware back to North Down Road.

Huge congratulations to both teams for their super play.

On a more individual note, congratulations to Carter, Finley and Charlie who have made it to the next round of the schoolboys football trials. Next Trial is on 26th June at Marjon's, starting at 5.30pm.



Gymnastics with Max Whitlock

Wow!!! What an amazing afternoon 30 children across year 4 – 6 experience last Friday. Meeting the 5 times Olympic medallist and 6 times World medallist GB Gymnastic Max Whitlock. The children watch Max perform a few routines on the floor, before their warm up. Once stretched, the children had their chance to shine, with a range of different gymnastic equipment they were soon tumbling and flipping around the Sports Hall at The Plymouth Life Centre. All children were given a t-shirt, which was signed. Max also commented on the behaviour and how well-mannered the children were.

Summer Games

What a sporting achievement to have 4 sporting teams – Tennis, Rounders, Golf and the Quad Athletics team to represent Plymouth in the Devon Summer Games, after qualifying in the level 2 events held earlier. Our teams were up against very tough opponents, giving over 100% this wasn't our day to bring home any silverware. Unfortunately, none of the teams making the top 5 spot, however the performance, determination and team work you all put in, made you winners in our eyes. Congratulations, you should be very proud of yourselves.

Road Safety – Crossing the Road

When the time comes to teach your child about crossing the road, remember the following:

- always set a good example by choosing a safe place to cross and explaining what you're doing
- let your child help you decide where and when it's safe to cross
- tell your child that it's safest to cross at a pedestrian crossing or a crossing patrol
- tell your child not to cross where they can't see far along the road
- explain that they should not try to cross a road between parked cars; drivers won't be able to see them very well and the cars might start moving. It can be hard for motorists to see small children, especially when they are reversing, so take extra care. Never let your child go near a road alone or even with an older child.
- use the Green Cross Code with your child - explain that you have to stop at the kerb, then look both ways and listen for traffic before crossing
- when it's safe to cross, walk straight across the road and keep looking and listening out for traffic
- remind your children to concentrate - they may be easily distracted, forget what they have been taught and dash out into the road
- make sure that anyone else looking after your child follows the same road safety rules that you do
- Children are generally not ready to cross roads on their own until they are at least eight years old - and many will not be ready even then.

Book of the Week

BOOK OF THE WEEK



Featuring superb, full-page illustrations, the stories will transport kids into an imaginary world of enlightenment and discovery where they will meet delightful characters and discover an easy-to-understand Buddhist message - one that will help them think about how they can apply values such as patience, perseverance, honesty and generosity to their own lives. **Recommended by Eonie Domyslawski (Class M) and his Mum.**

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

Tom Palmer (a Puffin author of over 40 books for children) will be visiting school on Wednesday 27th June. He will be working with children in Years 3-6. All Montpelier pupils will be able to buy signed and personally dedicated copies of his books. Children can bring money in to school on Wednesday, in a named envelope, if they would like to purchase a book. Pilgrim Pete may also be making a guest appearance!

Gus the Famous Football Cat ~~£4.99~~ £4.00 Pitch Invasion ~~£6.99~~ £5.00 Foul Play: Dead Ball ~~£6.99~~ £5.00



If you have any questions please email me daniellejones@mpsplymouth.net

PAINTED PEBBLE COMPETITION



Fantastic craft prizes!

Entry £1.00

Entries to be in school by Tuesday 3rd July

Please put your name and class on the back of each pebble along with a **K** for keep or **S** for sell. All pebbles with **S** on the back will be available to purchase on the day of the summer fair for 50p each

School Uniform - Reminder

A requirement of the Governors is that children attending Montpelier wear the approved school uniform. By accepting a place at Montpelier Primary School we assume that parents will support our policy of school uniform.

Boys

Dark grey trousers or shorts (no black jeans)
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***

DURING SUMMER – for Years 3 – 6 boys do not have to wear ties if wearing a polo shirt

Girls

Grey pinafore or skirt or dark grey trousers, dark grey smart knee length culottes.

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 are permissible, 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.

P.E. Kit

White 'T' shirt, black or white shorts, white socks, plimsolls (Foundation do not need plimsolls until later in the term – a letter will be sent home informing you when they are required).

Boys & Girls – Year 3 onwards - plain track suit for the winter.

Parents should note that only listed items should be worn for P.E. activities. All of the items of clothing are available from – 'National Schoolwear Centre', Mayflower Street, Plymouth or The Trutex Uniform Shop, Unit 3 & 4 Sugarmill Retail Park, Plymouth – these are the recognised uniform stockist for Montpelier Primary School. Order forms for The Trutex Shop can be collected from the School Office.

Please ensure all clothing is clearly labelled. Lost property is kept in receptacles strategically placed around the school.

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.

Tattoos or body art, whether temporary or permanent, are not permitted - unless covered by school uniform at all times.

Non- natural hair colours or extremes of haircuts / styles are not permitted.

Winter uniform should be worn, including ties for Years 3 - 6, from October half term through to the start of the Easter holidays.

Summer uniform can then be worn after the Easter holidays up to October half term, if preferred.