

The Beacon

Academic Year 2017/18

Issue No: 18

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The Beacon at a Glance

- **Year Group News** – Find out what has been going on.
- **Deputy Headteacher's News** – Social Media Accounts
- **Other news** – Non pupil day, Sporting Achievement, TT Rockstars, Netball, Threadworm, Parking

Deputy Headteacher's News

Social Media Accounts - Numerous online mobile photo-sharing, video-sharing and social networking services enable their users to take pictures and videos, and share them on a variety of social networking platforms. I would like to bring to your attention that the minimum age to open an account on the majority of these platforms is 13. We do as part of the curriculum focus on keeping safe online, discuss, and demonstrate appropriate conduct when using the internet. The children have also been advised, on more than one occasion, that they are not currently of the appropriate age to hold any such account. Following recent events I wish to respectfully request that all parents carefully monitor their children's use of any social networking sites and/or content sharing apps to avoid issues of cyberbullying and inappropriate content. We always proactively work to address such issues in school but tackling this at home will help immeasurably.

Foundation News

Foundation would like to thank Mr Holland for bringing in Jazz - the children loved meeting him and learning about how to look after a dog. We also have some animals visiting the classrooms - ask the children about our African snails, fish and guinea pig. Next week the children will be making their own books and writing how to look after a pet. We currently have a box of unclaimed gloves- please pop in if you are missing any!

Year 1 News

This week, Year 1 have been busy writing their own version of the story 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea.' They have been a delight to read! In Maths, we have been finding a half and a quarter of shapes and quantities continuing to work with Sir Slice A Lot. Please ask us what we know about reptiles...

Parents - Thank you all very much for the contributions so far and returning the forms for the trip to Paignton Zoo Animal Park.

Year 2 News

This week Year 2 were surprised to find that a mysterious diary had been abandoned in their classrooms. When they looked inside, they discovered a tricky challenge - ask your child to find out more! We've also enjoyed solving some super addition calculations in maths and exploring exciting materials in science! What a busy week!

Year 3 News

Children have been working hard this week writing their fantastic new settings to their adventure stories and how to find change in Maths. Next week, we have our Mt Edgcombe trip for classes 3M and 3P. Let's hope for some better weather!

Year 4 News

This week in Year 4, we have been writing the middle and ending of the 'Escape from Pompeii' narrative, making our very own Paper Mache volcanoes and multiplying and dividing amounts of money! 4S have been lucky enough to set up, and role-play buying and selling items, in their own shop, practicing handing over money and giving change. 4M and 4P will also be having a go at this next week! Have a fantastic weekend.

Year 5 News

Year 5 have worked extremely hard this week in the build up to their expedition day on Monday (29.1.18). Their effort has been fantastic and the judges were all extremely impressed by the standard of their job role applications today- they will find out their job roles on Monday. Please remember to send children in **warm, outdoor mufti with a change of footwear in a carrier bag**. Many thanks for your support.

Key Diary Dates

Mon 12th – Fri 16th Feb Inc. – Half term

Fri 16th March – **Non-pupil day**

Fri 30th Mar – 16th Apr Inc. – Easter holidays

Mon 7th May – Bank holiday

Mon 28th May – Bank holiday

Tues 29th May – Fri 1st June Inc. – Half term

Fri 20th July – End of term - 2:30pm finish (**Yr6 finish at 1.30pm**)

Mon 23rd July – First day of the summer holidays

Trutex Schoolwear (Billacombe Rd) pop-up shop at Montpelier - first Thursday of every month 2:45pm - 4:30pm.

The Schoolwear Shop (Mayflower St) pop-up shop at Montpelier - third Thursday of every month 2:45pm - 4:30pm.

Year 6 News

As part of our topic, 'If the World were a Village', children have looked at the demographics of our planet. They have started to study a particular continent and researched its geographical features. Children are presenting their findings in an artistic way.

Non-Pupil Day – Monty's Den

On Friday 16th March, there is a non-pupil day. Monty's Den are wondering whether there is enough of a demand for them to offer a day-care service to parents. The cost of the service would be £25.00 for a full day (07:30-18:00) and £13.00 for a short day (09:00-16:00). If you would be interested in this service, please send a brief email to admin@mpsplymouth.net stating this. If there is enough interest, Monty's Den will advertise this offer on The Beacon.

Sporting achievements

Mr Robinson would like parents/ carers to nominate their children if they have had sporting success outside of school, so it can be celebrated within school. Please email him on class4S@mpsplymouth.net stating your child's name, class and sporting success, such as club attended or medals won. We aim to celebrate these children with a dedicated photographic display within school. We look forward to receiving your nominations.

TTRockstars

All children in Key Stage 2 have a TTRockstars account which can be accessed online and via the App. Many of you already have the App for your child to use. The company have made updates to the APP so please update the App. If you have not downloaded the App follow the instructions on the page below to do so.

Netball

Please note – there is no netball on the 30th January.

Parking

Vehicle, GK56 VOP, has been reported to us - please be considerate to others when parking/driving around the school.

Threadworm

We have had a confirmed case of threadworms. They are small, thin, white, thread-like worms between 2 mm and 13 mm long. They infect human guts (intestines). They are common in children, but anyone of any age can be affected. **How do you know you have Threadworms?** They can be seen in the faeces. They cause itching around the bottom and the surrounding skin. Can cause disturbed sleep due to itching.

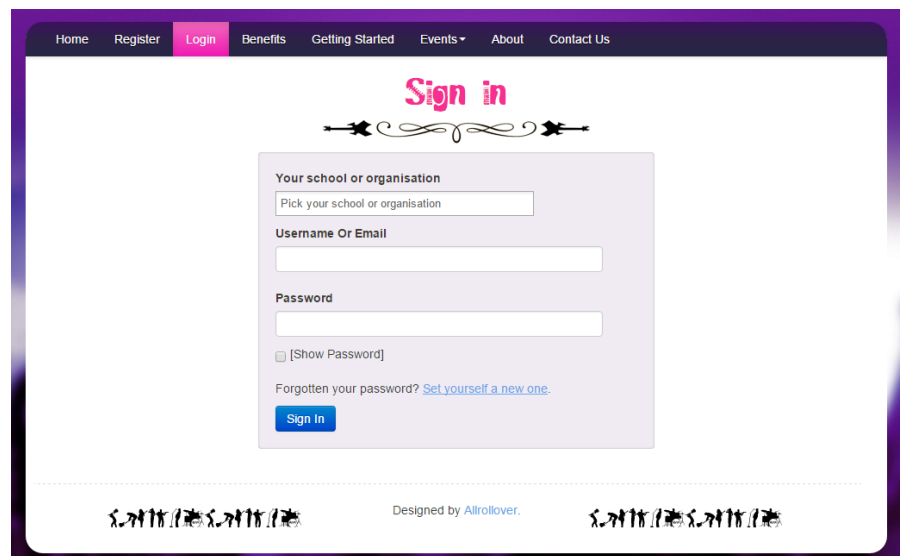
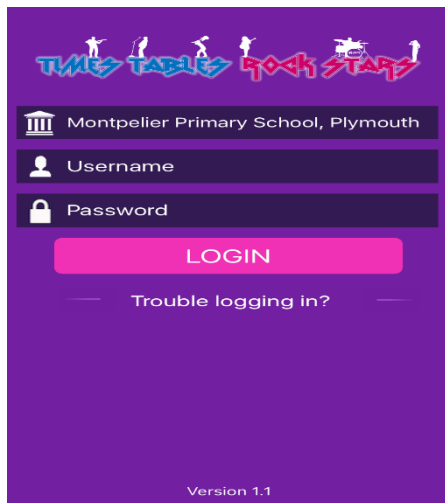
Staff Car Park

May we remind parents that the car park in North Down Road is for STAFF ONLY. Also a reminder that parents and children should keep to the pedestrian areas around the carpark and **not** walk across the carpark itself.

Logging in to



1. Type ttrackstars.com into your browser's address bar or download the app from the Android/Apple store.
2. Log in. Your child's details are the same as their computer login.



3. Play!

There are 4 different game modes, which you can find out about on the back.

Stats

If you click on Me>My Stats, a heatmap like the one below will load. It shows how successful your child is at each of the facts.

Stats

The colours relate to how quickly they can answer each of the facts from 1x1 to 12x12. The greener the colour the quicker they are and the redder the colour the slower they are.

can answer each of the facts from 1x1 to 12x12. The greener the colour the quicker they are and the redder the colour the slower they are.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	1x1	1x2	1x3	1x4	1x5	1x6	1x7	1x8	1x9	1x10	1x11	1x12
2	2x1	2x2	2x3	2x4	2x5	2x6	2x7	2x8	2x9	2x10	2x11	2x12
3	3x1	3x2	3x3	3x4	3x5	3x6	3x7	3x8	3x9	3x10	3x11	3x12
4	4x1	4x2	4x3	4x4	4x5	4x6	4x7	4x8	4x9	4x10	4x11	4x12
5	5x1	5x2	5x3	5x4	5x5	5x6	5x7	5x8	5x9	5x10	5x11	5x12
6	6x1	6x2	6x3	6x4	6x5	6x6	6x7	6x8	6x9	6x10	6x11	6x12
7	7x1	7x2	7x3	7x4	7x5	7x6	7x7	7x8	7x9	7x10	7x11	7x12
8	8x1	8x2	8x3	8x4	8x5	8x6	8x7	8x8	8x9	8x10	8x11	8x12
9	9x1	9x2	9x3	9x4	9x5	9x6	9x7	9x8	9x9	9x10	9x11	9x12
10	10x1	10x2	10x3	10x4	10x5	10x6	10x7	10x8	10x9	10x10	10x11	10x12
11	11x1	11x2	11x3	11x4	11x5	11x6	11x7	11x8	11x9	11x10	11x11	11x12
12	12x1	12x2	12x3	12x4	12x5	12x6	12x7	12x8	12x9	12x10	12x11	12x12

13	13x1	13x2	13x3	13x4	13x5	13x6	13x7	13x8	13x9	13x10	13x11	13x12
14	14x1	14x2	14x3	14x4	14x5	14x6	14x7	14x8	14x9	14x10	14x11	14x12
15	15x1	15x2	15x3	15x4	15x5	15x6	15x7	15x8	15x9	15x10	15x11	15x12

Game Modes

Single Player 🦋

Garage - the questions will only come from the times tables the teacher has set for the week. As pupils start to answer questions, TT Rock Stars works out which facts they take longer on and will give them more of these questions to answer. The Garage is best for getting quicker at a few facts. Players get 10 coins per question. This is the game we would encourage children to play.

Studio - the questions in the Studio can be anything from 2x2 up to 12x12. TT Rock Stars calculates each the mean speed from their last 10 games in the Studio and translates into a Rock Status:

Under 1 second per question to become a Rock God

Under 2 seconds per question to become a Rock Legend

Under 3 seconds per question to become a Rock Star

Over 3 seconds is a Busker

They earn 1 coin per question and the Studio is the place for them to set their best time across all the tables.

Multiplayer 🔥

Rock Arena - The Arena allows players to compete against all other members of their Band (their Bandmates would need to join the same game in order to compete together).

A new Arena game starts every 15 seconds and once the clock starts they race to answer more questions than the others. In the Arena, questions will only come from the times tables the teacher has set for the week, similar to the Garage. They earn 1 coin per correct answer.

Rock Festival - The Rock Festival games are open to players from around the world. Like the Arena, there is no limit to the number of players who can join a game; however, unlike the Arena, questions are selected at random from 2x2 to 12x12.

Pupils might choose the Rock Festival if they were playing at home (and therefore couldn't easily synchronise playing against a classmate) or wanted to compete against others not in their Band. They earn 1 coin per correct answer.