



Deputy Headteacher News

HeartSWell, a brief history...

On the 18th May 1994 at 10am, an announcement was made in the House of Commons that a Cardiac surgery unit was to be set up in Derriford Hospital, in Plymouth to serve the people of the South West. This was to take 3 years to plan and build. At this time the Executive Committee met regularly to discuss policy, fund raising and matters of urgency. Many of the committee & members had travelled in order to have lifesaving surgery and had been grateful for facilities for relatives in some of the hospitals. This group of individuals started to make enquiries into what facilities would be available to stay close to Derriford Hospital when the Cardiac unit was opened. In 1994 the charity became the Plymouth & District Cardiology Foundation Trust. From this great work HeartSWell Lodge was to be built. In August 2001 the lodge opened and to date more than 10,000 visitors have stayed there after more than £700,000 had been raised to build HeartSWell Lodge.

To this day the charity does amazing things and as a school we have the opportunity to play our part in the fantastic work that they do. Over the past few months, Montpelier Primary School has been working closely with HeartSWell, our local heart charity. HeartSWell was founded by the late Monica Pearce, a previous Head Teacher at our school. Her passion and dedication was the driving force that has made the charity what it is today.

HeartSWell does wonderful things to raise awareness and promote healthy hearts in the South West. In the event of cardiac arrest, the time scale for action is very small. It is their mission to provide local businesses, sport clubs and schools with defibrillators, with the aim that no matter where you are you will never be far from one should it ever be needed. I am delighted to let you all know that Montpelier Primary School, thanks to our Site Manager Zak Morgan will be the first school in the South West to have a defibrillator. These come at a cost of £1000 and to date we have raised £250, with the help of our PTFA towards the cost. You will be hearing a lot more about HeartSWell over the coming months as we plan to raise not only funds, but also awareness of what we are doing. There will also be training events for school staff, children and parents. I will keep you up to date with any further developments. If you would like to find out more about the charity please visit www.heartswell.org.uk.

Interested In Spanish?

Learning a language can be hugely rewarding and is best when broken down into manageable goals that are achievable over a few months. At Montpelier we have been offered the opportunity to give your children this experience. Laura's Linguistics Spanish Tutoring, a small independent tutor, is offering the chance for children to learn Spanish in a fun, creative way. The tuition will run after school and will cost £4 per session. If this is something that your child would be interested in please contact Mr West for more details.

Foundation News

All of the classes had a fantastic time at the theatre and have enjoyed retelling the story and painting their favourite scenes. Next Monday we look forward to dressing up as animals, this could be a simple piece of headwear with coloured clothes or a complete outfit! We will be 'Going on a bear hunt' in the morning and doing many animal activities all day. On Wednesday the classes will be visiting the Life Education caravan in school to learn 'All about me' and how to look after their bodies.

Year 1 News

This week we have the Life Caravan coming to school where the children will be learning about being healthy. We shall be continuing learning about using the bar model to work out word problems. We have sent out details of our school trip to Paignton Zoo so please can you fill in and return the form as soon as possible. We will be going on Wednesday 24th February to gather information so that when we return we can write all about the different animals that we have seen.

Year 2 News

A shocking event happened in year two this week... The children returned to their classrooms after break on Tuesday to find that they had been turned upside down. Chairs and equipment had been knocked over and Sunny the Meerkat was missing! The children investigated the scene of the crime and found sand, footprints and other evidence to suggest a jackal had committed the crime. They were quite shocked, one child even went home and made a jackal trap. They are busy writing newspaper reports to try and spread the word and get Sunny back where he belongs. Fingers crossed. A couple other items have gone missing from 2P. Elliot Dawson's white school logo PE top and Jasmine Bull's Montpelier cardigan. We have no reason to believe that the jackal had anything to do with this, so can you check at home to see if they have mistakenly gone home with the wrong child? Our trip to The Eden Project is fast approaching so please return any outstanding consent and lunch order forms. Contributions for the trip can be made in the usual way via eSchools.

Many thanks, The Year Two Team

Diary Dates

Mon 15th – Fri 19th Feb Inc.

- Half term

Thursday 24th Mar 2016.

- 'Wear a Hat' Mufti Day

Fri 25th Mar – Fri 8th Apr Inc

- Easter holidays

Mon 11th Apr 2016

- Non pupil day

Mon 2nd May 2016

- Bank holiday

Mon 30th May 2016

- Bank holiday

Tues 31st May - Fri 3rd June Inc.

- Half term

Mon 6th June 2016

- Non pupil day

Fri 22nd July 2016

- Last day of term

Wed 7th Sept 2016

- First day of term

"Remember to check the Lost Property Bins"

Year 3 News

Since the return to school Year 3 have been busy; with adventure training day last week to writing guides this week all linked into our exciting topic 'Plymouth to Plymouth.' We have also been using our number skills to find more than one answer to a question and in Science we made a compass.

Thank you and well done to those pupils who handed in the 50 festive things task - once again some great work handed in. Next week sees us adventuring at Mount Edgcumbe so if you haven't yet handed in your permission slip please can you do so ASAP. And we are only at the end of week 2...Super effort everyone!

Year 4 News

This week year 4 have been focusing on number sequences and negative numbers in maths. In English they have been exploring stories from other cultures. In computing this week we have been discussing how to keep safe when using the internet and researching information about the Ancient Egyptians. Can they tell you how to stay safe online and any facts they have learnt about Ancient Egyptians? We enjoyed melting ice over a fire this week in the forest area to learn about 'Changing States' Next week, we are going to be focusing on addition and subtraction and using the formal written methods. In English we look forward to learning about the Bedouin culture. Have a relaxing weekend.

Year 6 News

We have really enjoyed our Topic morning which included a visit from The National Marine Aquarium as well as making our own classroom World map today! The British Red Cross worked with 6P this week to learn all about asylum seekers, migrants and refugees - the children were great at taking part in all the hands on activities. 6S will have this session next week. Well done to all of the children who have been learning their spellings and keeping up with their home reading - it's really making a difference! 6P and 1/2 of 6S will be heading to SDCC next week to make the soup they've been busy planning the recipe for. 6M and 1/2 of 6S will be doing this the week after. School are providing the ingredients for this. Have a lovely weekend.

Quiz Evening, Raffle, Auction with fantastic prizes

Saturday 5th March 6:45pm start at the Jan Cutting Centre, Scott Business Park, Beacon Park Road. Fundraiser for children who have Duchene Muscular Dystrophy and attend Montpelier Primary School. Entry £3 per person. Teams of up to 6 people. Please bring your own snacks and drinks. Sorry no alcohol permitted at the venue. To enter a team, please hand in your entry fee in an envelope to Montpelier School reception, with the following details on the front: Team name, contact name and telephone number, email address. Please ensure all entries are in by Monday 29th February. For further info please email Carla.nicole.watts@gmail.com

School Games

Multi Skills

Congratulations to the year 2 Multi Skills team that competed at SDCC on Wednesday. The team of 12 showed fantastic skills that included balancing, jumping, throwing and running. The team finished in 4th position overall, showing super team work. Well done

Diving

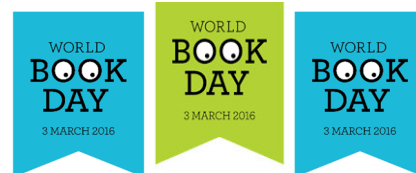
On Monday Diving coaches from Plymouth Life Centre worked with all children from year 2, 3 and 4 looking for the next Diving star. Well done to those children who were invited back to phase 2. If your child succeeds and reaches the next phase, I would be very grateful if you could email me on lindapearce@mpsplymouth.net therefore I can follow your child's progress.

Chelsea Football

Congratulation to Finlay Roberts Bush 5M, who has been selected for a trial period at Chelsea Football Club. After attending many trial sessions, Finlay has progressed to the next phase after several months of challenging training sessions. This is a fantastic opportunity and a massive achievement. Well done Finlay we are extremely proud of you, keep up the fantastic work.

Lost Property

Kai West (Class P) has lost an age 5/6, khaki green, Parker coat. It has a fur hood and sheepskin lining. Please inform the school office if you know of its whereabouts. Thank you.



WORLD BOOK DAY – Thursday 3rd March DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

W/C 22nd February - Usborne Sponsored read week. More information to follow.
26th February - Usborne book fair after school.

THEMES

Year groups will be focussing on a specific traditional tale. We ask that the children dress up as characters from the tale that their class is learning about. The younger year groups will look at the traditional version and the older children will study an innovated version e.g. telling the story from another character's point of view.

The children will be working on a two week unit of work, leading to producing a final outcome which will be shared with another year group on World Book Day.

- Yr 1 with yr 4 – Jack and the Beanstalk
- Yr 2 with yr 5 – Little Red Riding Group
- Yr 3 with yr 6 and Foundation - The Three Little Pigs

BOOK VOUCHERS

As in previous years, all the children will receive a £1 book voucher to spend at selected book stores.

BEDTIME STORIES

5.15pm – 6.15pm: KS1 bedtime stories
5.30pm – 6.30pm: KS2 bedtime stories
5.15pm – 6.30pm: parent book swap (KS2 hall).

Bad Parking Again

On the morning of Thursday 14th January, during the school run time, a silver Land Rover Discovery (DE58 PFO) was parked across double yellow lines, where the pavement dips for pedestrian to cross. Please be mindful when driving around the school and to where you park. Thank you.

Music News

No violin lessons next Tuesday 19th January. For any Year 3 pupils who miss their instrumental lesson due to the Mount Edgcumbe they will be made up later in the term.

Have you any unwanted clean underwear - pants, socks, tights that you would be happy to donate to school? These would need to be suitable for 4 – 11 year olds. Please hand in to the school office. Thank you.