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**Deputy Headteacher News**

I would like to say how lovely it was to see so many parents attend the parent-teacher consultations this week. Your involvement in your child's education is so important to both us and your children that I thought I'd mention it here. Being a parent myself I am aware that having quality time to talk to your child's teacher is so important. I would also like to take this time to remind parents that we do operate an open door policy at Montpelier and welcome parents into our school at every opportunity. I appreciate that in recent newsletters I have talked about our security procedures, but I would like to stress that these are purely there to keep your children safe and not you as parents out! The staff that we have are willing to meet with you at any time, either at the end of the day or through a pre-arranged appointment and I would encourage parents to keep the lines of communication open as it is something that we value very much.

This week I have had the privilege of accompanying two groups of children to activities and events at Plymouth Argyle Football Club. The children that attended were a credit to the school. The first activity was connected to leadership. Throughout this academic year a small group of children have been working alongside coaches from Argyle to become official sports leaders. At this point I have to say thank you to our learning mentor Julie Spencer, who has taken the time to organise and arrange this fantastic opportunity for the children at our school. Part of the course involved visiting the football club for an official tour and this took place on Wednesday of this week. The second event took place on Thursday and was all about raising the issue of racism and the impact it can have on anyone's life. **Show Racism the Red Card** is a national initiative being promoted with the help of football clubs throughout the country. The children took part in workshops, answered questions, watched and analysed short films and had the opportunity to listen to people who had been affected by racism during their lives. It was an informative and educational day and one that I know the children enjoyed.

I would like to finish by saying how impressed I was with the commitment Plymouth Argyle are showing to the wider community, their staff were brilliant with our children and I would like to think that after this week they have a few more fans.

**Foundation News**

It was great to see all parents this week for parents evening, we hope that you found it informative. The children have been busy exploring the night sky and fireworks with creative art work and firework writing. Next week we will be focusing on colour with Elmer and a new 'Colour World' role play area in Room M.

**Year 1 News**

Mrs Johnson and Mrs Suter have been busy being playwrights over the half term holiday and have finished the Year 1 Christmas performance script! We have two morning performances which will be on Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th December at 9:30am. Keep your eye out for more information in the coming weeks as we give out roles and songs. Thank you for signing up for parents evening using the new eSchools learning platform. We will be using the eSchools platform to share learning and information but bear with us as we become more familiar.

**Year 2 News**

Welcome Back, It sounds like everybody had an amazing half term, the children have been busy sharing their adventures. It was great to hear about so many families getting outside and ticking more items off of their 50 Things Lists...It also appears that the tooth fairy had a busy week!

Thank you to all of the parents who managed to navigate eSchools and make it to Parent's Evening. It was lovely to meet so many proud and supportive parents and an absolute pleasure to share your child's achievements. Enjoy your weekend

**Year 3 News**

We have had a great first week back after the half term break. The week began with an exciting discovery of a burning fire and evidence of ancient story telling in the school forest, ask your child to tell you the ancient tale of the why the sun and moon are in the sky. The children have continued to adventure through time with a focused look at how Stonehenge was created and what forces would have been involved. Maths has begun with counting in steps of 3 and representing multiplication facts. Thank you to all those who attended parents evening.

**Year 4 News**

Welcome back! The children have come back re-energised and ready to tackle the new term. This week the children had to put their detective hats on to investigate a robbery from the classroom. They had to work together to solve clues which then enabled them to frame a suspect. This activity introduced the new English unit - Newspaper reports. Ask your child to tell you more!

**Year 5 News**

The children have made an enthusiastic return after half term and have enjoyed the new English unit where they are performing different types of poems. In addition, they have enjoyed measuring various objects and converting between measurements.

Thank you for returning all the 'Bikeability' permission forms, information and details on this activity will be available in the near future.

**Diary Dates**

**Trutex Schoolwear first**  
Thursday of every month  
2:45pm - 4:30pm.

**Friday 13th Nov 2015**

- Children in Need - British Hero Mufti

**Fri 4<sup>th</sup> Dec 2015**

- Chocolate Mufti

**Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> Dec 2015**

- Christmas lunch

**Fri 11<sup>th</sup> Dec 2015**

- Christmas Fair

**Fri 18<sup>th</sup> Dec 2015**

- Last day of term

**Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2016**

- Non pupil day

**Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2016**

- First day of term

**Mon 15<sup>th</sup> – Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Feb Inc.**

- Half term

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> Mar 2016.**

- Wear a Hat Mufti Day

**Fri 25<sup>th</sup> Mar – Fri 8<sup>th</sup> Apr Inc.**

- Easter holidays

**Mon 11<sup>th</sup> Apr 2016**

- Non pupil day

**Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2016**

- Bank holiday

**Mon 30<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

- Bank holiday

**Tues 31<sup>st</sup> May – Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> June Inc.**

- Half term

**Mon 6<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

- Non pupil day

## Music News

Steel pan club for Year 5 is cancelled on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November. It restarts on the 18<sup>th</sup> November.

All our music clubs are making a great start on their Christmas pieces ready for the school carol service on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 6pm at Mutley Baptist Church. Please save the date!

### Muscular Dystrophy UK Day

A huge thank you to you all for sending in your spare change which the children placed on the large 79s in the playgrounds. They were both fully covered with coins raising a fantastic £440 for Duchenne research. Throughout the day the children ran a House Team relay challenge and in total ran an incredible 109.5 Miles for Muscles!

### Chinese Mandarin Club

My Name is Lie Zhao and I am offering a fantastic opportunity for your child to learn Chinese Mandarin at Montpelier. Lele Mandarin Club offers a fun-packed and enjoyable experience for your child which includes four areas of learning: speaking, listening, reading and writing. Chinese culture will also be introduced during festival seasons. The club is open to all year groups and will run on a Monday after school from 3:15-4:00pm starting this Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November. Fees: £5 per session. Spaces are limited so if interested please email me in the first instance on mandarinclub2015@gmail.com or call on 01752 309586 / 07979946699. Give it a go!

### Montpelier Parent's Running Group

Thank you to everybody who ran yesterday in the rain. We will be meeting again next Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November at 9:15am, outside of the main reception. This group is open to all Montpelier parents. Any queries contact Claire White 07811 050862

## Year 6 News

Firstly we would like to thank all the parents that took the time to come to parents evening this week. The children have planned and started to write their slavery escape stories during English lessons. This week's 'outdoor' PE sessions ended up 'indoor' due to the lovely weather we've had, but this didn't stop them from enjoying a football skills session led by Plymouth Argyle coaches. Today they have been glazing their pottery and producing Picasso inspired portraits as part of our Art day.

### DOMESTIC ABUSE AWARENESS WEEK 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> November 2015

If you, a friend or family member are a victim of domestic abuse, speak to Plymouth Domestic Abuse Services (PDAS) and receive confidential information from specialist advisers, children's workers and Devon and Cornwall Police.

Get in touch or come along

Tel: 01752 252033 website: sanctuary-supported-living.co.uk

**Monday 23<sup>rd</sup>** 9am – 1pm Nomony Children's Centre, 27 St Johns Road PL4 0PA

10am – 4pm Plymouth City Centre, Frankfort Gate

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