

Headteacher News

The Anti-Bullying Alliance was established in 2002 and is a group of organisations and individuals working together to stop bullying and create safe environments, in which children and young people can live, grow, play and learn. The Anti-Bullying Alliance coordinates Anti-Bullying Week each November which, for this year, has been this week (14th - 18th November). The theme has been 'Power for Good'. The ABA aims of this Anti-Bullying Week have been to support children and young people to use their Power for Good by understanding the ways in which they are powerful and encouraging individual and collective action to stop bullying and create the best world possible. It's also been about helping parents and carers to use their Power for Good through supporting children with issues relating to bullying and working together with schools to stop bullying. And the focus has also been on encouraging all teachers, school support staff and youth workers to use their Power for Good by valuing the difference they can make in a child's life, and taking individual and collective action to prevent bullying and create safe environments where children can thrive.

We began Anti-Bullying Week at Montpelier with the Blue Mufti Day to really raise children's awareness of it right at the start of the week. Assemblies and discussions in lessons this week have then all been focussed on anti-bullying. We always begin by getting children to say what they think 'bullying' is. We try to help them understand that bullying isn't always physical and doesn't always happen face-to-face, that it can happen online or via their phones. The ABA have their definition of bullying which is 'the repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power'. We have always attempted to simplify that with the acronym STOP, which stands for Several Times On Purpose (our simplified definition so it's memorable) and also stands for Start Telling Other People (how to begin to stop bullying taking place). We also try to get children to think about what it might feel like to be bullied. Some, unfortunately, can draw on personal experience but it really helps to be able to discuss the thoughts and feelings behind bullying. We think and discuss how people would feel, whether they have ever felt like that, when they may have felt like that in the past, what did they do or might they do in that situation and, if they saw a person in this situation, what would they do to help?

As much as every school tries their level best to eradicate bullying, children sometimes can be cruel and unkind to each other and it's important that we recognise this and know how to deal with it if you're unlucky enough to experience it or witness it going on. It's never an easy subject to explore but it's always so important that children feel they can talk about it as silence can be a bully's strongest ally.

Cafe Connect

As part of our programme of events in Café Connect we would like to invite you to come along and learn a new skill in a relaxing environment and enjoy a morning of glass painting. The session will be led by

Lorraine Galer from 09.15am to 11.15am on Friday 25th November. This session is free and a crèche for children from 12 months is available on request. As places are limited booking with Jane Gilbert is essential by Monday 21st November. janegilbert@mpsplymouth.net or call 216160



Diary Dates

Thurs 24th Nov 2016

- Shopping Night run by PTFA

Friday 25th November

- 09.15am to 11.15am Glass Painting (Venue: Café Connect)

Fri 2nd Dec 2016

- 3:15 to 5pm Christmas Fair

Wed 7th Dec 2016

- Carol Concert

Thurs 8th Dec 2016

- Christmas lunch
- Christmas Tree Festival

Thurs 15th Dec 2016

- Christmas party / wear your Christmas jumper (Save the Children £1 donation)

Fri 16th Dec 2016

- 50 Things Event

Mon 19th Dec '16 - Tues 3rd Jan Inc.

- Christmas Holidays

Mon 13th - Fri 17th Feb 2017 Inc.

- Half term

Mon 3rd - Tues 18th Apr 2017 Inc.

- Easter holidays

Mon 1st May 2017

- Bank holiday

Sun 21st - Fri 26th May 2016

- Bude Residential (Yr 6)

Mon 29th May - Fri 2nd June '17

- Half term

Tues 25th July 2017

- Leavers' assembly
- Last day of term 2:30pm finish (Yr6 finish at 1.30pm)

Wed 26th July 2017

- Start of the summer holidays



Monty's Den

Monty's Den is our onsite after school care. Call on 07522 429599 for more information or to book a session. Sessions start from £6.50. Flexible booking available www.thedens.co.uk

Foundation News

Next week we are really excited about showing you the activities the children have been doing in Maths. You are invited to join the children on Wednesday afternoon 2-2.30pm. If you have siblings that are also in Key Stage 1 then you are free to divide your time between the classes. You are free to collect them afterwards and if able it would be great if you could join the whole school for the Maths Singalong straight after school. We also have visitors from the SpaceLab in school on Tuesday who will be providing a fun session for the children.

Year 1 News

What a great week it's been in Year 1! We had a fantastic geography afternoon on Monday after discovering some unusual maps in our classrooms. These led us to the forest where we split into our house teams and found gold and silver stars hidden in many locations. Some of us also came face to face with a hedgehog who was hiding behind the tepee! We have also enjoyed beginning to plan our own giant stories. On Thursday we loved acting out some different ideas from our stories using role play. Thank you for your responses to the phonics workshop we are holding on 30th November. We look forward to seeing you there! Have a super weekend.

Year 2 News

What a caring and supportive collection of children we have in year 2! We have been looking closely at being good friends to one another. Anti-Bullying week has helped to raise the awareness of good friendships and the decision making skills, we need, to be great friends. We are also very excited about our school trip to Eden on Monday and becoming real rain forest rangers! Please read the letter in your child's book bag as this has important information and a few reminders. Have a fantastic weekend.

Year 3 News

This week Year 3 have been starting to plan their own ancient tales in English and mentally adding and subtracting 1, 10 and 100 from a 3 digit number in Maths. A highlight of the week was forest school where the children had to work as 'collaborating crabs' to complete different challenges. Thanks for everyone's support with ensuring children have wellies and appropriate clothing to wear.

Year 4 News

The children have had a busy week, planning their Egyptian non-chronological reports, estimating what the answer would be when adding two four digit numbers together and subtracting a four digit number from another four digit number, by rounding to the nearest 10 and 100. We investigated Islamic repeating patterns on Tuesday during our art day. By the end of the day everyone had created their own pattern block to create a repeating pattern print. We are all looking forward to the Science lab visiting on Monday! Thank you for your continued support. Have a great weekend.

Year 5 News

This week the children have been enjoying the 'Bikeability' sessions with their instructors, improving their skills on a bicycle and how to ride safely on the road. Thankfully this year, the weather was better than last, when it rained almost every day. Only on Thursday was there any sign of rain but it didn't dampen any of the children's spirits. Thank you to all those parents who have brought in the various equipment each day so the children can experience this event.

In other areas of the curriculum this week we have been refining multiplication methods in Maths and looking at The Hobbit in preparation for our next English unit of work.

Year 6 News

On Wednesday, Year 6 went out on their trip. We visited the Synagogue and learnt about Jewish places of worship. Inside, we saw the torah, held a yad and played a shofar. As part of the trip, we also visited historical places in the Barbican and learnt about its connections with the slave trade. We learnt such a lot in such a short space of time!

This week, the children have also been taking part in assessments. They have worked really hard and we have been impressed with their mature attitude towards the tests. Well done Year 6!

Lift required

A year 6 pupil is in need of a lift each day from Efford to Montpellier and back again at the end of the day. They are happy to help towards the cost. If anyone is able to assist with this request, please contact Jane Gilbert PSA via the school office or email janegilbert@mpsplymouth.net

Music News

Well done to nine of our children from service families who performed alongside the Military Kids Choir at the Festival of Remembrance at the Pavilions last Friday. Everyone really enjoyed themselves and it was lovely to be part of such a special, poignant occasion.

Just a reminder there is no steel pan on Wednesday due to the Maths Big Sing or Thursday choir next week.

Maths Fun Day - Go Mental for Maths!

The maths fun day is fast approaching and we can't wait to see parents in school to find out what has taken place during the day. The maths fun day is on Wednesday 23rd November. Parents of Foundation and Key Stage One children are invited in to school at 2pm and parents of Key Stage Two children are invited in at 2:30pm. At the end of the school day there will be a maths sing along, in the Key Stage Two hall, for all the family.

National Marine Aquarium

The National Marine Aquarium are holding an evening of quiet for families with sensory need on 19th Nov between 5pm and 7pm. They also run workshops for promoting health and wellbeing through the medium of art etc. For more details please refer to their website.

Prompt Start Please!

A number of children are still arriving late into school. Late arrivals have a disruptive effect interrupting the flow of lessons and causing valuable teaching time to be wasted.

Formal school starts at 8:45am (KS2) & 8:50am (KS1). It is vital that children arrive well before that time. The school is open from 8:30am so that children have time to get to their classrooms and prepare for lessons. Please help us by ensuring that your child arrives on the school site at the proper time.

Children arriving at 8:45am (KS2) (or 8:50am KS1) are late.

Please help the school further by following these simple procedures

1. Accompany children to the school office so that they can be formally registered and book their lunch.
2. Let children go off to their classroom on their own.

It is understandable that parents wish to explain to the class teacher why their child is late. However, in doing so the lesson being taken is disrupted even further. Please help to minimise disruption.