**Headteacher News**

***Social networking sites and content sharing apps.***

There are numerous online mobile photo-sharing, video-sharing and social networking services that enable their users to take pictures and videos, and share them on a variety of social networking platforms, such as Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr and Flickr. Despite the fact that the overwhelming majority of these services and apps state a requirement for users to be at least 13 years of age, we are finding that many of our older pupils use them. Use of these sometimes leads to issues of privacy, cyberbullying, and content concerns. Although this takes place outside of school, upset and disagreements often continues within school. In an ideal world, I would ask all parents to adhere to the age restrictions recommended by the developers. Failing that, 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.

***Parent View.***

As always, we continually seek to gather the views, thoughts and feelings of both pupils and parents. This constantly takes place through informal discussions we have with you and the children but we also undertake this more formally by periodically sending out questionnaires. We also like to encourage parents to log onto Parent View ([www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.parentview.ofsted.gov.uk)) which provides you with the opportunity to tell Ofsted what you think about school. The online survey can be completed at any time; you don’t have to wait until we’re being inspected. We will provide opportunities for you to complete this in school before and after shows/events that take place.

***School Council – School Uniform.***

At a recent meeting of the School Council, children raised the issue of school uniform. Pupils recognise that there is a school uniform requirement for everyone to follow and there is concern, amongst children, that not everyone adheres to the rules. The overwhelming majority of pupils that do wear the correct uniform feel that it is unfair that a small number of children do not follow the dress code. They have therefore asked that a reminder be sent home regarding uniform requirements in order that **all** pupils follow the rules.

**Foundation News**

What a busy week with Christmas decorations being made, Christmas lunch, singing and cooking Christmas cupcakes. Next week will be even busier! We hope you are able to join us on Tuesday afternoon for the Christmas Sing-a-Long. It will be school uniform that day but the children can wear a festive item (eg. Christmas jumper, hat, hair bands, badge, socks etc!) On Thursday we have the Christmas parties. The children bring mufti to change into at lunchtime, ready for the party in the afternoon. Please could you sign up for an item of party food and send it in on the morning - a list will be in your child's classroom at the end of each day. On Friday it is festive jumper mufti day!

**Year 1 News**

We did it! The children were amazing with their Christmas performance this year. They were absolutely super and I think we could have a few potential Oscar winners in Year 1. We will be having our Christmas party on Thursday 17th and would appreciate any snacks to set up a mini spread in each class for this end of term celebration.

**Year 2 News**

Our classrooms became chocolate factories this week as we continued on our mission to help Mr Wonka! We started off our DT day on Tuesday tasting and evaluating a variety of chocolate bars. We then designed our own mouth-watering chocolate bars and appealing packaging. We rounded off the day by making our masterpieces. We are sure Mr Wonka will be impressed. Sign in to eSchools to have a look at some pictures.

**Year 4 News**

Another hard week of work! In Maths the children have been investigating negative numbers and rounding to 10, 100 and 1000. During English sessions the children have been planning their Roman diary entries from Julius Caesar, sharing his enthusiasm for power! Thank you all so much for the efforts that went into the Roman shields, they looked absolutely fab, the classrooms look bare now!

**Year 5 News**

This week in Year 5 the children have enjoyed creating their own version of a map using various types of media. There have been some interesting designs and the children have been able to practice their sewing skills once again.

We have been impressed with the dedication and conscientious approach of the children towards their learning this term and we look forward to enjoying the various events of the final school week. We hope you have continued to keep your Moon diary this week, as you will need to hand the diary in on Wednesday 16th December.

**Year 6 News**

It turns out we have some budding food critics amongst the year 6 pupils. On Monday they were given a blind taste test to investigate if the tastiest soups were the most expensive. It turned out that this was indeed the case! This week the children enjoyed their Argyle coaching sessions, learning how to play handball. They have also been improving their journalistic skills; interviewing 'Rosa Parks' and writing a newspaper report.

**Minecraft Club**

Minecraft club is back! See Mr Bennetts, Reception or the Minecraft display in school for your application. Spaces are very limited this year so get your application in on time to be entered for the club draw. Happy crafting.

**Diary Dates**

**Mon 14th Dec**

* Christmas Carol Service

**Fri 18th Dec 2015**

* Christmas Jumper **Mufti** - Text Santa Appeal
* Last day of term

**Mon 4th Jan 2016**

* Non pupil day

**Tues 5th Jan 2016**

* First day of term

**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

***“Remember to check the Lost Property Bins”***

**Christmas Jumper Mufti**

Friday 18th December will be 'Festive Jumper Day'. Children and Staff will be able to come to school wearing a festive jumper for a suggested donation of £1. As a school, we have received requests from a variety of different charities asking us to hold this event for their cause. The School Council have chosen to raise money for Text Santa as this means the proceeds go to Macmillan Cancer Support, Save the Children and Make-A-Wish UK.

Please don't feel that you have to buy something new, perhaps you could decorate an existing top with a Christmas decoration or simply wear something in a festive colour. Many thanks for your support, Miss Harris, Mrs Jones and the School Council

**Music News**

We are really looking forward to some fabulous music at the Carol Service on Monday at Mutley Baptist Church at 6pm (Doors open from 5.30pm). If you do not need any of your tickets, please return them to the Office as we have a waiting list, The children are sounding fantastic in rehearsal and can't wait to show you!

There are drum lessons on Tuesday, all other lessons have finished for this term. All Miss JR's clubs have now finished. The lessons restart the first week back after the holiday.

Good luck to the Green Squad choir who are performing tonight with Plymouth Area Police Choir. Miss JR knows you are going to be the stars of the show!

There was a mistake in the dates given out that choir restarts in January. Year 2 and 3 choir restarts on Tuesday 19th January and Thursday Choir restarts on Thursday 21st January.

**Send a Christmas Card**

I’m sure a few of you may already have come across this story, but after reading it I felt it was important to share it with you in the hope that as a school we can play a part in making a brave little girls Christmas wish a reality.

In 2013 Safyre Terry, who was 6 at the time, was at home with her family in Schenectady, New York, when it was attacked and destroyed by arson, killing her father David Terry and three younger siblings. Safyre, the only survivor in the fire, was found shielded by her father and suffered burns on more than 75% of her body. Safyre, now 8, has endured more than 50 operations and subsequently lost her right hand and left foot.

The severely burned girl has appealed online for the world to share the festive spirit with her, as her own family is no longer around to do so. Her only wish is to fill her Christmas tree with cards from around the world. For the price of a stamp to the USA you can make this little girl's Christmas wish come true. Please when you are writing your Christmas cards this year, take a few minutes to write one more and send a Christmas card her way, I am sure she will love receiving cards from all over the world. The address for cards is P.O. Box 6126, Schenectady, NY, 12306.

**Flexible Hockey Taster Programme**

PMHC Junior Hockey Programme - Tuesday 5-6pm at Marjon - School Years 2-5 (U8s/U10s).

An application form will need to be completed in order to register attendance for non-club members. Payment will need to be made on the first session for the block at £2 per session (£8 for 4 weeks or £10 for 5 weeks) or you can pay £3 on a weekly basis. Sessions run from 5-6pm on the Hockey astro accessible via the main entrance to the University of St Mark & St John. Any questions please email Matt Bodily - matt.hockeydynamics@gmail.com - equipment is available but players will need to wear shin pads and a gum guard.

Looking forward to meeting you soon!

**School Uniform**

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

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

**Girls**

Grey pinafore or skirt or dark grey trousers

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 (Boys & Girls – Year 3 onwards):**

White ‘T’ shirt, black or white shorts, white socks, plimsolls, plain dark (preferably black) 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.