

## Headteacher News

### Helicopter Visit

Whatever your thoughts on armed conflict and the requirement for nations to have a military, Plymouth's historic association to such things cannot be denied. Its naval connections go back a long way, with perhaps the most famous being the departure of Sir Francis Drake from the city to defeat the Spanish Armada in 1588. The first Royal dockyard opened on the banks of the Tamar, west of Plymouth, in 1691, and a number of other docks were established in the decades that followed. A massive naval complex came next which played a pivotal role in the war against Napoleon's France. Plymouth Dock, as it was known, became 'Devonport' in 1824. Between 1883 and the start of the First World War (1914), Devonport built 17 battleships, 5 dreadnoughts, 2 battlecruisers and 14 cruisers. More recently, Plymouth became one of the most heavily bombed cities in the country during WWII. Nevertheless, the city made a huge naval contribution to the war, with ships taking part in the Battle of the Atlantic and the D-Day landings. The docks also played a role in the Falklands Conflict of 1982.

**Plymouth Armed Forces Day** is an annual event to commemorate and say a huge 'Thank You' to the British Armed Forces community and celebrate the contribution it makes to our country. It takes place this year on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June on the Hoe between 10:00am and 10:30pm and will provide a spectacular and exciting day of entertainment with an air display, parade, demonstrations, evening concert and activities for the whole family. During the event, the Royal Navy, Army, RAF, Royal Marines and Veterans' organisations, charities and the Emergency Services will showcase their services in a variety of 'villages' set out across the Hoe. The day is a great opportunity for people to show their support for the men and women who make up the Armed Forces community.

We have a number of service families at Montpelier and always look to support them in any way that we can. Now one of them is about to do us a huge favour too! Lieutenant Commander Ian Chudley (father of Adela in Year 5) is a Senior Pilot with 849 Naval Air Squadron, Culdrose, Helston. He will be landing his Royal Navy Sea King helicopter here on the Friday prior to Armed Forces Day (where his Sea King will be one of the attractions). Lt Cdr Chudley will land in Devonport High School for Girls playing field (as there's not enough clear space on our playgrounds to do so). We'll be able to take some pupils over to watch the landing and also to have a look around the helicopter and meet the crew. What a fantastic opportunity!



A huge 'thank you' goes out from us to Lt Cdr Chudley for offering us and then organising this pretty unique event. Speaking to Adela today, she's very excited about Daddy landing his helicopter here especially as she won't be seeing him for a couple of weeks beforehand as he is going on detachment prior to the visit.

Have a great half term everyone!

### Diary Dates

**Mon 29<sup>th</sup> May - Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2017**

- Half term

**Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

- Polling Day – school closed

**Thurs 15<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

- Class 5 & Year 5 Class photos
- Proms in the Playground 6-7pm

**Mon 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

- Race for Life event

**Wed 21<sup>st</sup> June 2017**

- Yr 2 – Trip to Wembury

**Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017**

- Foundation & KS1 Sports Day

**Tues 4<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

- KS2 Sports Day

**Wed 5<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

- Reserve Sports Day

**Tues 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

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

**Wed 26<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

- Start of the summer holidays

**Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 2017**

- Non-pupil day

**Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Sept 2017**

- First day of term

**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> Oct Inc.**

- Half term

**Wed 20<sup>th</sup> Dec – 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan Inc.**

- Christmas holiday

**Wed 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2018**

- Non pupil day

### Monty's Den

Monty's Den is our on-site after school care. Call on 07522 429599 for more information or to book a session. Flexible booking available.

[www.thedens.co.uk](http://www.thedens.co.uk)



### Foundation News

The children have really immersed themselves in stories this week and worked hard writing their own using their spoon characters and fantastic shoe boxes. The Bear hunt was a great success with water, mud and even snow! We hope you all have a super half term week and look forward to seeing the children back all refreshed!

### Year 1 News

There was excitement this week as we discovered adverts for a 'Superhero Training Academy' in our classrooms. The children eagerly applied, writing all about the special superhero qualities they would have! Also, after learning about Florence Nightingale in History this term, Year 1 got creative making patterned paper lanterns inspired by her work. What a busy week! Have a lovely break.

### Year 2 News

Fancy a grass, chewing gum, mint sauce and mushroom sandwich? No? Well, that's what we have been creating in our writing this week! Poor Mr Grinling's lunch has been eaten again. As always, the children have saved the day and have been contributing to Mrs Grinling's recipe book of disgusting sandwiches to deter the pesky seagulls. You have also probably discovered the marvellous mezuzahs in your child's book bag. The children have really enjoyed making these and have thought incredibly hard about the message inside; something that is important to them. Finally, have a fantastic half term full of laughter, fun and hopefully sunshine. The Year 2 Team

### Year 3 News

Another term finished, where did it go? The children have been finishing and editing their 'Madagascar' stories this week. The children have made us all really proud of their writing and we hope you will be just as proud when they read them to you this weekend. In maths the children have been focusing on perimeter, designing zoo enclosures for the animals. Ask your child to tell you all about perimeter. Have a fantastic half term break. Here's hoping for sunny weather. Year 3 team.

### Year 4 News

Wow! We have been impressed by year 4's focus and enthusiasm for their learning during this week, rounding off a successful first half of the summer term in year four. In Maths this week, we have continued working on the expanded and compact method for multiplication. In English, we have been writing our own character descriptions using a wide range of vocabulary and other technical features. During half term, please ask your child if they can continue to read, in order to gain air miles for their reading passport. Thank you for your continued support with their learning. Enjoy your half term.

### Year 5 News

How quickly the term has passed! It doesn't seem that long ago it was Easter. The children have been working hard in their final week completing their Maths and English units. Have an enjoyable week off and we look forward to seeing them all again after the break. Have a great holiday and hopefully the sun will continue to shine.

### Year 6 News

The children have had a fantastic time this week what with Bude and Activity Week. Normal school life resumes after half term. The Senior Leadership Team would like to thank all the staff that took part in the Year 6 activity week and Bude Residential. Special thanks to Miss Somerville for leading Bude and Mrs Keith for arranging Activity Week. Without **all** the staff's willing support this week would not be possible. Have a brilliant half term.

### Secondary School Open Evening - Admission Info

Devonport High School for Boys  
**Open Days** Tues 4<sup>th</sup> July 2017, 5 – 7.30pm & Mon 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017 9 – 11am

**11+ Familiarisation session**  
Sat 10<sup>th</sup> June 2017 free of charge

**Admission Tests**  
Sat 16<sup>th</sup> & Sat 23<sup>rd</sup> September

**For more info Tel 01752 208787**

### Music News

There's been some great music going on this week! Some of our steel pan players performed for the Lord Mayor's Choosing ceremony last Friday to the delight of everyone attending. We've since had a Boys Noise Singing afternoon led by our fabulous boys' choir- inspiring boys from 3 local primary schools to sing, and taken all of Year 4 to see the Royal Marines Band in concert. Amazing! Fabulous! It made my day! I loved it! These were just some of the comments from the children (and staff!) on their return.

Letters for our summer celebration of singing- Proms in the Playground, on Thursday 15th June, are out. It is a fantastic event for all the children who have attended one of the school choirs this year. They are singing wonderfully at the moment so don't miss out on hearing them. Additional letters can be found on the school website or from outside the music room.

