



Headteacher News

eSchools

You may remember that I mentioned the introduction of our new eSchools Learning Platform a couple of weeks ago. This represents part of our ongoing drive to further improve communication between home and school, and also increase the accessibility to information for parents. eSchools is a web and app-based service for communicating digital aspects of school and learning including; attendance, letters home, consent forms, class projects, curriculum information, surveys and questionnaires. We will also be able to operate an online booking system for parent/teacher consultations; something I know that working parents are particularly keen to use – coming into school to book appointments has always proved problematic. eSchools is not just for parents though, the children are also able to access lots too; class discussions and blogs, wikis and projects, homework and challenges.

We will be sending out individual letters to parents next week with details of how to log on to your account. You will receive your own unique username and password to access information about your child or children. Please look out for these - if you don't receive one, do contact us. This has been an ongoing project for us for some time now. It started when we redesigned the website last year and, since we returned in September, the staff have been familiarising themselves with everything. However, it is all still very new to us, so please bear with us as the use of eSchools develops. It will take time to get used to using it and we will continue to develop its use throughout the academic year. There will undoubtedly be teething problem, as there always is when you introduce something new (especially something relying on technology!) but I believe we'll eventually appreciate the improved level of communication and information sharing it affords.

Initially, information on what's happening on a week-to-week basis will be shared on the class pages and we'll also start to issue some pieces of homework through e-Schools, with children having the opportunity to respond to it online. We will keep you informed as we begin to broaden the use of eSchools – any feedback would be gratefully received.

Foundation News

This week the children have met Metal Mike and are learning how to segment sounds they can hear in simple words. They will all have a little 'Homework' sheet in their book bags next Monday informing you of what they will be learning in school. We are hoping for good weather as we will be taking groups out to explore the Forest Area! If they do not have wellies in school please could you send some in? Thank you.

Year 1 News

This week we have been busy changing and writing up our superhero story Max. We have enjoyed listening to the great ideas that the children have had and have seen some really excellent writing. The children have been learning about Andy Warhol and have used one of his styles of art to create a colourful superhero piece. As the darker nights draw closer the weather is getting colder and wetter so can we ensure that the children start bringing a named coat to school please.

Year 2 News

Thanks to everyone who completed last week's homework. There has been a definite reduction in 'back to front digits' in the classrooms. It's also worth mentioning how impressed we were with the poetry homework - amazing work year 2! The poetry performances were the highlight of our week, you will find a selection on the website. Have a great weekend.

Year 3 News

Year 3 were really surprised this week when they were informed there might be some unusual objects in the school garden. After a careful excavation, they were amazed to find bones that were perhaps from a prehistoric creature! We will investigate more over the next few weeks to try and decide what they may have been from. Another highlight of the week was Kent's Cavern. It was brilliant to bring the children's learning to life and the children also found some more clues as to what the bones may have been from. Thanks for all your support with the trip, including providing the children with their amazing costumes. Check out the website for photos!

Year 4 News

Year 4 have had another fun week. In Maths the children have been solving a variety of addition and subtraction word problems using RUCSAC to unlock the problem and the bar model to reshape as a calculation. Ask your child to show you! On Tuesday, the children had a fun morning looking for portals in Ham Woods. They spent the morning listening to stories, building homes for 'Minpins', making imagination catchers and playing adjective word games. Sorry for the muddy shoes!

Tempest Photographer – Individual Photographs

The photographer will be in school on Thursday 22nd October to take photographs of all children in Foundation & KS1; and again on Monday 2nd November to take individual photographs of all children in KS2. All children have their photograph taken. For family/group photographs please come into school as near to 8am on either day.

Lost

Eva Sanders Class P has lost her school cardigan and jumper, whilst Solange Cederia Class 4P PE kit and contents. Please inform the school office if you know of their whereabouts. Thank you.

Diary Dates

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

Thurs 22nd & Fri 23rd Oct

- PTFA break time 'Cookie Sale' 50p

Mon 26th – Fri 30th Oct Inc.

- Half term

Fri 4th Dec 2015

- Chocolate Mufti

Fri 11th Dec 2015

- Christmas Fair

Fri 18th Dec 2015

- 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

Year 6 News

The children have finished their autobiographies which soon will be sent to Tom Daley to read! Our next English unit will be linked to our 'Slavery' topic and the children will be exploring and writing a selection of genres related to this. The children were outraged this week during a topic lesson when they were told that there was going to be some changes happening in school - no more play time, end of school council, children to clean their own classrooms etc. Luckily for the children, this was the introduction into a very animated debate on the UN rights of a child!

PTFA Cookie Sale

The PTFA Cookie Sale will be on the 22nd and 23rd October during break time. Cost: 50p a cookie.

Free School Meal

Even if your child is aged 4 to 7 and would qualify for a UIFSM, we would encourage everyone to register for free school meals if you think that you may be entitled under any of the benefits.

Registration for FSM allows school to claim much needed and valuable funding. If you are unsure then please contact the school office for guidance or advice. Forms are available from main reception – even if your child does not intend taking a lunch then the school can still benefit financially.

Running Club

STORM running started on 8th April 2015. A simple Facebook post wanting to help has grown into a running group with over 200 active runners. Our philosophy is to motivate, support & inspire, every STORM runner puts every other runner before themselves. It's this duty of care that has made our group so popular. We are beginner orientated, have qualified leaders, a structure to accommodate up to 150 runners an evening and we are now in the process of becoming an affiliated running club.

We have a close tie with Plymouth city council and they have asked me to set up a rolling 10 week program, to take around local schools. The aim, is to get parents active and make the group self-sufficient, so they can carry on after my 10 week involvement. During the 10 week period, I am to identify a group leader, who will then be funded to achieve the running leadership qualification to continue to lead.

I identified Montpellier as a first school to take this council funded program as we have many runners at STORM who have close ties to the school.

Scott Allen 07720883666

Montpelier School Games

Football - Our first Primary & Special Schools Football event for this academic year was a great success. The sun was shining over Marjons as 5 teams came along to compete in a friendly and relaxed event focused on promoting outstanding qualities such as Team Work/ Respect/Friendship and Determination. It was great to see all of the children enjoying the Football and working so well with each other and the rest of the teams. Montpelier won all of their matches without conceding a goal. Fantastic sportsmanship well done, greatly deserved overall winners.

Cross Country – Plymbridge - _Once again the sun shone on what has become one of the true cross country courses used prior to the main event later this month._ With 10 teams taking part in the four categories it was very busy at the start line and well contested at the finish. The year 5/6 girls' team finished 3rd overall. Fantastic effort by all, well done!

Rowing - 6 children from years 5/6 took part in some indoor rowing held at Cann Bridge School, the children had a demonstration on how to learn the technique, then put to the test by racing against other children. It was brilliant to see the children having a go and enjoying the different activities.

Cross Country – Eggbuckland - Once again we were lucky with the sunshine as the day was dry and bright for the second of the Plymouth SSP Cross-Country warm up events. With 14 schools participating competing in a race of around 1.4km. Congratulations to the year 5/6 girls who won their category and to the year 3/4 boys who came 2nd. Excellent determination by all athletes

Looking for Childcare?

Nutkins Pre-School, Learning through play. Hope Baptist Church, Peverell Park Road, Plymouth. Tel: 767677. Why not visit www.nutkinspre-school.co.uk

Nutkins is a community business, "not for profit" Ltd by guarantee. It is run by a Board of Directors, comprising staff members, community workers and parents. The atmosphere is friendly, warm and nurturing; the children feel safe and secure. An ideal environment for the child to learn. The staff, and the Directors, are dedicated to providing an excellent childcare setting.

Instrumental Lessons

Due to school trips this week some Year 3 and 4 pupils missed their instrumental lessons. This lesson is not counted in their quota of 10 lessons in the term and will be made up later in the term. If we are unable to reschedule a lesson, a refund will be given.

Parent Conference - Plymouth Guildhall

Tuesday 10th November 2015

Plymouth Parent & Family Forum and Your Child Your Voice are pleased to invite you to attend a Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Conference on Tuesday 10th November from 9.30am until 1.30pm. A second identical session will be run from 5pm until 9pm on the same day. The conference will be held at Plymouth Guildhall. There will also be an opportunity for parents to talk to service representatives on a 1-to-1 basis. For booking or further details visit <http://www.plymouthias.org.uk/information-support/parent-conference-nov2015>

Chinese Mandarin Club

A fantastic opportunity to learn Chinese Mandarin at Montpelier. Lele Mandarin Club offers 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. Every Tuesday 3:15-4:00pm. Fees: £5 per child.

Spaces are limited, if you are interested, please email me in the first instance

mandarinclub2015@gmail.com or call on 01752 309586 / 07979946699 (from 15th October 2015) Give it a go! Your first session is FREE! Lessons start on 20th October, booking forms available from school reception.

Did you see...?

Did anyone witness a traffic accident on 30th September, at approx 8.45am, between a Big Black Car & a bright Blue Vauxhall Agila? Both cars were being driven by females. The Big black car was being driven up Parker Road (& then turned right onto Beaconfield Rd) resulting in it hitting the Vauxhall Agila and then driving off.

A reward is being offered for any useful information. The incident has been reported to the police. Please leave any information with the school office.

Muscular Dystrophy UK Fundraising Day.

Friday 23rd October 2015

In October last year Leon Childs joined us at Montpelier just a few days after his family received the devastating news that he has Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy; a degenerative muscle wasting condition for which there is currently no cure. It is caused by a deletion on the dystrophin gene which has 79 pieces. Sadly his younger brother who will be joining Montpelier next year was also diagnosed with the same condition shortly afterwards. To help fund research please bring your spare change into school on Friday 23rd October to place on the large 79s which will be drawn on the playgrounds. Each class will go out in turn to place their spare change on the numerals. All money raised will go to Muscular Dystrophy UK to fund further research. If you would like any more information please visit their website at: <http://www.muscardystrophyuk.org/> Please give generously to help find a cure for this devastating condition. Thank you.