

The Beacon

Academic Year 2018/19

Issue No: 34

Date 21st June 2019

Hello from Mr West

Every now and again, it is important that we take a step back to appreciate what we have. This week I have found myself doing just that. Life in school is relentless, always asking what next. We find ourselves planning for the future alongside the here and now. However, this week I paused, deliberately I may add, to take stock of what I am fortunate enough to be a part of. There are times when I forget, I forget we are the largest Primary school in the city. Having a duty of care for 663 children (and their extended families) and 85 staff is normality for us, but would be an exception for most.

Montpelier is a unique place. I appreciate I will have a biased view due to the role that I hold, but this week I took the time to reflect and value what the team and children have achieved throughout my time. There have been incredible achievements, discoveries of hidden talents, times of challenge and emotional turmoil. We have faced struggles, risen in the face of adversity and have done so with a fighting spirit – always with a smile and the determination to succeed.

The school has embraced change, stood by its decisions and endeavoured to provide a supportive environment for everyone connected to the place. We (collectively) should be proud. We should reflect (more often) on our achievements, celebrate our successes and remember the true reason we are all here – the children. They are a real inspiration and no matter what the date or time, they remind us of the privileged role that we have – we are shaping the lives of the future generations, the generations that will go on to make a difference. The very notion of this in isolation is incomprehensible, but one that I am certain we will rise too.

Together we can and together we will.

School Term Dates for 2018/2019

Tues 25th June – Parent's Evening for Years 1 to 6

Thurs 27th June - Parent's Evening for Years 1 to 6

Mon 8th July - Race for Life

Fri 28th June – Sweet and chocolate mufti for Summer Fair

Mon 1st July - KS1 (Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2) Sports Day, starts at 10am / Years 5 and 6 Sports Day starts at 1:30pm

Tues 2nd July - 9:30am Years 3 and 4 Sports Day

Fri 5th July – PTFA Summer Fair

Mon 8th July – Race for Life

Wed 10th July - Foundation Parent's Evening

Thurs 11th July - Foundation Parent's Evening

Wed 24th July - 2:30pm end of term finish (**Yr6 finish at 1.30pm**)

Thurs 25th July 2019 - Non-Pupil Day

School Term Dates for 2019/2020

Tues 3rd Sept – First day of term

Mon 21st to Fri 25th Oct – Half term

Fri 29th Nov – Non-Pupil Day

Fri 20th Dec – Fri 3rd Jan 2020 Inc. – Christmas Holidays

Mon 6th Jan – Non-Pupil Day

Mon 17th – Fri 21st Feb Inc. - Half term

Mon 30th March – Mon 13th April Inc. – Easter holidays

Tues 14th April – Non-Pupil Day

Fri 8th May – Bank Holiday – ***please note the change of date***

Mon 11th May - Yr6 SATs

Sun 17th May – Yr 6 Bude

Mon 25th – Fri 29th May - Half term

Fri 26th June – Non-Pupil Day

Wed 22nd July – end of term

Thurs 23rd July – First day of summer holidays

Football News

On Thursday Montpelier entered 2 teams into the 'All Saints Year 3/4' football tournament, organised and supported by Southampton Football Club.

In group 1, the 'Green' team won and drew 1 of their 4 matches, resulting in a second place finish. Similarly, the 'Grey' team won 1 and drew 2 of their group 2 matches, again resulting in a second place position.

The semi-finals followed and first up were the Greens who drew 1-1 with Laira Green. Straight to penalties it went and sadly our boys lost 3-2. The Greys played their semi against Pennycross and also slipped to defeat, meaning a 3/4 place match between the 2 Montpelier sides. A tight contest was settled by a penalty struck by Freddie P.

Congratulations to the 3rd place Greens: Harry, Blake, Sam, Dylan, Jayden, Charlie and Freddie.

Well done to the 4th placed Greys: Isaac, Leon, Will, Fin, Zach, Roo and Layton.

A special mention to Blake, who won the 'Goal of the Tournament' award with a vicious 30 yard dipping drive during the group stages and also for Zach who won the 'Crossbar Challenge' by chipping the ball onto the bar from the edge of the penalty area! Both won kitbags and water bottles with the Southampton logo on.

Tempest Photograph Orders

All photograph orders need to be returned to school by Thursday 27th June, this will enable orders to be processed before the summer holidays. Any orders handed in to us after this time will be returned to you unprocessed.

Cardboard Boat

Some of our Year 5 children worked with Bruce from the Wonder Workshops yesterday. The children were introduced to engineering and investigated the best boat designs. They are looking forward to sailing their cardboard boat on the Barbican in September



Changes to Sports Day

Please note that Sports Day for Year 5 and Year 6 will now be on Monday 1st July at 1:30pm. As you know, we like to give parents as much warning as possible of the dates key events are held on. Because we use the DHSG field, we book our sports day a year in advance. Unfortunately, in the last week we have become aware that many of our children in Year 6 have their secondary school transition date on the same day as their sports day. To try to avoid any disappointment for our pupils missing their final sports day (including the 'infamous' year 6 tug of war) we have decided to rearrange the event. We apologise profusely for the inconvenience this may occur particularly to the year 5 parents, but hope that you all will understand the reasons behind this.

We want to create many happy memories for all of our pupils, especially year 6 as they leave our school family; part of this is them being able to participate in sports day. We thank Mrs Pearce, DHSG and Mr Robinson for pulling out all the stops to achieve this. We may need to ask for parental help on the day to count team points but will contact you about this next week. We now only hope for good weather!

Football News

Congratulations to the Year 2 boy's football team who were runners up at Manadon on Monday 17th June. Making them the 2nd best KS1 team in Plymouth. The team played fantastically. The first match they drew 2-2 against Boringdon. Unfortunately, we lost to the eventual winners, Bickleigh Down. However, there was a comeback in the third match winning 4-3 against Laira Green. Super teamwork and communication. Thank you to the parents for reacting so quickly and making this happen.

Music News

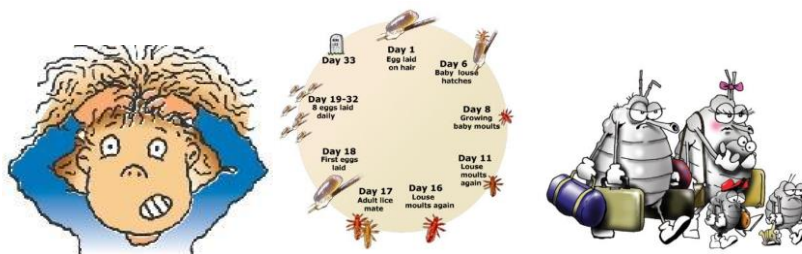
Thank you to our fabulous choirs and all our wonderful supporters for braving the elements and helping to make Proms in the Playground such a success. What a fun evening and a super standard of singing! All after school choir rehearsals and Wednesday steel pan are now finished. Monday steel pan has its last rehearsal on the 24th.



Going to Armed Forces Day on Saturday 29th June? Look out for our fantastic Montpelier steel band playing from 1.50pm-2.05pm on the Plymouth Youth Music stage which is by the emergency services display by the Lockyer St entrance to the Hoe. Playing feel good hits you will know and love! Come and give them a cheer!

Headlice... they're back

The most common places for headlice to lurk are in the hair behind your ears and at the nape of your neck. If you can't spot any lice, comb the child's hair with a special 'nit comb'. These are available from most chemists. It's easier to spot the dark brown headlice as they fall out if you comb the hair over a piece of white paper. Now you need to treat your child. Headlice are tough – they can't be killed by washing with normal shampoo or normal combing. Because they reproduce so quickly, you've got to kill them before they spread. If your child has headlice, check everyone in the family. You'll need to treat everyone affected to get rid of them and repeat every three or four days for at least two weeks so you remove any hatching lice before they have the chance to lay new eggs.





Date: 18.6.19

Dear Parents/Carer,

Montpelier Primary School will be hosting our school 'Race for Life' event in aid of Cancer Research UK. To support this worthy cause, and in memory of a family member or friend, we would like to invite you and your family members to join us.

The event will take place on **Monday 8th July 2019 at the school**. As the event was such a success on our school grounds last year we have decided to host it again here at MPS.

The Race for Life event will **start at 3:30pm** (after school). Families can change in the KS2 hall and then, **registration will take place from 3.15pm - registration point to be confirmed closer to the event**. You will need to collect your child/children as usual, at the end of the school day, and meet at the registration point. Children **MUST** be accompanied by an adult during the event. The run/walk event will be 1000m and it will be organised as a staggered start to accommodate the volume of runners/walkers.

On the day, each family will be allocated an entry number, which will be given out at the start of the event. To obtain this, the adult accompanying the child/children is asked to sign the race register at the start. Once the race has been completed, you will be asked to return to the registration point to sign 'out' of the race – this is to confirm that all families have completed the course safely.

As a school, we are mindful that there are families who aren't able to attend the 'family' run after school, so this year the school will be again organising running events during the day for **ALL** children to get involved – KS1 will run a shorter course on the school site in the morning, and Years 3,4,5 & 6 will run/walk the 1000m course set, between 1:00pm and 3:00pm.

Please find a sponsor form attached should you wish to sponsor your child in the running activities organised as part of the school day and/or Race for Life event at 3:30pm. Alternatively, donate at <https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/mpsplymouth>, or you are invited to donate on the day as part of the 'Sport Mufti'.

Please look out for further information in the Beacon and on the school website over the next few weeks.

Closing date for registration for the afterschool event is Wednesday 3rd July 2019.

Many thanks,

Race for Life Team

.....
Race for Life Montpelier Primary School on Monday 8th July at 3:30pm

I would like to register my family in the 'Race for Life' event.

My children..... are in class/es.....

Number of adults attending:

Signed.....(Parent/carers)

Date.....