

The Beacon

Academic Year 2019/20

Issue No: 6

Date 11th Oct 2019

Hello from Mr West

Reading is at the heart of Montpelier, it permeates through everything that we do. It is our belief that reading is the key that will unlock the world of learning. I know that this is not new news, but it's always helpful to remind ourselves of the importance of it. When just a few months old, a child can look at pictures, listen to voices, and point to things in the pages of a book. They learn to love the sound of language before they even notice the existence of printed words on a page. Reading books aloud to them stimulates their imagination and expands their understanding of the world. It helps them develop language and listening skills and prepares them to understand the written word. Even after they learn to read by themselves, it's still so very important for parents to read aloud with them.

Although our lives are often very hectic, please try to read with your child (or children) as much as you can. Taking the time to read to them on a regular basis sends an important message – that reading is worthwhile. Whilst we will do all that and teach them this crucial skill in school, continuous practise at home makes all the difference. It is one of the biggest boosts you can give your child academically and all it costs is a few minutes of your time each day. So please join us in nurturing the love of reading that so many of our children already possess.

Music News

After school choirs **will be** on as normal next week, even though it is parents evening.

Our choirs across the school have been learning songs from the Young Voices online songbook and 21 Year 5 pupils will be singing the songs as part of a choir of 6500 in Birmingham in January! However, we all learn the songs as they are so good! Miss JR is also using the songs across music lessons, so have a look and have a family sing along!

Your child can access the Children's Music Room from the front page of the Young Voices website. www.youngvoices.co.uk. This is the access code 'YV2020' for your child to view all the lyrics and dance moves. Have fun!

School Term Dates for 2019/2020

Tues 15th Oct – Parents Evening

Thurs 17th Oct – Parents Evening

Thurs 17th Oct – Tempest Individual & Family Group photos for Foundation & KS1 from 8am KS1 Hall

Mon 21st to Fri 25th Oct – Half term

Sun 27th Oct – Mount Edgcumbe Country Park Spooky Trail. Fancy Dress 1:30pm on the terrace in front of the House. £3 per child – a goody bag at the end for all registered. Register 12noon -2:45. Trail closes 4pm

Mon 28th Oct – Tempest Individual & Family Group photos for KS2 from 8am KS1 Hall

Thurs 31st Oct – Parent Forum, 9.00am

Fri 8th Nov – PTFA Quiz Night

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 – 22nd 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

BOOK OF THE WEEK



Zoom past the technology that fills our skies, from helicopters, fighter jets, weather balloons, to satellites, hang-gliders and hot-air balloons. Discover the insects and animals that whizz through the skies, explore the layers of the atmosphere, and travel through the solar system and out to the galaxies far beyond. The follow up to *The Street Beneath My Feet*, which dug down to the centre of the Earth, this concertina book **opens out to an impressive 2.5 metres**, perfect for inquisitive young minds.

If you have shared a book with your child and would like to recommend it, please email me. daniellejones@mpsplymouth.net

Tempest Photographer – individual photographs

The photographer will be in school on Thursday 17th October to take photographs of all children in Foundation & KS1 and again on Monday 28th October to take individual photographs of all children in KS2.

For family/group photographs please come into school as near to 8am on either day – KS1 Hall



DEVON &
SOMERSET
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE

Free Home Safety Visits

Dear Parents and Carers,

You are eligible for a FREE Home Safety Visit and it's easy to arrange.

What is a 'Home Safety Visit?'

- It's a FREE visit from a trained technician who will advise on any fire or safety risks in the home.
- FREE equipment may be provided. This can include: smoke alarms, carbon monoxide alarms, extension leads, fire retardant bedding, smoke alarm testers and more.
- It's a FREE advice service: Our technicians are trained to look for risks that you may not have thought of.
- It's available to any household with children.
- We will discuss electrical safety including the safe charging of phones and tablets.
- We will identify and advise on fire safety risks such as overloaded sockets to help prevent the chance of a fire starting in your home.
- We will discuss an escape plan for you and your family.

We want to help to keep your family safe from fire.

Contact us by phone or
email:
Quote code 401

Make the call!
0800 05 02 999
firekills@dsfire.gov.uk





Open Afternoon

for Year 4, 5 & 6 students and families

Monday 14th October 2019 at 3.30pm

Meet our new Headteacher - Mrs Cox, and take part in student-led tours of our school
New leadership - Bespoke curriculum for boys - New dedicated pastoral team
Central location on major bus routes - 160 years of history - Proud traditions
New teachers - Focus on extracurricular sports & enrichment opportunities



**Dream.
Believe.
Achieve.**

St Boniface's Catholic College

Cross County

Please note there will be no Cross County training after school on Thursday

Bronze Ambassador

5 children took part in the Bronze Ambassador course held at the Life Centre, this is a nationally recognised programme helping students to become Sport Leaders and to organise their own crew.

Cross Country

Yesterday 25 children took part in the last Warm up event held at Egguckland Community College. What an impressive way to finish, the year 3/4 girls team 2 finished in 3rd and team 1 won the event overall, with the boys with a close 4th in their category. The year 5/6 girls up against very tough athletes and not able to finish in the top 3 this time, the boys in an impressive 3rd spot. Congratulations to all children that have taken part, you are amazing. Thanks to the parents for providing transport and support. The final race takes part next Thursday at Staddiscombe.

School Dinners

Apple juice will no longer be on the menu at lunchtime due to the sugar content, and the non-recyclable containers that the juice is packaged in. In future, the drink options will be milk or water.