

The Beacon

Academic Year 2016/17

Issue No: 13

Date 9th December 2016

Deputy Headteacher News

I feel it is appropriate to start today by quoting the words from the Christmas song written in 1951 by Meredith Willson, 'It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas' and this week those words couldn't be more appropriate.

Throughout my time at Montpelier I have to say that the children never cease to amaze me with their performances. It amazes me, how even at such a young age, the maturity they display to stand up and perform with such confidence. They really do shine on these occasions and are a real inspiration for what can be achieved when you dedicate a little time and energy. Who needs any more evidence than the recent Carol Concert? The children were a credit to Montpelier and it was a pleasure to witness the culmination of weeks of hard work, commitment and dedication shown. The children's enthusiasm for music is unbelievable. My thanks go out to all the children and also to all the staff who work tirelessly to make these opportunities actually happen. But special mention must be given to Miss JR, because without her none of this would be possible.

This year saw the first (of what will hopefully be an annual event) Montpelier Primary School Christmas Tree Festival, with trees coming from far and wide. We had trees from the Brownies, the 19th Plymouth Guides, the Wolseley Trust, the PTFA, Help for Heroes, Simply Electrical Ltd, the school administration team, the school leadership team and one from every class - please accept my apologies if I have forgotten anyone. At this point I must say thank you to Mrs Johnson for organising and everyone who contributed to this fantastic event.

There was as a sense of excitement, coupled with competitiveness as the children and staff embarked on the mission of creating a tree depicting British Values. Under the current framework the promotion of British values is a key driver in our everyday curriculum and it is important to remember that British values essentially are the cornerstones that individual who live in Britain adhere too. The language we hear from government is of 'promoting fundamental British values' and of young people 'accepting', 'respecting' and 'tolerating'. These are values that we have and will continue to promote and encourage at Montpelier. At this time it should also be remembered that these values are shared with many other countries across our world. The outcome was incredible, but don't just take my word for it. The exhibition is open until Monday 12th December so please pop in to see the amazing collection of alternative Christmas trees.

Finally, a very personal 'thank you' to all the staff that work at Montpelier. I have worked in a number of schools, and I have to say the staff at Montpelier are an amazing group of people to work with. I would like to add that I can say that same about you, the parents and for that I am extremely grateful. On that note, I will finish by wishing you all a very Merry Christmas, I do hope you enjoy the break, I know I will.

Service Families

Thank you to those families who attended our 'Make and Meet' event yesterday afternoon. It was lovely to meet you and see the children (and yourselves) enjoying the craft activities. May we take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and we look forward to seeing you again in the New Year.

Music News

What a fantastic carol service! Thanks to everyone who took part. Each performer was truly wonderful!

All Miss JR's clubs have now finished for this term. Instrumental lessons have also finished apart from brass.



Diary Dates

Thurs 15th Dec 2016

- Christmas party / jumper day. (Monetary donations for Save the Children)

Fri 16th Dec 2016

- 50 Things Event
- Last day of term

Mon 19th Dec '16 - Tues 3rd Jan Inc.

- Christmas Holidays

Mon 13th - Fri 17th Feb 2017 Inc.

- Half term

Fri 31st Mar 2017

- 'Wear a Hat' mufti day - for Brain Tumour Research

Mon 3rd - Tues 18th Apr 2017 Inc.

- Easter holidays

Mon 1st May 2017

- Bank holiday

Sun 21st - Fri 26th May 2016

- Bude Residential (Yr 6)

Mon 29th May - Fri 2nd June '17

- Half term

Tues 25th July 2017

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

Wed 26th July 2017

- Start of the summer holidays



Monty's Den

Monty's Den is our onsite after school care. Call on 07522 429599 for more information or to book a session. Sessions start from £6.50. Flexible booking available www.thedens.co.uk

Christmas Fair

Thank you to all those who supported our Christmas Fair, together we raised just under £1,500.

Season's Greetings

Foundation News

We hope you enjoyed the Christmas tree festival, I'm sure you agree the children all looked really special on their class tree. Your children have done an amazing job learning the songs for our Sing-a-Long and we hope you enjoyed their performance.

Next week we will continue all things Christmassy and will be watching the Yr1 performance and having a Christmas party on Thursday. The week will end with a '50 Things' festive day.

Year 1 News

Wow, what a week! A highlight was certainly the Christmas tree festival. We used all of our creative skills to incorporate our British Value about understanding the roles and responsibilities of the people that help us. We used role play to help us to understand the people who help in our communities and also spent time thinking about how much the grown-ups at home help too! A reminder about costumes for the performance: our dress rehearsal is on Monday so we would really appreciate it if these could be brought in ASAP. We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday at 9:30am or 2:00pm for show time! Have a great weekend!

Year 3 News

Year 3 have had a fantastic festive week with highlights ranging from singing in the amazing carol service, to creating unique Christmas trees which represent the children's 'Rights and Responsibilities'. The children have worked extremely hard throughout, and dazzled us with their creativity and enthusiasm. With one week to go, we would ask for the children to keep working hard and continue their amazing effort to gain as many stickers for their readings passports as possible, whilst the 'Santa Speed Read' is still taking place (3 reads with an adult = sticker for passport). Many thanks for all your continued support.

SB Frankfort u9's football.

SB Frankfort U9s (school Yr 4) are seeking to add 2 players to our great team, if you have a son or daughter who would be interested please contact Ken on 07928 315993.

Year 4 News

Wow! The children have all had a great week, one of our highlights was our 'Pharaoh Training Day' we would like to thank you for your support with the children's amazing costumes, it really helped to enhance the children's learning experience. Thank you for taking part in our 'Pharaoh Training Day' event this week. It was great to see so many of you supporting your child in the hall listening to the children sing and dance, continuing in the classroom looking at children's work. On Thursday we enjoyed working together to create a Christmas tree for the school Christmas tree festival. Please come into school to see the Christmas trees after school. Thank you for your continued support, have a great weekend.

Year 5 News

Another busy and hectic week has passed as we head towards the Christmas holiday. This week we have been designing our collage in art and finishing our Hobbit character and setting work in English. The children had a great day on Thursday creating their class Christmas trees and the finished articles were fantastic. The trees are on display in the KS2 hall and are available for viewing after school.

Year 6 News

As we head towards the end of term, Year 6 have been very busy. In English, we have finished writing our narrative piece and are impressed with the children's writing. In particular, they have shown how well they can vary sentence openers and the structure of sentences. Of course, Year 6 had a really fun afternoon on Thursday, preparing our Christmas trees for the Christmas Tree Celebration. I'm sure you'll all agree they did a great job. What a creative bunch! We'd also like to say well done to all the children from Year 6 who attended the carol concert. With children singing as part of the choir or doing solos, and playing musical instruments, the children did us proud!



Christmas Party/Jumper Day

Thurs 15th Dec

THIS WILL BE A CHRISTMAS MUFTI DAY. Children are invited to wear their Christmas jumpers over their Christmas party wear. Donations in aid of Save the Children please.

School Menu Change –JAN 2017

Please note, wraps will not be available after Christmas 2016 until the new Summer Menu comes out after Easter.

Café Connect

Cafe Connect will be open on Tuesday and Wednesday as normal next week but will be **closed** on Thursday and Friday. Service Families drop in session will commence again in the New Year beginning on Thursday 5th January 2017 from 2:30-3:15pm.

School Games Bowls

Congratulations to Connor Fielder, 5M, who has been selected to play Indoors Bowls for Devon under 21's. This is a huge achievement and makes him the youngest member of the squad. We wish him the very best of luck in his up and coming matches. Well done Connor.

Gifted and Talented

On Tuesday, 14 children from year 4 to 6 were put through their paces at Marjons. These children have been identified as 'Gifted and Talented' by winning the Athletics competition. Throughout the day, each child took part in a series of child-relevant tests in order to discover strengths, weaknesses, and to hopefully ascertain in which particular disciplines they may be more predisposed for success. 'Tests' included activities in areas such as speed, power, reaction time, endurance and decision making. Well done, you were all fantastic

Indoor Athletics

A few weeks ago MPS entered 2 teams (White & Green) into an Athletics competition, at the end of the event we were told that the White team won and Green team finished in 4th position. Having looking at the results I noticed that the Sport Leaders forgot to score 4 of the Green teams events. With the results recounted I am pleased to say that the Green Team fished in 2nd position overall. Well done, your hard work, paid off.