



Deputy Headteacher News

Parents Evening – eSchools

You are invited to meet your child's class teacher on Tuesday 23rd, Wednesday 24th or Thursday 25th February (not all dates will be available for all year groups) to discuss the progress and attainment of your child. Appointments will be of 10 minute duration. Punctuality is important. Where a longer discussion is required the teacher will offer a further appointment. Appointments should be booked via eSchools. If you have any issues with eSchools then please email support@mpsplymouth.net. This will go live at the end of school today.

HeartSWell Wear it Red Day - Mufti

As previously mentioned we are currently in the process of raising money for the defibrillator that will be on site before the end of this term. As part of our work with HeartSWell your local heart charity we will be supporting their Wear It Red Day. On Thursday 11th February everyone at Montpelier will be invited to wear red to school. We kindly ask that the children bring in some 'loose change' to contribute to this great cause. There will be giant hearts around the school for any donation to be placed. If you would like to find out more about the charity please visit www.heartswell.org.uk.

Social Media Accounts

There are numerous online mobile photo-sharing, video-sharing and social networking services that enable their users to take pictures and videos, and share them on a variety of social networking platforms. I would like to bring to your attention that the minimum age to open an account on Facebook, Twitter, oovoo, Instagram, Pinterest, Tumblr, Kik, and Snapchat is 13. YouTube requires account holders to be 18, but a 13-year-old can sign up with a parent's permission. However, we are finding that many of our older pupils are actively using them and issues caused by the use of them are impacting on school life. We do as part of the curriculum focus on keeping safe online and discuss and demonstrate appropriate conduct when using the internet. The children have been also been advised, on more than one occasion, that they are not currently of the appropriate age to hold any such account. In an ideal world, I would ask all parents to adhere to the age restrictions recommended by the developers. Failing that, I wish to respectfully request that all parents carefully monitor their children's use of any social networking sites and/or content sharing apps to avoid issues of cyberbullying and inappropriate content. We always proactively work to address such issues in school but tackling this at home will help immeasurably.

Bikes, Scooters and Safety.

I am very conscious that I may start to sound like a broken record, but I feel that a reminder of our expectations regarding the use of bikes and scooters on the school grounds is required at this time. During my walks around the school grounds in the morning and after school I have noticed an increasing number of children riding around the school grounds. Safety on the school site is of paramount importance to us. We have asked, in various ways, that pupils do not ride bikes or scooters around the school grounds. We love the idea of them using bikes and scooters to come to and from school; we strongly encourage this in fact. What we MUST have though is children dismounting and walking with their bike or scooter whilst on the school playgrounds. We have had too many collisions and minor accidents due to children charging around busy playgrounds at the beginning and end of the day.

Foundation News

The children have begun practicing their songs and dances for the performance, 'What the Ladybird heard.' They have done really well learning the words. An individual letter has been sent out requesting outfits for our characters, this is mainly specific coloured clothes. Next week the children will be making head bands to wear with them and props for the story.

Year 1 News

We are still singing the song that we learnt from the "Open Wide Step Inside" visit this week. The children were great ambassadors for our school on the way to Plymouth University and during Geoffrey's video. No doubt they will put to good use the goodies that were in the little gift bag. We have recently sent home a letter about ordering a packed lunch for our Paignton Zoo trip, please, could you sign and return as promptly as you can.

Year 3 News

Wow what amazing homework projects! We would like to say a huge thank you for the effort you have all put into your South West projects. We will be using them to support our writing over the next 2 weeks.



Diary Dates

Mon 15th – Fri 19th Feb Half term
Thursday 24th Mar 2016.

- 'Wear a Hat' Mufti

Fri 25th Mar – Fri 8th Apr

- 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

Fri 22nd July 2016

- Last day of term

Wed 7th Sept 2016

- First day of term

Year 2 News

There's only four weeks to go until our proposed trip to The Eden Project. If you haven't yet made your voluntary contribution and wish to do so, could you please pay this week. We can then make a final decision as to whether the trip can go ahead. If you have returned your consent form but not your child's lunch request, we will assume they will bring their own packed lunch. Thanks for all of your kind offers to help on the day, we will be in touch closer to the time if we need your help. We've been impressed with the children's homework again this week, we got hungry just looking at all of the delicious, healthy meals they've been enjoying. You'll be pleased to know the children have finished their news reports - hopefully Sunny the Meerkat will be returned very soon. Have a great weekend, The Tear Two Team

Year 4 News

Another brilliant week in year 4. In Maths, the children have been looking at and investigating data, presenting it using a variety of graphs. Throughout the week in English, the children have been planning and writing their independent story from a different culture. They have been focusing on structure, as well as their writing targets. Throughout this term the children have been developing their skills of football in PE. Already we are seeing some fantastic ball skills and team play. Plymouth Argyle will have to sign them up quick!

Year 5 News

This week, some of the children have been attending events outside of school. On Wednesday, The Stock Market Challenge involved pupils trying to make as much money as they could and our team made almost £50,000! Unfortunately not enough to win the competition. Yesterday a selection of children attended The Big Bang a science afternoon where the children could experience scientific workshops and try interesting things. In class the children have been enjoying fractions, decimals and percentages in Maths and English the children completed their non-chronological report.

Illness

The school should be notified on the first day of absence, for whatever reason, for a child's absence. We are charged by legislation to show the number of absences from school for the preceding academic year and these will be included on your child's annual report. All absences must be accounted for by letter, telephone or in person. Please expect a call/text from one of our Administrators if we do not receive a call explaining the absence first thing on that first day. There is a dedicated absence answer-phone so messages can be left 24 hours a day. If your child has had diarrhoea or has been vomiting in the past 24 hours, please keep him/her at home until the child has been symptom-free for 48 hours.

If your child is experiencing itchy, watery eyes (often symptoms of conjunctivitis), please keep your child home until the condition has improved (no pus or crusting) and treatment has begun.

If your child exhibits an unexplained skin rash, again please keep your child home until the condition has been evaluated and treated. E.g. impetigo - lesions must be crusted or healed, no wetness or pus. For chickenpox - all blisters must be crusted; period of exclusion from school is a minimum of 5 days from the onset of the rash.

Threadworm

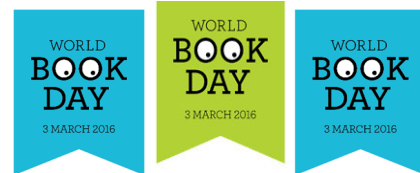
Just to inform you that we have had a couple of cases of threadworm reported to us. The usual incubation period is 2 – 6 weeks. Children very often complain of an itchy bottom – especially at night time. Prevention relies on good hygiene, especially washing of hands after using the toilet and before eating or preparing food. Sucking fingers or biting nails is to be discouraged.

Treatment can be bought at the chemist or obtained from the doctor on prescription.

More information can be found on the NHS website.

Bude Payments

The next Bude payment of £50 is due by Monday 1st February 2016 bringing monies paid to a minimum of £250. Please contact Mrs Simpson on 216160 if there is a problem with meeting any of the deadlines.



World Book Day events information: DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

W/C 22nd February - Usborne Sponsored read week. The children will be attending an assembly on Monday 22nd in order to launch the sponsored read so that they know how to take part. The money raised will help us to purchase lots of new books for our school!

26th February - Usborne book fair straight after school (KS1 hall). Everyone is welcome to come along to purchase new books plus the '£1 World Book Day vouchers' can be spent at the book fair too!

Dressing up on Thursday 3rd March as characters from:

- Yr 1 with Yr 4 – Jack and the Beanstalk
- Yr 2 with Yr 5 – Little Red Riding Hood
- Yr 3 with Yr 6 and Foundation - The Three Little Pigs

BEDTIME STORIES – Thursday 3rd March

5.15pm – 6.15pm: KS1 bedtime stories
5.30pm – 6.30pm: KS2 bedtime stories
5.15pm – 6.30pm: parent book swap (KS2 hall).

If you'd like to take part in the parent book swap, please start bringing in any books to swap on Monday 1st February. Please leave in a bag at reception. You will then be able to choose a 'new' book, from the selection available on the tables, at the book swap on 3rd March in the KS2 hall between 5.15pm and 6.30pm. Refreshments will also be available.

Music News

Good luck to the 24 steel pan players from Year 5 and 6 who are performing at the Pavilions tomorrow afternoon. We know you will close the show in style!

A reminder that music tuition fees are now due. Please go online to pay via school money.

Miss JR has to cancel choir next Thursday (4th February) all other clubs will run as normal.