

**Headteacher News****Golden Time = Golden Learning Time**

There's been some changes this week regarding Golden Time which I'm sure children have told many of you about already. Golden Time is becoming Golden Learning Time and we have introduced a new way of rewarding the expected good behaviour. Golden Time was introduced many years ago as a way of rewarding those children who remain on 'Green' throughout the week – in our behaviour policy, green is described as: *'Good behaviour, courteous, respectful and on task. Following agreed rules and routines'* – basically, the everyday expected good behaviour of children. Whilst merely an expectation (as it should be) we still choose to reward children for doing this. However, rewarding children through 'Golden Time' is not an effective use of their time in school. They have timetabled opportunities for unstructured play with their friends and using valuable curriculum time for us to give them a bit more of this, is something we can no longer justify. We have therefore introduced Golden Learning Time which sees Friday afternoons being set aside for reviewing and celebrating the learning that has taken place during the week, for addressing any areas of misconception, and for setting the tone to prepare for the next week's learning. A much better use of curriculum time we think you'll agree.

Obviously we still wish to reward our 'always good' children and we have chosen to do this by giving every 'Green' achieved each day an entry into a prize draw for a fun activity towards the end of each half term. The more 'Greens' achieved, the higher the probability of their name being drawn out to receive that prize. This half term, 30 names will be drawn (equally from across each class) to go to Pizza Express for a morning to find out about and to make their own pizzas. True, not every child will be rewarded as they are through Golden Time now but then this is about rewarding behaviour that should be there anyway and also about making the most of their learning time whilst they're in school. Going for Gold – our approach to celebrating exceptional behaviour remains the same. Changes like this sometimes take a bit of getting used to but hopefully you'll all understand the reasons why we think the change is necessary.

**Age Restrictions Matter**

The minimum age to open an account on social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Pinterest, Tumblr and Snapchat is 13. For Vine, Tinder and Yik Yak it's 17. YouTube requires account holders to be 18, but a 13-year-old can sign up with a parent's permission. Despite these clearly stated and published age restrictions, large and growing numbers of children aged 11 and under are using social media networks, often with their parent's knowledge and consent.

Social media has many benefits. It connects you with others, you can meet new people, it can help you find old friends, lost relatives, and so much more. However, with it comes a far more sinister side. This is about protecting your child from potential online abuse, sexual predators, cyber-crimes and other digital issues that they may not be prepared to handle at their young age. Yes, you may feel that they are mature enough to have a Facebook or Instagram account but it's the others online that you need to be concerned about. Age restrictions and privacy policies are put in place for the protection of children. Even if 'all their friends are on it', as a responsible parent, you must exercise your duty of care for them.

**Foundation News**

This week the children have been learning all about Italy and enjoyed making and tasting pizzas. Next week they will be writing instructions on how to make a pizza. In Maths the children will be creating an adding machine. Please could you send in any kitchen roll tubes and plastic trays (eg. food punnets), any other junk modelling materials will also be gratefully received. Thank you. Also a polite reminder, please could the children only bring WATER in their water bottles.

**Year 1 News**

We hope that you have had a lovely time with your children over the holidays. The children have settled back brilliantly into their classes. We would love to hear about where your child has been in the world as our Summer topic is Holidays! If you could send a picture, either digitally or as a photograph, so that we can create a display about our travels. The weather is getting warmer now so please could you ensure your child brings a named hat to school to wear when we are outside in our bright, sunny, hot British weather!

**Year 2 News**

Welcome back. It was fantastic to see so many happy (and spotty!) faces walking in to school on Tuesday. The children have clearly been busy over the Easter break. Thank you so much for your continued support with reading at home, it really is making a difference. This week, the children have been introduced to their new Water Warriors topic. They seem very excited about what the Summer Term has in store for them, particularly the task of creating their own sea creatures and writing amazing fact files.

**Diary Dates****Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2016**

- Bank holiday

**Sun 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2016**

- Bude residential

**Mon 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2016**

- Activity Week

**Mon 30<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

- Bank holiday

**Tues 31<sup>st</sup> May - Fri 3<sup>rd</sup> June Inc.**

- Half term

**Mon 6<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

- Non pupil day

**Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> July 2016**

- Year Six Production

**Wed 20<sup>th</sup> July 2016**

- Leaver's Celebration Disco

**Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> July 2016**

- Year 6 Leavers Lunch

**Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2016**

- Leavers' assembly
- Last day of term 2:30pm finish  
(Year 6 finish at 1.30pm)

**Wed 7<sup>th</sup> Sept 2016**

- First day of term

#### Year 4 News

What a wonderful start to the new term. We had a lovely trip to Ham Woods to introduce our new topics. The children were looking for micro-habitats and completed a range of art tasks using light and dark shading. In Maths this week we started our new topic of shape and began revisiting the properties of all regular and irregular shapes. Have a fantastic weekend rest!

#### Year 5 News

The children have returned to school from the Easter break full of enthusiasm for the new term. They have had an enjoyable start with swimming lessons every morning. Everyone has been placed into groups and enjoying the experience.

We have been collecting data during our morning walks to and from the Life Centre and working hard in the afternoons on our D&T Greek Temple task.

If you have any old newspapers, cardboard and cereal boxes, could they be sent into school to help us with our forthcoming D&T project.

#### PSA News

There is once again a vast amount of lost property including coats and hats that are not labelled. Items will be on display in the first aid room at the end of every day from Monday 18th – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April for you to find your belongings. After this it will need to be disposed of.

Jane Gilbert - Parent Support Advisor

#### Staff Car Park

May we remind parents that our car park in North Down Road is for **STAFF ONLY**. We ask that parents refrain from using it, even if you are just dropping off children. The driver of a red Ford, X882 NGS, has been reported on several occasions coming into the car park dropping her children off. Please refrain from doing so.

We would also like to remind parents that they should keep to the pedestrian areas around the carpark and not walk across the carpark itself.

#### Big Maths Day - Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April

Finish off Big Maths Day with Miss JR's 'Maths Big Sing!' Come along to the KS2 hall at 3.45pm-4.10pm to find out how songs by Beyonce, Abba and Jess Glynne, amongst others, can help your child with their times tables and other maths knowledge! Yes, really! All ages welcome. Hope to see you there!

(Please note that Thursday choir pupils who do not have family coming in after school to see their work can come to choir as normal at 3.15pm.)

#### Year 3 News

We have had a great start to the summer term. The children have begun their training to become 'Heritage Hunters'. This training will continue next week on their trip through Plymouth as they search for more clues about the history of Plymouth. Please ensure the permission slip for the trip is returned ASAP.

#### Maths Fun Day

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April will be a Maths Fun Day in school. All children in the school will take part in a range of maths activities throughout the day. All parents are invited into school at the end of the day to see the results of the day. We look forward to seeing you.

#### Wear A Hat Day 24.3.16 Total Raised

Thanks to your generosity, I am delighted to inform you that we raised a total of £327.21 for Brain Tumour Research. The money raised will go towards the charity's aim of funding research and developing a network of seven dedicated research centres to help find a cure. Thank you again for your donations.

#### Usborne Sponsored Read News

Thank you again to everyone who took part in the Usborne sponsored read before the Easter break and to those who came along to the book fair - both events were a huge success. With the money raised, we now have a super £3,404.13 to spend on new books at Montpelier!

#### *Winners of the sponsored read:*

##### *Overall key stage winners*

KS1- for raising the most money: Travis Cornish (Class M)

KS1- for reading the most: Fletcher Coster (1S)

KS2- for raising the most money: Jake Daniel (6M)

KS2- for reading the most: Matilda Stockdale (3S)

##### *Year group winners*

Foundation: Alice Herbert (Class S)

Year 1: Eva Woolland (1P)

Year 2: Freddie Smith (2M)

Year 3: Emily Mantle (3S)

Year 4: Sophie Mantle (4S)

Year 5: Bonnie-Blu Mead (5S)

Year 6: Alice Gue (6P)

Year 6: Lucy Hellingsworth (6P)

The children will be bringing their prize, which was presented to them in assembly this afternoon, home with them today - well done!

A special well done to Class 4S who were the class to raise the most sponsorship money and will be receiving a set of history books to share as their prize.

#### Montpelier School Games

On Wednesday SDCC held their annual netball competition with our school entering 2 teams - reds and greens. Both teams showed superb skills, teamwork and excellent sportsmanship. The first match was greens v reds, both teams determined to get the first win of the day playing extremely well. Greens scoring the first goal which boasted confidence leading them winning that match, and the overall competition, only conceding 1 goal and scoring 20 over 5 matches. The red team finishing in 5<sup>th</sup> place. Congratulations teams you were all incredible.

Training will continue next week.

Athletics training will resume on Monday after school.

#### Storm Running Group News

In November Montpelier Parents Running Group began, some had done a bit of running and many hadn't. The group has grown as have the running abilities and friendships. We try to meet once or twice a week, sometimes joined by other local parents. This Sunday several of us will be running the Plymouth Half Marathon raising money for Cancer Research UK, Plymouth Heartbeat and Heartswell. STORM has over 100 runners entering. We would like to wish our runners the best of luck: Kelley Nichols, Paul Nichols, Susan Lewry, Sanne Pelders, Jaïne Kelland, Jo Boland, Jo Ellis, Lisa May and Claire White. Good Luck also to all other parents entering and all of the children completing the Schools Challenge.

Well done to Donna Rowe for completing the Manchester Marathon last week.

#### Central Park Plymouth

##### **Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April 10am – 4pm**

A wonderful FREE family food and fun day out on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April 10am – 4pm at Central Park by the Life Centre. 30+ stalls and activities for the free family fun day.

To find out more about future events or get involved: [www.leapsw.com](http://www.leapsw.com) email [annette.laurie@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:annette.laurie@blueyonder.co.uk). Tel: 07802 896505