

## Deputy Headteacher News

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May marks the second anniversary of my time at Montpelier. Where has the time gone? I can hardly believe that I have been part of Montpelier for two years. I mentioned last year that a year had flown by, however as I approach the end of the second I can hardly believe how quickly the time has passed. I am enjoying the challenging of being part of the Montpelier team immensely and look forward to the next phase of the journey. Seeing the children building their resilience, perseverance when facing challenge and developing the skills to develop into a life learner has been a joy to be seen throughout this time. The children are the heart of our school and at the heart of everything that we do.

### School Uniform

Here at Montpelier we have high expectations around the behaviour, attitude and attainment of all pupils. These expectations are essential to give every child the opportunity to fulfil their potential and strive to be the best that they can. They are ingrained in the culture and ethos of our school and it is something that as parents you buy into when you choose our school for your child. It is at this point that I would like to point out that we have noticed an increasing number of children wearing trainers to school as part of their daily uniform. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you all that trainers; even if they are black, are not school uniform. The expectation is that children wear black shoes. It is our intention over the next few weeks to monitor the children's footwear to ensure there is a policy of fairness for all and hopefully see a reduction in the number of children wearing trainers on a daily basis. I know I have mentioned this on a number of occasions, but I would like, at this point, to make it clear that from September any child wearing trainers will be asked to return home to change into the appropriate footwear. Please consider this when purchasing footwear for the new academic year. Further reminders will be sent out throughout the summer term.

### Why road safety matters

In 2016, 24,610 people were killed or seriously injured on Britain's roads. At Montpelier we know how important it is for your child to learn about road safety. Our school site is in the heart of a residential area. This area is extremely busy at the beginning and the end of the day with over 1000 people entering or leaving the site on foot, bike or car at any one time. As a parent or carer you also play a big part in helping your child to understand the importance of road safety. Children will copy adults' behaviour, so if they see you taking risks they will probably take risks too. One of the best ways that you can help your child to stay safer is to set a good example when using roads, on foot, when cycling and in the car.

There is a need to teach your child how to be a safer pedestrian, about the importance of 'stop, look and listen' and the Green Cross Code and how to stay safer when riding in a car or cycling.

Still not sure that road safety matters?

- The number of children aged 5-7 killed or seriously injured reduced marginally (1%) between 2013 and 2014 but have decreased by 19% since 2010.
- 73% of children aged 5-7 years old killed or seriously injured were on foot at the time. A further 20% were killed or seriously injured as car passengers and 5% as cyclists.
- In a 2014 Department for Transport study, 8% of 5-9 year olds were not restrained at all when travelling in the rear of vehicles.
- Most children under 9 can't judge how fast vehicles are going or how far away they are.

### How else you can help?

Explain to your child why they need to stop, look and listen when crossing the road. Talk about safer places to cross and how it's harder to see where there are parked cars, junctions, bends or the brow of a hill. Help your child to learn the names of the different crossings, such as zebras, puffins, pelicans and footbridges. Follow these steps with your child every time you cross the road.

Find the safest place to cross with a clear view of all around, away from parked cars, junctions, bends or the brow of a hill if possible. Holding hands with your child, show them how to stop on the kerb, look all around and listen for traffic before they cross. First explain that they must stop at the kerb and not step into the road as traffic might be coming very fast. Then they must look all around because traffic could come from any direction and they should listen because sometimes you can hear traffic before you see it.

When it is safe, walk straight across (not diagonally) and keep looking and listening. Tell your child they must do this in case there is any traffic they did not see, or in case traffic appears suddenly. Try not to cross between parked vehicles, but if there is nowhere else to cross: Choose a place where there is a space between two cars and make sure that it is easy to get to the pavement on the other side of the road. Make sure neither car is about to move off - look for drivers in the cars, lights and listen for engines. Don't cross near large vehicles. You could be standing in a blind spot, where the driver cannot see you. Walk to the outside edge of the cars and stop. Here you can be seen by drivers and you can look all around for traffic. Use the Green Cross Code. When the road is clear, cross, still looking and listening as you go.

For more information please visit <http://think.direct.gov.uk/education/early-years-and-primary/parents/5-to-7s/>

## Foundation News

Well done to all the children for their fantastic behaviour on the steam train and at the farm. They thoroughly enjoyed the day and particularly enjoyed the opportunity to hold and stroke the animals. They were also visited by Jazz with Mrs Holland on Wednesday and learnt how to care for a dog. Next week we will be looking at other modes of transport including coaches and boats.

We will be junk modelling different vehicles over the coming weeks and would appreciate any recyclables you have, particularly small cardboard boxes - thank you.

## Year 1 News

It has been a busy week in Year 1! In science we learnt about many different materials and their properties in anticipation of designing a superhero cape. How exciting! We've also enjoyed learning about real life hero, Florence Nightingale and the fantastic work that she did to improve hospitals. Next week, we look forward to meeting a special visitor, their job is to help to keep people healthy, safe and happy. I wonder who it will be... Have a fantastic weekend.

## Year 2 News

Wow... another fantastic week in year 2. The children have been working super hard with their subtraction by finding the difference. We have certainly shown that we love a challenge in year 2. In science this week, we had an extra special delivery; our very own caterpillars. We will be caring for them and observing them grow and transform into butterflies. Have a fantastic weekend. The year 2 team.

## Year 3 News

Year 3 have had a great week. The walk around Plymouth really helped to bring the topic to life and help the children to understand some of the changes in their local environment. Thank you to those parents that helped. Have a great weekend.

## Year 4 News

The children have been working very hard this week. In English we have been acting out parts of the story 'Leon and the place between.' We have been developing our English writing skills using expanded nouns, prepositions and adverbials. During Maths we have been finding lines of symmetry in 2D shapes and how to reflect a pattern across a mirror line. In History we have been discussing a famous Victorian, Dr Banardo. Have a great weekend.

## Year 5 News

It has been fantastic to see the amazing progress many of the children have made at the swimming sessions this week and the enjoyment they are getting from the experience. They have clearly risen to the challenge and have believed in themselves to improve their swimming.

Due to the Bank Holidays, year 5 will continue swimming sessions until Friday May 5<sup>th</sup>.

Our Science topic this term is Life Cycles of plants and humans. As part of this unit, it is a requirement to talk about puberty. Over the next few weeks this topic will be discussed so be prepared for some questions on the subject. If you would like any further information please contact your child's teacher.

## Year 6 News

We are very proud of the children in Year 6 as they continue to work hard and show determination to succeed in preparation for tests. Keep it up!

Thank you to all the parents of children going to Bude who attended the meeting. We are still awaiting a few forms. We ask that those be returned to us as soon as possible.

Enjoy the bank holiday weekend!



## Diary Dates

**Mon 1<sup>st</sup> May 2017**

- Bank holiday

**Mon 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

- SATs week for Year 6

**Sun 21<sup>st</sup> – Fri 26<sup>th</sup> May 2016**

- Bude Residential (Yr 6)

**Wed 24<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

- Tempest Photos – Class groups

**Mon 29<sup>th</sup> May - Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> June '17**

- Half term

**Tues 25<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

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

**Wed 26<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

- Start of the summer holidays

**Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 2017**

- Non pupil day

**Tues 5<sup>th</sup> Sept 2017**

- First day of term



## Monty's Den

Monty's Den is our onsite after school care. Call on 07522 429599 for more information or to book a session. Flexible booking available [www.thedens.co.uk](http://www.thedens.co.uk)

## Music

We were delighted to welcome visitors from Ghana to lead us in drumming and dancing. 2P and 5M worked with teachers and students to play rhythms and learn a traditional dance. A great time was had by all! Have a look on the school website in the Pupils/curriculum/creative arts area for photos and video.

Many thanks to all parents who have paid for their child's instrumental lessons. Please pay any outstanding balance by Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

Year 5 and 6 have been given out important letters at Thursday choir. Great opportunities ahead! Please return permission slips asap. Thank you.

## Devonport High School for Girls

### FASHION SHOW

On Friday 5th May, in the School Hall. Doors open 7.30pm. Show starts @ 8pm. Tickets £5 per adult includes a glass of wine or soft drink. Children £2.00, Sixth Form £2.50

Clothes provided by Next. Monsoon. White Stuff etc with opportunities to try on and buy at greatly reduced prices!!

For further details or tickets please contact Mrs Dowrick (TA) at Montpelier. Tickets are also available on the door. All welcome!

### Danger

The yellow zig-zag lines outside the school main entrance are there for a reason. These road markings have been proven to significantly prevent accidents between motorists and children by keeping key road and pedestrian areas of schools clear of traffic. There is a restriction from waiting, stopping and parking (even if it is to pick up or drop off children to school) on these yellow zig zags. Parking on yellow zig-zags outside schools puts children's lives at risk. I ask that we all demonstrate thought and consideration for other people's children by not parking, stopping or waiting on these yellow zig-zag lines. And, if you are caught out, would you mind please admitting your guilt and moving on rather than attempting to justify and abuse anyone pointing out the thoughtless and careless act.

Parents' should also refrain from parking on the pavement or across our neighbour's driveways. Parking on the pavement can obstruct and seriously inconvenience pedestrians, people in wheelchairs or with visual impairments and people with prams or pushchairs. The following car was reported to us for parking on the pavement making it awkward for pram users etc to pass – WG15 AHU.

### Tempest Orders

All photograph orders need to be returned to school by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May. After this time all orders will be returned to you unprocessed.



## Football

On Wednesday 8 children from Year 4 took part in the family football event held at SDCC. Playing 8 games in total, Montpelier drew 3 and won 5, scoring a very impressive 24 goals while only conceding 4. Fantastic team work finishing in 2<sup>nd</sup> position overall.

### Quad Kids

Wednesday afternoon the Athletics team was back on the track competing for this year Quad event. Each child had to compete in 600m run, 70m sprint, vortex throw and standing long jump to achieve points for the team. 16 teams entered this event, with Montpelier finishing in 2<sup>nd</sup> position and qualified for the level 3 competition in June. Congratulations team you were all amazing.

### Spring Games

Thursday was the level 3 SEN Games held at Plymouth Life Centre. Montpelier qualified for the tennis and archery, up against children from Year 9 didn't faze our children, finishing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the archery and winning the tennis. Superb effort by all, well done.

Please keep sending in your Sainsbury's vouchers.

Any school sporting kit to be returned ASAP please to Mrs Pearce.

### Headlice

The most common places for head lice to lurk are in the hair behind your ears and at the nape of your neck.

If you still 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 head lice as they fall out if you comb the hair over a piece of white paper.

Now you need to treat your child. Head lice 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 head lice, check everyone in the family. You'll need to treat everyone affected to get rid of them.

We would strongly recommend that girls wear long hair tied up in a ponytail, bun or plait to prevent the transfer of head lice.

## Dogs

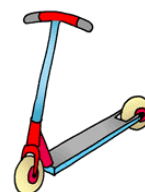
May we remind parents that dogs are not permitted on the school grounds – even those being carried.

### Staff Car Park

May we also remind parents that the car park in North Down Road is for STAFF ONLY. As such the gate will be locked at 8:30am each morning. 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.

### Bikes, Scooters and Safety.

We may sound like a broken record, but we feel that a reminder of our expectations regarding the use of bikes and scooters on the school grounds is required at this time. An increasing number of children have been seen 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 end of the day. This is where we need your help. The children are under parental supervision at the end of the day. Please could you reinforce this requirement to consider everyone's safety? We can remind them, but it is almost an impossible task to check that this is happening and we would appreciate your support with making this happen.



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# Café Connect

## Programme beginning Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017

### Monday

09.00am -10.00am

#### Mum's Coffee and Colour

Join the current adult colouring craze, a chance to de-stress after a busy weekend, relax, be creative and chat and socialise amongst other mum's.

Hosted by Rachael Shotton, Parent Liaison.

### Tuesday

3.00pm – 4.00pm

#### Biscuits and Books

Parents welcome to come in and enjoy a coffee and read with their child/children. A great chance to get an extra entry in the reading log!

Juice and biscuits available for the children

### Wednesday

09.00am -10.00am

#### Caring Grandparents

A chance for all of our Grandparents with caring responsibilities to children at Montpelier to come together and exclusively use the community café to network and create a community with other grandparents taking on a similar role.

Hosted by Rachael Shotton, Parent Liaison

### Wednesday

3.00pm – 4.00pm

#### Parent Drop In

All welcome to come in for a coffee and socialise with other parents and children. Children can play with the toys, biscuits and juice available

### Thursday

09.00am -10.00am

#### Parent Drop In

Come in for coffee and socialise and ask our parent liaison any questions relating to your child's development and ways you can support your child at home with their learning.

### Thursday

3.00pm – 4.00pm

#### Service Families

A focus on our families serving in the armed forces. A chance to socialise and network amongst our other serving families in the community.

### Friday

3.00pm – 4.00pm

#### Parent Drop In

All welcome to come in for a coffee and socialise with other parents and children. Free play plus juice and biscuits available for the children. Hosted by our PTFA