

The Beacon

Academic Year 2020/21

Issue No: 14

Date 23rd April 2021

Hello from Mrs Hunter

The Beacon is back! After over 12 months of COVID we are bringing our weekly newsletter back as another piece of our school family communication. We will continue to use Facebook to share and celebrate all that is happening in school. New and important news will continue to be shared by letter while texts will continue to be used as a reminder for things that we have already communicated. Am not sure how clear that was! Please see the bottom of this edition for the summary of how we use our different platforms. All letters and texts go out to all parents that are identified on our system as having parental responsibility. Class based work will be shared through Google Classroom or Tapestry.

We are so lucky at Montpelier with our amazing staff. Our team is amazing and works so well together. However, part of school life is saying goodbye and welcoming others, just as we do with the pupils. Today is the last day for Miss Broome. Currently in Year 2, she has taught many of your children. She has decided that as much as she loves our school she is ready for a change from teaching and is seeking new challenges. We wish her every success with her new plans and cannot wait to hear how she gets on. Miss Honey has been appointed for this term and we welcome her into 2M. Interviews for the permanent role of class teacher take place next week. We have received 98 applications for this position – how lovely that so many people want to come and work with our children.

I also wanted to use this opportunity to share with you that Miss Spragg will be retiring at the end of the school year. She has been part of Montpelier for many years and we are really going to miss her. There will be thousands of children across the city and beyond she will have had a positive impact on – what a legacy she will leave. We will talk more of Miss Spragg's leaving as the term proceeds but today I want to share with you that following an interview with governors, Mr Sam Thomson has been successfully appointed to the role of Assistant Headteacher from September. Mr Thomson has been part of the headship team for some time now and has played a crucial role in leading us through COVID. Congratulations to him.

As the days get longer and lighter and the hope from the vaccination programme grows I wish you all the brightest of springs.

Mrs Hunter ☺

School Term Dates for 2020/2021

Mon 3rd May – Bank holiday

Fri 28th May – Tempest Class Photos

Mon 31st May – Bank holiday

Tues 1st – Fri 4th June Inc. – Half term

Fri 25th June – non-pupil day

Fri 2nd July – PTFA Summer Fair

Fri 23rd July – Last day of term (**1:30pm finish for Year 6 / 2:15pm finish for Foundation through to Year 5**)

Mon 26th July – start of the summer holidays

Mon 6th Sept - non-pupil day

Tues 7th Sept – first day of term

Mon 25th – Fri 29th Oct Inc. – half term

Mon 20th Dec 2021 – Mon 3rd Jan 2022 Inc. – Christmas holidays



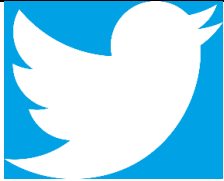





School Term Dates for 2021/2022

Tues 4th Jan - non-pupil day

Mon 21st – Fri 25th Feb – half term

Mon 11th – Fri 22nd Apr Inc. – Easter holidays

School Communication

Text		Texts will be sent as a reminder for events and commitments that have already been communicated to the school family. These reminding texts might be to the whole school (such as a reminder for Harvest Festival) or for a specific class or Year group (for example for a trip the next day). Parents should not find out any 'new' information from a text message.
Facebook		Our Facebook and Twitter pages are there to celebrate what has been happening in school. This is the place to go to see photos, messages, reports and reviews of all that has been happening in our school. You might find out about something that has been happening that you were unaware of as it was not linked directly to your family. This information will no longer be shared on The Beacon. Please be aware that you do not need to have a Facebook or Twitter account to be able to see what is happening – just follow the link directly from the website.
Twitter		
Emails		Emails will be sent to tell you something new or urgent or important. Emails will usually have a letter attached to them. They might be sent out to the whole school or to a specific class or year group. Some letters will be sent out by email while others will be sent as a paper copy. Letters and emails telling you about new events/trips/activities will be sent with at least four weeks' notice; the exception will be if we are offered an opportunity for our children with short notice and we think that it is something that we should go for. There might be a reminder text nearer the time if appropriate.
Letters		
Website		Our website will contain all that is statutory for schools to communicate to the public. The content of the website will remain fixed with the only information that will be regularly updated being the school calendar and copies of letters that have been sent home.
The Beacon		The Beacon will continue to be sent out each week. It will contain reminders for all key dates, current requests or reminders and also a message from the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher. We will also use it share opportunities for clubs and activities that are being held locally which families may wish to take advantage of.
Emergency Messages		Emergency messages will be communicated by all the above methods! An obvious example of this would be a school closure.

Please be aware that emails, letters and texts only go to the first person on the communication list.