



MOUNT PLEASANT PRIMARY

HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER

November/December 2016



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Dear Parents,

It was lovely to see so many of you on the Learning Journey Night (despite the weather!), and again at Open Evening.

So many of our children are extremely well supported by their families and it really does make a difference. The next Open Evenings will take place in the Spring Term (please see Dates for your Diary).

Well done to the children who have represented the school this term on their visits out and residential visit; their behaviour has been impeccable and, as always, is commented on by the community and staff of the places we visit. Well done to everyone—you make us all very proud.

School Closure Due to Bad Weather

It is that time of the year again when I have to inform you of the procedures in case of very bad weather. It is very rare that we have ever closed our school, so in the first instance **please assume that school is open until you hear otherwise**. If you have not heard anything, please do not ring the school office to check, as we will be trying to speak to staff who live some distance away and ensure that we are prepared for the day.

We will inform you of any closure or a delayed start to the school day by:

- putting a message on our school website
- sending a text message
- Message on Free Radio (Wolverhampton and Black Country)*
- Message on www.blackcountry.radio.co.uk *and www.studioone@blackcountryradio.co.uk *

(please note however, that these lines of communication * have been slow or unobtainable in the past).

The decision to close the school will be based on health and safety, including staff ratios for the children, the possibility of the caretaker not being able to clear pathways for safe entrance and exit of all pupils, staff and visitors to the site and due to any loss of heating or water.

Morning Routine

It has come to our attention that some parents are leaving their children at the side of the school prior to 8:30am. Can I stress that children are parents' responsibility until they pass through the gate manned by a member of staff. Any child who continues to make a nuisance of themselves before this time, will lose the right to arrive at school before 8:45am and if the problem continues the front gates may be locked. Please support us in this, as many families use this time sensibly and to their advantage. The staggered start has certainly eased car congestion for our neighbours and given parents that extra time to get to work.

Free School Meals

Remember that if you are eligible for Free School Meals then please apply for them—we get additional funding for each child who takes a Free School meal.

To qualify, a parent must be receiving one of the following welfare benefits:

- Income Support
- Job Seeker's Allowance (Income Based)
- Employment and Support Allowance (Income related)
- Universal Credit
- Guaranteed Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credits in payment) and have an annual gross income of £16,190 or less.
- Asylum Seeker status

And finally:

Mrs Round will be leaving us when we break for Christmas. I am sure you will join with us in wishing her all the best in her new role and say a big thank you to her for the care she has given to the children.

On behalf of the staff and governors of Mount Pleasant, may I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a very happy New Year.

Mrs J Hartill,
Headteacher

BELIEVE IT, ACHIEVE IT!

Attendance

Current attendance levels:

School Target 97.0%

Reception	96.2%
Year 1	97.0%
Year 2	96.9%
Year 3	97.3%
Year 4	98.2%
Year 5	98.3%
Year 6	97.8%

Please make sure that you inform us if your child is going to be absent for any reason.

Please note that **the school office opens at 8:30am.**

Well Done To:

Our Pupil of the Month winners:

Reception	Lacey-Mae Sewell
Year 1	Oliver Paleari
Year 2	Ava Barnett
Year 3	Brooke Stevenson
Year 4	Frankie Foster
Year 5	Amber Wiltshire
Year 6	Amber Bayliss

Well done to Brierley House for winning this month's trophy.

Fundraising

Children In Need

The Pudsey colouring competition, sale of the Pudsey ears and £1.00 donation for spotty jumpers helped us raise £717.93 for Children In Need.

Poppy Appeal

We raised £136.53 for the Royal British Legion's Poppy Day Appeal.

Christmas Lights Switch On

Christmas lights switch-on events are taking place across our region this weekend.:

Saturday 3rd December, Brierley Hill and Stourbridge

Saturday 10th December, Dudley.

All information can be found at:

<http://www.dudley.gov.uk/see-and-do/events/christmas-events>

Dates for your Diary

PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THESE IMPORTANT DATES—YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE TEXT REMINDERS FOR EVERY EVENT.

Dates for Diary:

Autumn Term 2016

Mon 28th Nov—Book Fair Arrives

Tues 29th Nov—Theatre Group for KS2

Anti-Bullying Workshops

Thurs 1st Dec—Reception Christmas Nativity 9:30am

Fri 2nd Dec—Christmas Fayre from 3:00pm

Wed 7th Dec—Christmas Lunch Day

Wed 7th Dec—Nursery Clown

Wed 7th Dec—Dance Group Winter Dance Festival

Thurs 8th—Road Safety for Nursery

Thurs 8th/Fri 9th Dec—Y1, Y2 Christmas Play

Mon 12th Dec— Y3, Y4 Carol Service

Tues 13th Dec—Y5, Y6 Carol Service

Christmas Party Dates:

Mon 12th Dec—Reception

Tues 13th Dec—Nursery and Y1/2

Wed 14th Dec—Y3/4

Thurs 15th Dec—Y5/6

Don't forget, your child can wear their Christmas jumper on their party day. A donation of £1.00 for Save the Children would be appreciated please.

Break for Christmas Friday 16th December

Spring Term 2017

Fri 13th Jan—RNLI Assemblies and Y4 Workshop

Tues 24th Jan—Maths Workshop Y1/2

Wed 25th Jan—Maths Workshop Y3/4

Thurs 26th Jan—Maths Workshop Y5/6

Tues 7th Feb—Safer Internet Day

Thurs 2nd March - World Book Day

Fri 24th March—Mother's Day Assembly and Sale

Mon 27th March—Learning Journey Night 5.00—7.00

Tues 28th March—Open Night 3.15—5.30

Wed—29th March - Open Night 5.00—7.00

Spring Term 2017

Children return to school:

Tues 3rd Jan— Fri 7th April

Half Term 20th—24th Feb

Summer Term 2017

Mon 24th April—Friday 21st July

(Mon 24th & Tue 25th July will be staff INSET Days)

Half Term 29th May—2nd June.

Break Up for Christmas - Friday 16th December