



# MOUNT PLEASANT PRIMARY

## HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER



January 2018

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### **SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.**

Please speak to a member of the Safeguarding Team if you have any concerns.

Dear Parents,

I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and New Year. Thank you to all of you who kindly brought in gifts for staff. We really appreciate the thought.

Our new Headteacher, Mrs H Robinson, has been into school to meet staff and pupils. She will continue to visit us until she officially takes up her post after the Easter holiday.

#### Curriculum Update

The new curriculum overview for each class will soon be on the website. On the Parent Support page you will also find the Assessment Learning Ladders, Maths and Spelling Challenges.

Maths Challenges—as you are aware, the children in all year groups participate in maths challenges weekly. The aim is for children to develop fluency in calculations so that they can apply basic skills to mathematical problems. It is not a competition to see who can complete the challenge first. Often children who complete the challenges quickly do so by remembering the sequence and therefore cannot apply their knowledge to problem solving.

Children who have completed their year group challenges will then practise mixed challenges generated randomly. They will not move on to another year group's challenges, although they can be found on the website if you require them. It is really important that children learn their times tables and this can be done at any point.

#### Spelling Bee Competition

4 pupils from Year 5 took part in the Spelling Bee competition at Ridgewood High School on Wednesday 17th January. They competed against several other primary schools in a variety of spelling challenges. I am very pleased to say that they are now through to the final!

#### Safeguarding

We want to make our school as safe as possible so it would be really helpful if, in order to reduce the number of people entering the building at the start of the day, you could encourage your child to bring in reply slips, visits money etc. themselves. This will also help your child to become more independent and take responsibility for their own belongings.

Any messages can be left with the member of staff on the gate or alternatively please telephone the Office staff from 8.30 am.

At the end of the day it is important that we secure the site as quickly as possible. Therefore the gate will be locked at 3.15pm promptly. Could you please make sure that you exit the site as soon as you have collected your child?

#### Communications

Throughout the year you receive information from us in many different ways:  
Head's Newsletter/Class Newsletter  
Letters about events, visits, workshops, clubs  
Text messages about school closure, reminders  
Parent meetings  
Prospectus/policy updates  
Website.

Could you please make sure that you regularly check the website and your phone for updates and that your child brings home any letters given out in class? We often ask you to return reply slips and forms giving us important information. Could you please do so promptly? Failure to do so may mean that your child misses out on an event or visit.

**We will only send out 1 letter and 1 reminder for school visits.**

School Visits - if you have any concerns about how the voluntary contribution for a visit is calculated, please refer to the 'Charging and Remission Policy .. calculating charges' which can be found on the school website.

Mrs L. Capener Acting Headteacher

**BELIEVE IT, ACHIEVE IT!**

## Attendance

### Late Arrivals

We appear to have a growing number of children being brought in late. Could I please remind you that the school day begins at 8.55 am and the side gate is locked at this time in order to keep the site safe? If your child is not present when the register is taken they will be coded L (late), if they have not arrived by 9.15am then they will be coded U (unauthorised late). Children who are persistently late, even within the first 10 minutes of the session starting, may lose their right to be coded as late and will instead be marked as an unauthorised absence. When 10 sessions of unauthorised absence have been recorded in any 6 week period, a referral to the Education Investigation Service will be made.

If your child is late could you please make sure you report to the Office? Please remember that late arrivals cause disruption to the start of the day for the whole class.

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

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

## **Well Done To:**

Our Pupil of the Month winners:

Reception	Hope Smith
Year 1	Ethan Grice
Year 2	Finley Shaw
Year 3	Luke Simmonds
Year 4	Daniel Belcher
Year 5	Annayah McVenea
Year 6	Sydney Micklewright

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

## **Fundraising**

### Save the Children

We raised £336.65 for Save the Children by wearing our Christmas Jumpers to school.

### Cancer Research

Braiswick Photography donated £117.50 to Cancer Research on our behalf.

We raised £698.13 for School Fund from the sale of the individual photographs.

## Dates for your Diary

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

### Dates for Diary:

#### Spring Term 2018

Tues 30th Jan—Y1 visit to Hartlebury Museum

Thurs 1st Feb—Swimming Competition

Tues 6th Feb—Safer Internet Day

Wed 7th Feb—Spelling Bee Competition

Fri 9th Feb—Fire Service Y4

Mon 12th Feb - E-Safety Performance

Tues 13th Feb – E-Safety Workshop Y3

Thurs 15th Feb -Y5 Chef

Fri 16th Feb - Y3 Chef

Fri 16th Feb—Chinese New Year Focus Day

#### **Fri 16th Feb—Break for 1/2 Term**

Thurs 1st March—World Book Day

#### **FRI 2ND MARCH—INSET**

Tues 6th March—Book Quiz

Tues 6th March—'Bully For You' Workshop Y3/Y4

Fri 9th Mar—Y3 Mother's Day Assembly and Sale

Fri 23rd Mar—Y1 Easter Assembly

Mon 26th Mar—Learning Journey Night 5.00-7.00pm

Tues 27th Mar—Parent Consultations 3.15—5.30pm

Wed 28th Mar—Parent Consultations 5.00—7.00pm

Thurs 29th Mar—Break for Easter

#### **TERM DATES 2017/2018**

Half Term: Mon 19<sup>th</sup> February - Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> February

Term Ends: Thur 29<sup>th</sup> March

Term Starts: Mon 16<sup>th</sup> April

Half Term: Mon 28<sup>th</sup> May - Fri 1<sup>st</sup> June

Term Ends: Fri 20<sup>th</sup> July

INSET Days—school closed to children:

#### **FRI 2ND MARCH**

Fri 25th May

Voting Day—to be confirmed

**Break Up for 1/2 Term - Friday 16th February**