



Mount Pleasant Primary School
Reception Half-Termly Newsletter

Jan-Feb
2018

Our News

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year! We hope that you have a wonderful break with your families.

We will kick-start our learning next half term with our topic 'Frozen Planet' where we learn about the Arctic and Antarctic. We will investigate these continents, their climates, inhabitants and make comparisons with our local environment in winter. We are really looking forward to our visit from the Animal Lady so that we can learn new facts about the exciting creatures she will be bringing. We will use these experiences to make links to our artwork and by creating fact files in our writing. As part of our learning about celebrations and festivals, we will be finding out about Chinese New Year. The year 2018 is the year of the dog. We are planning to explore Chinese culture through a range of activities and we will let you know in our next newsletter how we got on. Towards the end of the half term we will begin our dinosaur topic, where the children will take on the role of palaeontologists and find out fascinating facts about these prehistoric creatures. See what you can find out at home about these exciting topics in preparation.

You can support your child this half term by:

Reading

The majority of children recognise Phase Two sounds and tricky words. The next challenge is to read, Phase Three sounds and tricky words which are: **he, she, we, me, be, my, you, are, they, was, her, all.**

When reading with your child ask questions eg. about the title, characters, setting, plot, illustrations and predict what might happen next.

Encourage your child to use picture clues if they are unsure. It would also be lovely to hear about books of their own that they enjoy or perhaps ones borrowed from a local library.

Writing

Our focus this half term is writing captions and simple sentences. The keys to success are:

- ↔ Capital letter at the start.
- ↔ Finger spaces between each word.
- ↔ Full stop at the end.
- ↔ Letters formed with lead-ins (starting from the line) and flicks.

Encourage your child to write for a variety of different purposes, for example:

- ✍ Lists
- ✍ Stories
- ✍ Letters
- ✍ Postcards
- ✍ Recount events

Maths

This half term we will be focusing on counting and recognising numbers up to and beyond 20 and also counting back from 20 to 0. Children will be counting out groups of objects as this is key to supporting the skills of addition and subtraction. Encourage your child to touch the objects whilst counting out loud with 1:1 correspondence ie. one number name for each object. Later, we will be learning about size, weight and capacity. It is important that children use the correct vocabulary for this eg. "heavy" not "big", "lighter" not "smaller".

Believe it, Achieve it!

Well Done!

The children have had a super first term in school! We are extremely proud of them all and we look forward to many more happy times and successes in 2018!



Thank You!

Your Christmas cards, gifts and well wishes have been greatly appreciated at the end of term. Thank you very much! We hope you have a very happy Christmas and New Year!



January Birthdays

We would like to say a very happy birthday to...

Darcy

Rylee

Liam G



February Birthdays

We would like to say a very happy birthday to...

Kye

Madison



Reception Christmas Production

We are immensely proud of every single child's performance in our Christmas production, 'Christmas At The Toyshop'.

Our dress rehearsal in front of the entire school was a huge success, not to mention their performance for parents and other family members. We hope you enjoyed the show and are as proud as we are!

Thank you very much for your support in helping your children to learn their lines and providing costumes, we couldn't have done it without you!

**WELL DONE RECEPTION!
YOU ARE ALL SUPERSTARS!**



Reminders

You can find the Reception Learning Ladders for Reading, Writing and Maths on the website. Children should be able to do the majority of the statements by the end of Reception. Please also continue to practise blue and red badge statements at home with your child to support and consolidate learning in school.

Thank you for your continued support with home learning – we look forward to reading their homework upon their return in the new year. Please can we ask that all homework is named and returned in homework folders given out this term? Thank you.

Christmas Break Challenge

Over the Christmas break we would like children to learn to fasten their coats independently, whether these are buttons or zips.

In light of children getting changed into their costumes during our Nativity production, we would also like them to start dressing and undressing themselves for school, in preparation for getting changed for PE in Year One.



Education City

We will soon be sending home your child's username and password for educationcity.com. These will be stuck in to home reading records. This is a website which will enhance your child's learning in English, maths and science and can be accessed at any time out of school hours. Set activities will help your child to practise and consolidate what they have been learning in school. Feel free to try out other activities that your child is interested in too!



Dates For Your Diary

Wednesday 3rd January

Children return to school

Wednesday 24th January

Animal lady visiting Reception

Monday 19th - Friday 23rd February

School is closed for half term. Children return to school Monday 26th February



*Let's
Celebrate*

Arthur and Martha

*Jamal, Leighton, Jack C, Oliver Q, Dylan, Madison, Alfie
Daisy, Zoe, Elizabeth, Lana, Elsie, Evie P, Inaayah*

*Let's
Celebrate*

Happy Award

Kayla, Darcy, Summer, Madison, Jack H, Noah R, Preston

Kind Award

Cameron, Marni, Lana, Hope, Caden, Laura

Thank You Award

Liam G, Isabelle, Rylie, Kye, Scarlett, George

Star Of The Week Award

Liam B, Megan, Jacob G, Emily, Joe, Liam R, Oliver C

Whole-School Pupil of the Month

Daisy, Cameron, Leighton

Whole-School Kind Award

Lana, Kye, Caden

Whole-School Outstanding Learners

*Jamal, Caden, Daisy, Kayla, Oiver, Zoe, Liam G, Scarlett, Jack H, Isabelle, Rylee, Darcy, Cameron,
Kiswah, Jacob, Evie P, Noah R, Gracie, Kye, Annie-Mae, Preston, Joe, Ella-Louise, Lana, Emily, Megan,
Inaayah, Marni, Evie-Mae, Laura, Elsie, Hope, Liam B, Leighton, Jack C, Jacob G, Dylan, Rylie, Ayaan,
Madison, Stanley, Oliver Q, Alfie, Elizabeth*