



Mount Pleasant Primary School
Reception Half-Termly Newsletter

Apr-May
2018

Thank you to those parents who came to Learning Journey night and parents' evening. We hope you enjoyed looking at what your child has been up to in Reception over the last few months and seeing the progress they have made. We are very proud of them all!

The children thoroughly enjoyed our topic about Dinosaurs. They impressed us with their thirst for knowledge of new words and fascinating facts. We learnt about different dinosaurs – their size, diet, features and behaviour. We hope that they will continue to research at home. Due to the children's brimming enthusiasm for our dinosaur topic, we will now be starting our new topic, transport after the Easter holidays. Our learning will include looking at different types of transport, why we use them and the forces they use. The children will be able to paint and draw vehicles and use small world toys to print the tracks and tyre marks looking at patterns. Later in the term we will be hunting for mini-beasts both in our outdoor environment and at forest school. We will be investigating their features, diets, and habitats, and exploring their similarities and differences. Following on from this we will begin to look at the lifecycles of creatures such as frogs and butterflies. We currently have frogspawn in the pond and hope that the children will be able to observe changes in growth and shape as they developed into tadpoles. Last year we were lucky enough to have caterpillars in our classroom, which we hope to do again as this was a wonderful experience.

You can support your child this half term by:

Writing

This half term the children will be developing their story writing skills. Encourage your child to retell familiar stories and to make up stories of their own. Think about:

- Story settings
- Characters
- Plot
- Story beginnings, middles and ends
- Story telling vocabulary

Please also practise reading and spelling from memory the following Phase 4 Tricky Words:

said *some*
one *have*
come *when*
like *were*
out *so*
there *what*
do *little*

Reading

Linking in with our story writing, children now need to develop the skill of predicting what might happen next in an unfamiliar story, and give reasons for why they thought that

Please practise reading CCVC/CVCC/CCVC words such as:

pant chat fish flip dust
flush drink slips trust brush

Children now also need to be able to read words containing more than one syllable.

Encourage them to segment and blend the first syllable, then the second/third and put them together to form the whole word.

Eg. *rectangle*
rect – ang – le

Can they clap the syllables in the words?

Maths

We will be developing our understanding of addition by reading and writing number sentences and solving these practically. We will then be moving on to subtraction. You can help your child by doing this at home and also counting on and back from a number.
Eg. $10 + 5 = 15$ $12 - 8 = 4$

We will also be learning the concept of division through sharing and fractions. Ask your child to share their sweets. Is it fair if some people have more than others? Can your child fold a piece of paper in half, or break a biscuit in half? How do they know it is in half?

A big focus now is reasoning for mastery. Encourage your child to explain how they have got their answer (even if it is wrong). Can they convince you?

Believe it, Achieve it!

April Birthdays

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

Aiden Kayla
Oliver C Liam B
Ella-Louise Kiswah



May Birthdays

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

Inaayah



Water Bottles

We are now in Summer Term and the weather is getting warmer. It is extremely important that your child has a bottle of water in school **every day** to ensure that they remain hydrated. We are able to refill bottles in school and we encourage the children to have regular water breaks to stay healthy and to help them with their concentration during learning time. Thank you for your support with this.



Dates For Your Diary

Monday 16th April

Start of term – school open to staff and pupils

Thursday 3rd May

Voting day – school closed to pupils

Monday 7th May

May Day Bank Holiday

Thursday 24th May and Friday 25th May

Staff INSET Day – School closed to pupils

Friday 28th May

Half Term



Lost Property

We have a full box of lost property in Reception containing a range of items including jumpers, cardigans, hats, scarves and gloves.

None of them are named and therefore we are unable to return them to their owners. If your child is missing any of the above items please pop in and look in the box.

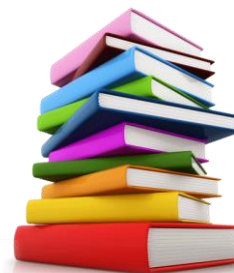
In light of this please can we remind you that **ALL** items of school clothing should be named clearly and need to be checked regularly to see that names have not faded in the wash.

Reading

Lots of children read regularly at home, which is wonderful! We appreciate that it can sometimes be tricky to find time to write a comment each time you read with your child at home, but if you can write the date and your signature in your child's reading record, this would be helpful.

Children should ideally be reading a minimum of 2-3 times per week at home.

Thank you for your support.



Outstanding Learner Award

In order for children to be an outstanding learner they must adhere to all of the criteria:

- ☆ always be ready to learn
- ☆ always complete home learning tasks (reading, spellings and maths challenges)
- ☆ show pride in their work and appearance
- ☆ collaborate well and help others
- ☆ demonstrate independence using '3 before me'
- ☆ demonstrate a positive attitude to all learning
- ☆ be a good role model and inspire others

*Let's
Celebrate*

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Arthur and Martha

*Jacob G, Oliver C, Kye, George
Annie-Mae, Kjswah, Laura, Scarlett*

Happy Award

Cameron, Oliver Q, Elsie, Laura

Kind Award

Jamal, Muhammad, Jason, Ayaan

Thank You Award

Liam R, Aiden, Leighton, Noah R

Star Of The Week Award

Marni, Gracie, Evie P, Alfie

Whole-School Pupil of the Month

Evie P

Whole-School Kind Award

Oliver Q

Outstanding Learner Award

*Jamal, Ella-Louise, Elizabeth, Liam B, Daisy, Lana, Caden, Oliver C, Zoe, Scarlett, Dylan, George,
Isabelle, Marni, Rylee, Cameron, Ayaan, Muhammad, Evie-Mae, Kjswah, Evie P, Stanley, Oliver Q,
Elsie, Alfie, Hope, Preston,*