



Mount Pleasant Primary School

Year 6 Half-Termly Newsletter

November
and
December
2017

Our News

What a busy half term we have had! The children have made a fantastic start to Year 6; they have shown staff what a fantastic work ethic they have and we have been impressed with their keen attitude both inside and outside of the classroom. Our recent residential to Astley Burf was fantastic; the children who went to Astley Burf behaved impeccably throughout the week. They were inquisitive, respectful and persevered with all challenges. During that week, the remaining children took part in a range of activities both inside and outside of school. They worked superbly collaboratively and produced some beautiful natural art work in the style of Andy Goldsworthy. After half term, we shall be discussing the children's recent assessment outcomes with them and we shall be setting personal targets for our impending summer exams.

You can support your child this half term by:

Reading

The children are totally absorbed in the book 'War Horse' and many of the children have selected a library book either based on the World Wars or written by Michael Morpurgo. In class, we are focussing on **inference** - using clues and hints to gather meaning. This is an essential skill that will help your child develop and grow as a reader. To help your child improve their inferential skills, you could be asking them the following questions when reading:

- What makes you think that?
- Which words give you that impression?
- How can you tell that...?
- Can you explain why...?
- Explain what x (phrase with challenging vocabulary) suggests about x.
- What does this... word/phrase/sentence... imply about...(character, setting or mood)?

Writing

The children have written some fantastic pieces of extended writing, ranging from factual to descriptive. After half term, we shall be moving on to write different types of letters, poems and also some narrative pieces.

If your child went to Astley Burf, you could help your child by asking them to create a mind-map of key information about things that they enjoyed about the week that we can then use in their writing. Leading on from some of our key learning, you could ask your child to pick out specific nouns and see if they could expand them by adding adjectives, prepositional phrases and relative clauses. You could see if your child could name different relative pronouns and encourage them to create some sentences, either about Astley Burf or a subject of their own choice, so that they can practise using them.

Mathematics

Children will be continuing to focus on and develop their mental arithmetic skills so it is essential that they know their times tables up to 12×12 .

Children will also be extending their knowledge and understanding of written methods for multiplication and division specifically:

- * hundreds, tens and ones multiplied by tens and ones.
- * long division

The children will then be using these written methods to help them solve two and three step problems and to reason about mathematical problems.

There will also be a focus on fractions and percentages. Children will learn:

- * how to compare and order fractions
- * how to add and subtract fractions
- * how to calculate percentages of whole numbers
- * how to recognise equivalent fractions, decimals and percentages.

Believe it, Achieve it!

Spelling

The children have been given the 100 words that we will be focussing on this term. These are the words that all children are expected to be able to use and spell by the end of Year 6. The children have already completed several mini-tests and also have discussed and investigated specific spelling patterns that they have found within these 100 words. Please ensure that your child is practising their spellings at home; staff have shown the children some fun ways to do this! Have a discussion with your child about these methods.

Home Learning

The children have home-learning tasks that are set fortnightly on Education City and MyMaths. Staff have passwords for these sites; if your child does not have a password, please encourage them to approach the appropriate member of staff. If you do not have access to computer at home or you are having trouble accessing these programs, please make staff aware.

In addition, your child will be given a login for www.spag.com which will allow them to practise specific grammar questions and objectives under timed conditions. This will be beneficial in the lead up to their SATs in May. Miss Williams will inform the children when they have tasks set online.

Dates for diaries

Monday 30th October	School re-opens
Wednesday 8th November	Y6 visit to National Memorial Arboretum
Friday 10th November	Y6 Remembrance Assembly 9:15am
Tuesday 14th November	Year 5 & 6 Cinema Visit
Monday 20th November	Learning Journey Night, 5:00pm - 7:00pm
Tuesday 21st November	Parents Night 3:15pm - 5:30pm
Wednesday 22nd November	Parents Night 5:00pm - 7:00pm
Friday 1st December	Christmas Fayre, 3:00pm
Tuesday 12th December	Year 5 & 6 Carol Service, 6:00pm
Wednesday 13th December	Christmas Lunch Day
Tuesday 19th December	End of Term - School closes for Christmas.

SATs Information Evening.

There will be an information evening for parents on **Thursday 2nd November at 6:00pm** to share and discuss with you the exams that your child will be entered into in the Summer Term. It is important for parents to attend these sessions, even if you have older children who have previously been through Year 6, as there have been some changes this year. Staff will be sharing key information about the content of these exams, timetables, special arrangements for the week and how best to prepare the children for these. If you have specific questions, then staff will be able to answer these during this session too.

Well done to **Keira** and **Evie**, who were awarded our prestigious Kindness award for September and October respectively. This award is voted for by the children, not staff. The children cited that Keira "...helped me when I was stuck..." and "...she was there when I needed someone to talk to." They cited Evie as "...always being nice to me..." and being respectful to others in school. Well done to both girls for this fantastic achievement!

Just a reminder about our upcoming visit to the National Memorial Arboretum on Wednesday 8th November. The children will return to school at the slightly later time of 4:00pm. Please ensure that your child comes to school on that day with a warm, waterproof coat, sensible shoes that they can walk in and a packed lunch, along with any spending money they should wish to bring. Children are responsible for this; we would urge you to make sure that it is in a named purse or wallet please.

Well done to **Callum** and **Zainab**, who were awarded our prestigious Pupil of the Month award for September and October respectively. Both Callum and Zainab have impressed us with their excellent attitude to learning and they have shown us what an excellent start to Year 6 they have made. A big well done to them both! Keep up your fantastic efforts!

Happy Birthday this half term to:

Corey, Amber, Maira, Callum, Lewis, Jamie and Jake!