



Mount Pleasant Primary School

Year 6 Half-Termly Newsletter

January-
February
2018

As we come to the end of what has been a busy and fast-paced term for Year 6, we must say how impressed we are with children and their positive attitude to learning that they are demonstrating. The children have taken part in a range of extra-curricular activities this term, including an enriching residential and a significant visit to the National Memorial Arboretum as part of their studies focused around World War 1. Despite these changes to their regular routine, they have continued to work incredibly hard and are always striving to improve. With SATs looming ever closer, this hard work will continue in Spring Term. With this in mind, we would like to wish them a very Happy Christmas. Encourage your child to really enjoy and make the most of their festive break. From all the Year 6 team, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and we hope that you have an enjoyable festive break!

You can support your child this half term by:

Reading

We have been focusing on the skills of inference and retrieval this term – the children have been taught specific strategies to help them do this accurately across a range of texts.

The next skill that we are going to focus on more explicitly is word meaning. Below are some strategies to share with your child to help them with this. When reading with them, see if you can try and get them to explain the meaning of unfamiliar words

Word meaning:

- Use the other words around
- Can you break the word up into root word, prefix and suffix?
- Does the word look or sound like another word?
- Replace the word with another word; does the passage still make sense?

Writing

The children have recently been writing flashback stories, inspired by our visit to the National Memorial Arboretum and also our work surrounding the famous Christmas Day Truce.

One of the skills that is essential for the children to be doing in order to achieve the expected standard in writing is the use of advance punctuation. (e.g. brackets, dashes, colons and semi - colons.) Using their revision guides to help them, get your child to look at how to use these accurately. They could create a WAGOLL on a piece of paper to demonstrate this, which could then help them to use this skill in their writing. We will be revising these skills in the New Year, so it would be a good opportunity to help them prepare for this.

Mathematics

The children have been improving their accuracy when using written methods for calculating. We will continue to focus on fractions, decimals and percentages, in particular looking at how to calculate fractions. We know that this new higher level of expectation is proving very challenging for some children but they are making good progress with these skills as part of the arithmetic tests we are practising in class. It would however, be beneficial for them to practise as much as possible at home.

Example questions:

$$\frac{3}{4} \times 7 = 5 \frac{1}{4}$$

- Multiply the numerator (top number) by the whole number
 - Keep the denominator (bottom number) the same $3 \times 7 = \frac{21}{4}$
 - Convert to a mixed number $21 \div 4 = 5 \text{ r}1 \text{ or } 1/4$
- $$\frac{1}{5} \times \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{10}$$
- Multiply the numerators
 - Multiply the denominators
 - Simplify (write the fraction with the smallest numbers possible) if necessary

Believe it, Achieve it!

English Home Learning

Please ensure that your child is reading at home on a regular basis; this is essential to their development. Should your child forget their reading record, please encourage them to record their reading on paper and we can attach this into their records.

There will be no Education City homework set over the Christmas period but this will resume in January. Copies of their spellings have been stuck into revision guides so that the children can reference these at home and in school.

Maths Challenge

Well done to the following children, who have been making fantastic progress with their Maths Challenges:

Jack, Grace, Callum, Danny, Ben, Jess, Theo, Nick, Jamie, Ellie, Sienna, Ben, Rhys, Ruby, Russell, Keona, Amelia, Balraj, Charlie, Olivia, Cameron, Jake, Cavan, Charlotte, Evie, Lewis, Jess, Shannon, Amber, Corey, Dejan, Keira, Isabelle, Chloe, Maira, Taybah.

Important dates for diaries

Tuesday 2 nd January	INSET DAY - School closed to pupils
Wednesday 3 rd January	Return to school
Friday 16 th February	Break up for Half Term
Monday 19 th - Friday 23 rd February	Half Term Week
Monday 26 th January	Return to School

Outstanding Learner Award

In our November assembly, the first Outstanding Learner award was given out to children across the school. Prior to this, we spoke to the children about this award; it is prestigious and highly sort after because of the expectations it demands. As a class, we discussed the differences between being a good learner and an outstanding learner, which helped motivate the children who perhaps were unsure or even a little disappointed that they did not receive this award this time. Well done to the following children, who have been recognised for being consistent outstanding learners all of the time:

Charlie A	Olivia	Corey
Taybah	Grace	Isabelle
Jessica G	Ruby	Ben W
Maira	Zainab	Amber
Amelia	Cameron	Jake
Sydney	Chloe	Keira

Kindness Award

*A big well done to **Ruby** who was voted by the other children for being an extremely kind individual towards others. Other members of Year 6 cited Ruby as "...always being there when I had no one to play with.." and "...when I felt lonely, she came over to me and we had a laugh and a joke." Ruby sets an excellent example to others about treating others with absolute kindness. We are very proud of her.*

Pupil of the Month

*Congratulations to **Jake**, who was chosen as our Pupil of the Month in November. Jake was selected for being a consistent, outstanding learner who strives to do his best in every aspect of school life. As Head Boy, he sets an excellent example to others and is a superb role model to look up to. We have no doubt that he will continue to strive and work hard throughout the year.*

Happy Birthday this half term to:

**Corey, Amber, Maira, Callum,
Lewis, Jamie, Jake**