

Mount Pleasant Primary School

Parent Newsletter – Issue 12

26th May 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

As it approaches towards the end of another successful year, I have many items to update parents on, including KS1 and KS2 SATs, Ofsted, New Build, Breakfast Club and much more.

Firstly, a massive 'Well Done' to our Year 2 and Year 6 children, for completing their SATs tests for Reading and Mathematics; and Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation for KS2 children. The children and staff have worked extremely hard all year in preparation for the tests and whilst they were not easy, everyone remained positive. We are so proud of you all!

Due to our excellent recent Ofsted Report, we are now able to use the Ofsted 'Good Provider' logo on our school website and stationery, in recognition of our excellent work.

Work continues to progress at a rapid pace on our new build with internal walls and electrical and plumbing almost completed on the ground floor. The external brick work has been completed and the second phase for the externals works is commencing with the cladding for the Hall and rendering for the rest of the build. We are currently working with the designers in planning internal and external signage, as well as the playground.



This is also an extremely exciting time for staff as we start to plan the fantastic resources we will need for the new build. We have an exciting ICT development plan which will include brand new smart screens for every class as well as additional computers; two libraries with new furniture, books and ICT facilities; as well as new classroom furniture.

The final half term will be another busy and exciting one as children and staff prepare for end of year assessments; report writing; our annual Aspirations and Awards Ceremony. It is also a very sad time as we say goodbye to our wonderful Year 6 children as they continue with their next school journey to High School, but before they leave, we will be looking forward to their Leaver's Assembly.

I hope everyone has a lovely and restful half term holiday and for our Muslim families Ramadan Mubarak!

Mrs N Nazir
Headteacher

Change of School Time

Following requests from many parents for the school to review its start and finish times, you will be pleased to know that the Governing Body have agreed to make the following changes which will commence Tuesday 5th September 2017.

Reception to Year 6 times:

The school day - 8.40am to 3.10pm

Doors will open at 8.40am - 8.50am for Registration Activities

School gates will close at 8.50am

Registration 8.50am – 8.55am

School day ends at 3.10pm

Nursery times:

Morning session 8.30am – 11.30am

Afternoon session 12.50pm – 3.15pm

Huddersfield Town Breakfast Club

On Tuesday 16 May, we launched our very successful partnership with Huddersfield Town. We were very fortunate when Huddersfield Town Charity chose our school over many others to sponsor a FREE Breakfast Club. Feeding over 60 children, a very healthy and wide range of foods including toast, cereals, juice, milk, fruit and yogurt, has enabled many of our children to have an excellent start to the day. The launch included mascots and Huddersfield Town sponsors who ate with the children as they could witness firsthand the many benefits of Breakfast Club.



Summer Precautions

Please ensure your child has a sunhat/cap and sun cream for school in this warm weather.

Vision and Values Parents Workshop

At the staff INSET Day on Thursday 8 June, we will be working on the school's vision and values as we consider best ways of moving the school forward on its journey to outstanding. We will also be relooking at the school logo and motto which will be launched with the new school. We welcome parental input in this. Please make a note in your diaries and try to attend the following parental workshops.

Vision and Values Parent Workshops – Wednesday 14 June either 9-10am or 2-3pm.

Staffing

We would like to welcome Miss E Longden (Teacher) and Mrs D Taylor (Business Support) joining our school. We would also like to welcome back staff members who have been on maternity leave, Mrs N Afeefah (Teacher), Mrs B Mehreen (HLTA), Mrs N Kauser (Teaching Assistant) and Mrs R Kauser (Teaching Assistant).

ParentPay

Dinner money – Kirklees Council request that dinner money must be paid in advance and dinner accounts must be kept in credit. Debit balances will eventually be passed onto Kirklees if after several request from the office, these are not bought into credit.

Trips/Events – The school request that all trips and events payable be paid online via ParentPay. Any letters regarding trips and events will have a barcode to pay at a PayPoint on them if you wish to pay via this method.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the office and they will be happy to help.

Year 5 Boys – Poetry

A group of Year Five boys were lucky enough to take part in a series of workshops with the performance poet Donovan Christopher. They then performed to Key Stage Two and amazed all the audience with their enthusiasm for poetry and for reading. They also impressed their teachers with the way their confidence had grown in such a short time.



Poetry



Year 1 Mosque Visit



A small selection of Year 1 children had the chance to join with Hepworth School and visit Jamia Masjid Noor in Thornton Lodge. We met up with Hepworth and walked to the mosque together. We were shown how to read the Arabic alphabet and shown the Holy Qur'an. We all got a chance to practise wudu



and then were taken up to see the prayer room. We learnt about how and when Muslims pray and the different things they do at the mosque. We then came back to school and we got to show Hepworth children the lovely things we do. We made fairy houses and some of the children had some mehndi done to show their friends back at school. The children behaved exceptionally well throughout. Later in the year we will be going to the Church in Hepworth and visiting their school to see the differences.

Attendance

Please see listed below our latest Attendance figures;

95.6% - current attendance

3% is authorised absence, (illness)

1.1% is unauthorised absence (unauthorised leave of absence)

Extended Leave

Following a much publicised pupil attendance court case, the Local Authority have implemented some changes and a separate letter has been sent to all parents advising the updates.

Punctuality/Lates

Some children are still arriving late every morning. May I remind you that the school gates are open from 8.35am and locked at 8.55am. Any child arriving into school after 8.55am must go to the main entrance for a late mark and will be escorted to their classroom by one of the Admin team.

100% Attendance Parties

To celebrate our children's fantastic attendance, we held two fabulous parties in the hall for all KS1 and KS2 children with 100% attendance. They thoroughly enjoyed themselves listening to music and playing games whilst being treated to pizza, drinks, crisps and muffins.

MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES

Nursery

An incubator came to nursery with 10 eggs. Now we have baby chicks! We are learning all about how chickens grow and hatch and have been taking care of our little chicks at Nursery. Our story has been the Little Red hen and we have found out about how she made bread... without any help from all the lazy farm animals.



Reception

This half term the children in Reception have been learning all about mini beasts and animals. The children have had great fun digging for worms and building our own wormeries. The children have thoroughly enjoyed having the eggs and watching them hatch into chicks in the incubator. We have learnt all about the life cycles of chickens and how to care for animals.



Year 1

This term we started by walking up to Beaumont Park with all the Year 1 children. We explored the park looking for leaves and plants then used binoculars to look for birds. It was a very cold day but we still managed to have some fun playing on the park. We took a walk down into the woods to explore the enchanted woodland to get some ideas for our topic. We had a great time exploring.



Year 2

This half term Year 2 had their memorable experience at Beaumont Park. We went on a mini beast hunt and used scientific equipment to observe them. We also went on a flower hunt identifying different flowers.



Year 3



The children in Year 3 had an exciting time in the lovely village of Castleton, visiting Treak Cliff Cavern (The home of the Blue John Stone). During the visit, we were able to complete a 'Fossil Hunt' before entering the cavern through the Tardis. Within the



caverns, we explored seven different caves which ranged from limestone to amazing stalactites and stalagmites. We were even lucky enough to see fossils in the caverns above our heads. It was such an amazing day.

Year 4

For their memorable experience Year 4 carried out a treasure hunt style activity to find names of 14 American states. This was carried out in a woodland area near school. They had to follow paths and go through the forest area to find the names of some of the States. To help them they had initials of the state. Their task was to find the name that matched the initials and the Native American tribe that lived there.



Year 5

This half term our topic is 'Scream Machine'. For our memorable experience, the Year 5 children were lucky enough to visit a theme park – Gulliver's World, Warrington. During the day, the children were able to ride a variety of roller coasters, such as pirate ships, log flumes and larger (scarier) rides! It was a great experience to show the children how forces and mechanisms work



together to make the rides more thrilling.

Year 6

Year 6 got a real taste of Mexico recently as they planned, prepared and cooked a famous, savoury, Mexican dish. The Fajitas were a huge success and children in all classes learnt the different ingredients and spices which go into the traditional, tasty food. The pupils also got a

chance to make some accompanying dishes such as salsa and guacamole to taste along with their Fajitas. All in all, Fajitas received a big thumbs up, with a number of children promising to try out the cooking at home with their own families!



Date	Event
Friday 26 th May 2017	Children break up for half term holidays
Monday 5 th June 2017	Children return to school Class 3B visit Castle Hill
Tuesday 6 th June 2017	Class 3A visit Castle Hill
Wednesday 7 th June 2017	Class 3C visit Castle Hill
Thursday 8 th June 2017	Staff INSET Day (School closed for children) Voting day
Wednesday 14 th June 2017	Vision and Values parent workshop (9-10am or 2-3pm)
Friday 16 th June 2017	Whole school photographs
Thursday 22 nd June 2017	Reception children Beach Day Year 1 children visit Hepworth School
Tuesday 27 th June 2017	Staff INSET Day – school closed for children
Thursday 29 th June 2017	Aspirations Day (Year 4-6 children)
Tuesday 4 th July 2017	Year 5 children visit Moor End Academy
Wednesday 5 th July 2017	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Thursday 6 th July 2017	Mount Pleasant Awards Ceremony at Huddersfield University
Friday 7 th July 2017	Last day for Year 6 children who will be going to Moor end Academy
Thursday 20 th July 2017	Reception children visit Beaumont Park Year 1 children visit Formby Beach
Friday 21 st July 2017	Reports to Parents
Monday 24 th July 2017	Summer Fair by PTA
Tuesday 25 th July 2017	School closes for Summer Holidays
Monday 5 th September 2017	Staff INSET Day – school closed for children
Tuesday 6 th September 2017	School open for children
Special Awards Assembly – May 2017	

A big well done to all the following children for displaying outstanding learning and behaviour.

1A	Aroush Anees	1B	Kenana Zargoan	1C	Sahil Majeed
2A	Hania Afzal	2B	Fizah Rehman	2C	Kieran McClusky
3A	Aisha Hussain	3B	Awais Ali	3C	Tasnim Islam
4A	Amna Zahoor	4B	Ibrahim Zahid	4C	Tolani Adeboyejo
5A	Rican Rahman	5B	Aleena Shahzad	5C	Zara Ahmed
6A	Codrin Filip	6B	Sabeen Sarfraz	6C	Malika Imran

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Dear Parents/Carers

Earlier in the year, I wrote to parents informing them of our Leave of Absence Policy. Following, a much publicised pupil attendance court case, the Local Authority have updated this policy. It is extremely important that parents read the following updated points from the renewed policy and carefully consider them before planning any leave of absence:

- **There is no automatic entitlement in law for children to take time off during term-time and miss their entitlement to schooling. The law states that 10 days of extended leave may be granted in exceptional circumstances; for example, if you were in the armed forces and even with this circumstance, granting authorised leave of absence is at the Headteacher's discretion.**
- **The courts take a negative view of visiting poorly grandparent(s) abroad citing that it is not exceptional to the child, but to the parent/s.**
- **School will require a copy of airlines tickets with defined return dates on. These can be provided after the initial meeting with the Headteacher if you decide to continue with your plans.**
- **If parents/carers take their child out of school and the leave has not been authorised by the Headteacher, parents may be fined (under Section 444 of the Education Act) £60.00 if paid within 28 days, rising to £120.00 if paid within 42 days. This is per parent and per child.**
- **Any unauthorised absence of 5 days (10 sessions) or more will be issued a fixed penalty notice, and there is a possibility of a fine of up to £1,000 and a criminal record for non-payment of a penalty notice should the case go to court.**
- **There is a strong possibility that your child could lose their school place and may struggle to be re-admitted upon your return. (Please note this has happened to families in our school).**
- **Our expectation is that all our pupils have 100% attendance unless the absence is authorised.**

If you require an up-to-date copy of our school's Attendance Policy, please note that it is available to download from the school website; alternatively you can request a copy from the office.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Naeem Nazir
Headteacher