

Mount Pleasant Primary School

Parent Newsletter – Issue 11

7th April 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I would like to thank parents for all their support and well wishes whilst we had our Ofsted visit on Tuesday 28 March. The inspectors were pleased by parents' feedback on the school. The day started with inspectors speaking with myself and senior leaders about the school's performance. They observed a number of lessons throughout the school; observed the school's safeguarding policies and procedures; monitored pupil books and spoke to a number of our children. They also spent time talking to a number of our governors as well as our Kirklees Learning Partner. It was a great day to showcase the wonderful and hard work of our pupils, staff and parents. We will be receiving the inspection outcome letter after the Easter holidays.

I am also pleased to announce that our new build is on track and looking very impressive. The contractors, Kier, have organised various visits to the building site as well as learning projects for the school.



Most recently, the school were invited to a special ceremony which was attended by a number of our children, staff,

governors and the local authority to celebrate our new build. This involved a special visit to the building site, walking through the ground floor. The children and I wrote messages on one of the steel structures; this was a particularly special moment as these messages will always remain part of the build. Afterwards, Kier organised a lovely lunch for the children with the opportunity to ask their various staff about their own particular jobs, and what part they play in building our new school. I would like to thank Kier for organising such a fantastic event for us; we had a great time.

Finally, many of our families will remember Ms Chantelle Tiplady who worked at our school for a number of years in Nursery. She was an excellent staff member and always had our children and families interests close to her heart. Ms Tiplady had always wanted to work with children with special educational needs and moved to Castle Hill School last July. We have recently learnt that Ms Tiplady is unwell and we ask you all to keep her in your thoughts and prayers.

I wish all our families a wonderful Easter holiday.

Mrs N Nazir
Headteacher

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 requests 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.

Comic Relief

This year for Comic Relief we raised money in a variety of ways. On Friday 24th March we held: non uniform days, sold red noses, had bake sales, painted nails and sold books. It was an extremely successful day, and the school managed to raise £1200 for charity.

We also had two of our Year 6 teachers being slimed! A big thanks to them for volunteering to be slimed; the children loved it!

The school had lots of fun and we are very grateful for the support we received from parents and carers this year; without it, we would not have been able to raise as much as we did for charity. Thank you.



Kier Construction Poster Competition

Well done to Hammad Ramzan (2A), Eshaal Kaysher (4A) and Mahnoor Khalid (4A) for creating fabulous 'Safety' posters which Kier will be using. They were presented with a prize each from the Kier's Project Manager, Matt Hargreaves. Runners up were also presented with a prize.

Thank you to our new build contractors, Kier for organising this competition. We encourage parents to take a few minutes to visit Mount Street where the winning posters are on display.



Sports for Schools

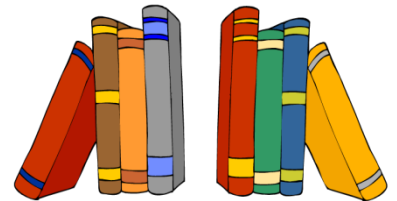
GB diver James Denny recently visited us and spent the day working with KS1 and KS2 children. The children were put through their paces as they completed a circuit of physical activities testing their fitness and endurance levels. It was an enthralling experience for the children and a valuable opportunity to meet a high-level athlete.

Thank you to all parents and children for their response and reply with sponsorship, we will be providing an update in regards to which area of PE the funds are allocated.



Pageturners Children's Reading Festival

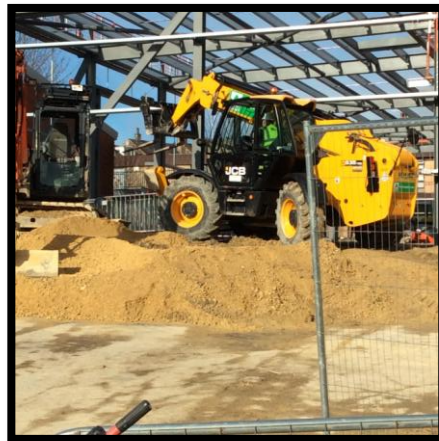
Over the Easter holidays, Kirklees Libraries are celebrating children's reading with our Pageturners festival. We have 42 free children's events taking place throughout our 24 libraries. We have authors, illustrators, artists, theatre groups, poets, rappers and storytellers. There will be writing and art workshops, meet and greet opportunities and lots of FUN! Have a look at our website for more information or to book tickets, or pick up a brochure from one of our libraries.
www.pageturnersfestival.co.uk 01484 414868.



We also have a mini reading challenge running from 1st-30th April – ask at your library for details.

Nursery

Our topic in Nursery this term is 'How do buildings stay up? We went to visit the building site to look at our new school and met Matt the builder and all his workers. It was very exciting to see the work the men have done and to watch the big diggers and trucks. Since then we have been designing and making houses and buildings and have learned the story of the three little pigs. We made a house for a fairy, a police station and a big digger carwash! Can we fix it? Yes we can!



Reception

This term the children in Reception visited Kirklees Light Railway as part of their 'Are We There Yet?' topic. They went on a train journey through the country side to see what they could see. The children learnt many interesting facts about steam engines which they used to make their own information book.



Year 1

This term we started with a very worried visitor. An animal trainer came in and he had lost his pet. His pet's name was Rex.....the T-REX. The children were very surprised to see a baby T-Rex come and visit them. He got very close to some of us, which was very SCARY! We got to lead him around the hall and ask its owner some questions about his pet. We had a really enjoyable time meeting him.



Year 2

Year 2 began their new topic, Muck, Mess and Mixtures with a messy morning. The children rotated around different messy stations that had activities such as magic mud pie making, bubble painting, fizzing potions, clay, shaving foam and foot painting. We had lots of fun while getting messy!



Year 3

Year 3 had an amazing time when the Zoo Lab came to visit. As we were going to learn about different predators, Zoo Lab came to school and we got to meet 6 different creatures from all around the world. We even got to touch and hold them. It was fantastic. There was Megatron the python, Mr Jumpy the tree frog and even a rat called Friday.

Year 4

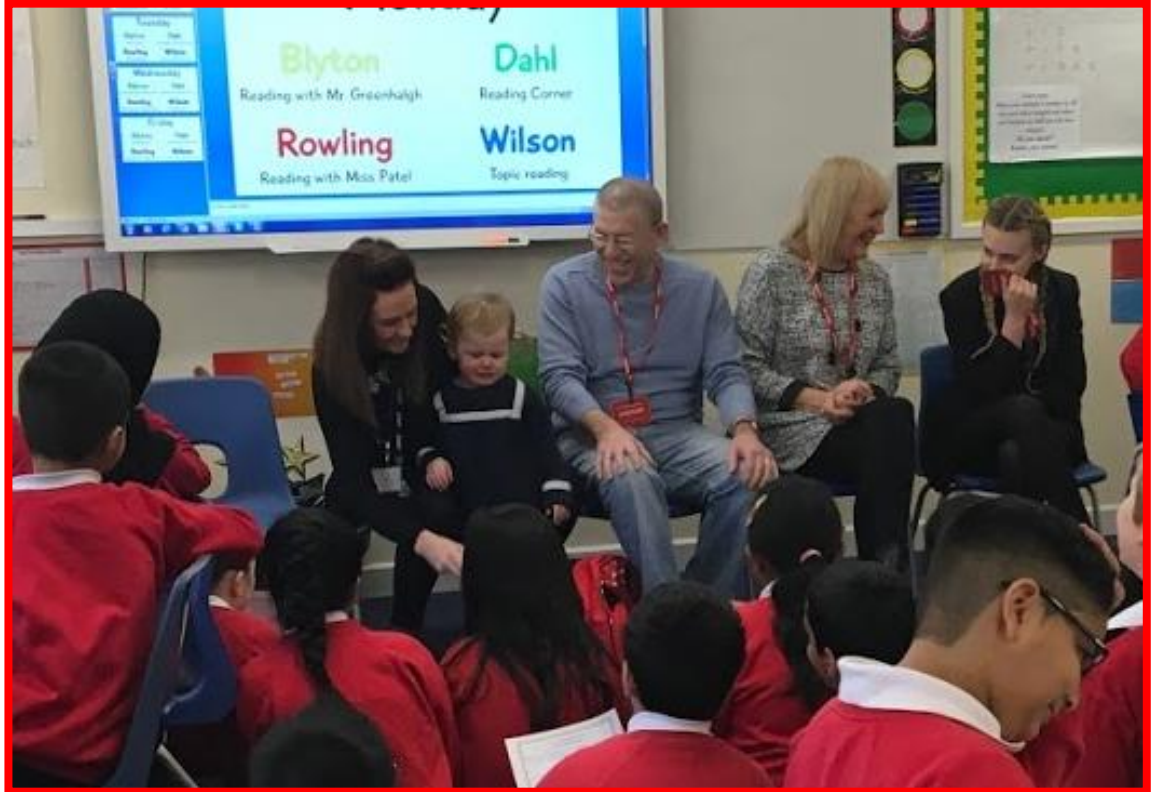
Year 4 were visited by Bodvar, a real Viking warrior! He taught us all about the Vikings – where they came from, how they lived and what they believed. We got to look at artefacts from Viking life such as drinking horns, jewellery and tools, and played a popular Viking board game. In the afternoon we had a weapons and armour demonstration and learnt how Vikings fought. At the end of the day we all took part in Viking spear wrestling, a test of skill and strength. The eventual winners were Shakeel Hanif and Maryam Khan!



Year 5

In Year 5, our topic this half term was Time Traveller. During the first week of term, we had a special visit from Mrs Neal, her mum and step-dad, her teenage daughter (13) and her baby daughter (18 months). The children had the opportunity to explore the lives and experiences of the different generations by asking thoughtful questions. The children were intrigued when learning about how school life and technology has changed. Also they discovered the roles, responsibilities and pressures of parents and grandparents.

Throughout this half term we have been travelling through time, exploring different stages throughout history and their impact on modern society. We have also been learning about human changes throughout our lives.



Year 6

For our memorable experience this half term, children have had the chance to dissect a whole heart! The Year 6 Team sourced a number of sheep's hearts for groups to handle and dissect (with adult supervision). They were challenged to identify the external features including the major blood vessels such as the aorta and vena cava. They then looked at how blood flows through the heart by pouring coloured liquid into the vessels one at a time, noting which vessel the liquid appeared out of. The children sliced the heart carefully to reveal the internal features including the atria, ventricles, valves and the cord-like chordae tendineae, or heart strings. It was a very messy afternoon!



Special Awards Assembly

Well done to the following children for receiving a special award in assembly for outstanding learning and behaviour.

1A	Yusra Adnan	1B	Yaqoota Alghadi	1C	Mohammed Dawood
2A	Mohamed Ahmed	2B	Riyan Rahman	2C	Malaika Hussain
3A	Mabrouka Assaeh	3B	Qairal Alrabi	3C	Abu-Huraira Sharif
4A	Hamza Sohaib	4B	Yousaf Habeeb	4C	Safa Rangzeb
5A	Anas Ishaq	5B	Talhah Shahzad	5C	Yousef Ghani
6A	Abdullah Liaqat	6B	Mabroka Omar	6C	Bilal Kabir

Attendance

Please see listed below our latest Attendance figures;

95.4% - current attendance

3% is authorised absence, (illness)

1% is unauthorised absence (unauthorised leave of absence)

Extended Leave

We are aware that lots of requests are coming into school for leave of absence. Please may I remind all parents that following Kirklees guidelines we cannot authorise any extended leave. We are however, happy to discuss any leave/travel plans and we always look at each individual case to support our families.

Please also be aware that because we have children waiting for school places any child/children going out of the country and not returning within 20 days will automatically be removed from our school roll and referred to the Children Missing in Education Team. You can re-apply via School Admissions once your child returns to the UK however, please note there may not be a place in this school.

Punctuality/Lates

We have lots of children that are still arriving late every morning, to avoid your child being given a late or an unauthorised late mark (if the register has closed) which means your child has an absence for the whole session, which in turn can drastically affects their attendance, please try and get your son/daughter to their classroom doors before 8.55am.

100% Attendance Parties

On a brighter note to celebrate fantastic attendance, when we return to school after the Easter holiday we will be organising two fantastic parties in the hall again for all KS1 and KS2 children with 100% attendance. We are sure this will be as entertaining and fun packed for the children as the previous one we held last term.

Hourly Charges for Sports Hall Hire

(*and subsequent hours where caretaker is not needed to remain on-site)

	Community use on weekdays	Community use on weekends	Private use on weekdays	Private use on weekends
Sports Hall	£25.00	£35.00	£45.00	£55.00
*Subsequent Hours (over 1)	£7	£17	£27	£37

Sports Hall Hire for Football / Badminton / Weddings / Parties / Events etc

Please note that the school's sports hall is available for hire on evenings and weekends for 5 aside football, badminton, birthday parties, fundraisers, community events etc. Special discount rates apply to open / community events which promote the school vision. If you would like to make a booking then please contact Ms Helen Simmonds at the School's Main Office or email her on helen.simmonds@kirkleeseducation.uk for a copy of the booking form. The hire rates are outlined on the previous page. For full details and conditions of hire please refer to the Lettings Policy.

Mount Pleasant Term Time and Holidays 2017-2018

Autumn Half Term 1

- **Monday 4th September – INSET Day**
- Tuesday 5th September – First day back for children
- Wednesday 18 October – Last day for children
- **Thursday 19 October (INSET Day)**
- **Friday 20 October (School extra closure day for packing)**

Autumn Half Term 2

- **Monday 30th October (INSET day)**
- **Tuesday 31st October (INSET Day)**
- **Wednesday 1st November (school extra closure day for unpacking)**
- Thursday 2nd November – Children return to new school
- Friday 22 December – School closes for Christmas Holidays

Spring Half Term 1

- Monday 8th January – Children return to school
- Friday 16 February – School closes for February half term

Spring Half Term 2

- **Monday 26 February – INSET day**
- Tuesday 27 February – Children return to school
- Thursday 29 March – School closes for Easter holidays

Summer Half Term 1

- Monday 16 April – children return to school
- Friday 25 May – School closes for May half term holidays

Summer Half Term 2

- Monday 4 June – Children return to school
- Tuesday 24 July – School closes for the Summer holidays

Please note that the INSET and closure days before and after the October half term holidays are subject to the New School Build being handed over at this time, and therefore is subject to change.

We wish you a Happy Easter break.

