



Mount Pleasant Primary School Parent Newsletter – Issue 49 May, 2024



Dear Parents/Carers,

This half term has been a long and extremely busy one. We started the term off with our amazing Eid Event. This was a truly wonderful occasion, as we were invited to watch the Year 1 children perform their Eid assembly. The children spoke so clearly and confidently as they shared their Eid experiences; their singing was amazing as well.



Following this, we had a stunning performance from a group of boys who performed their favourite nasheed (poem) in English, Arabic and Urdu. The whole audience was mesmerised by their outstanding performance.

Next, we shared the winners from our whole school Eid poetry competition; there were quite a few winners in every year group, and they all received some wonderful prizes. Finally, it was time for the parents to join in with the celebrations as they enjoyed some delicious food. Thank you to the whole school for making this such a wonderful occasion, and a huge thank you to parents for supporting the school with this event.



Another great event which we hold every year is Aspirations Day, where different organisations and emergency services come to school and

share their exciting careers with our children. This year, we also had Class Dynamix in school to film the event, as our next school song and video is all about raising aspirations. I will share more about both these two events in the next newsletter.

Next half term will be the final half term of the year! As always, we will be having many end of year events such as Nursery Graduation, Awards Ceremony, PSHE week and finally our annual Summer Fair on Thursday 18th July, where we look forward to seeing you all.

I hope everyone has a wonderful half term holiday.

Yours faithfully
Mrs N Nazir
Head Teacher

Reception Memorable Experience



This half term Reception have been learning about pets and minibeasts.

We started off the half term with a lovely visit from Abel's Mini Farm. We got to meet, handle and feed a selection of small animals including guinea pigs, rabbits, chicks, rare breed chickens and a duck.

Nursery Memorable Experience

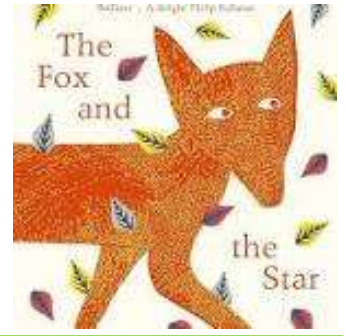
This half term, the children have been learning about minibeasts. The children have enjoyed learning minibeast facts, reading minibeast stories and going on a minibeast hunt in Forest School. They also had a special delivery in Nursery - some caterpillars to look after. The children enjoyed observing and waiting for them to grow, make a cocoon and turn into butterflies.



We released the butterflies into the wild during one of our Forest School sessions.

Year 1 Memorable Experience

In Year 1 this half term, we have been reading the book 'The Fox and the Star' by Coralie Bickford Smith. We spent some time learning facts about foxes; what they eat and what their habitat is like. We then created our own fox dens in the woodland area so that if any foxes visit Mount Pleasant they have a safe place to spend the night! The children loved making these dens as they wanted to ensure the foxes were comfortable!



Year 2 Memorable Experience

The rain finally stopped to allow the whole of Year 2 to go ahead with their trip to Beaumont Park. Before setting off, the children discussed in small groups about how we would walk to the park carefully, thinking about our road safety lessons. On the way, we used the zebra crossing, went over the train bridge and trekked up the hill, talking about the human and physical features in our local environment. Once we reached the park the children were amazed at the history and lovely views. They passed many beautiful flowers, sculptures, waterfalls and statues. Luckily, the fierce lion was sleeping as we passed!



The teachers were so impressed by the children's physical development and strength as they whizzed across the monkey bars, climbed the rope ladder and had no fear as they zoomed down the slides. They also made great friends when a neighbouring school came to visit the park too. Next, it was time to refuel and have a perfect picnic on the grass. After dinner, we began the nature hunt, answered questions, looked for statues and discussed the animals and their habitats that we might see or hear in the park during the day and night, before we began the slow, tiring walk back to school.



The children had an amazing day and want to go back to the park soon.

Year 3 Memorable Experience



For our memorable experience Year 3 visited Ilkley Manor House to learn all about the Romans. The children dressed up as Roman soldiers and marched the perimeter of the House, chanting in Latin. We then looked at the area around Ilkley and discussed why the Romans might have come to Ilkley. Children then had the opportunity to dress up as the Celts and we ended our visit by looking at artifacts that had been found in Ilkley from the Roman era.

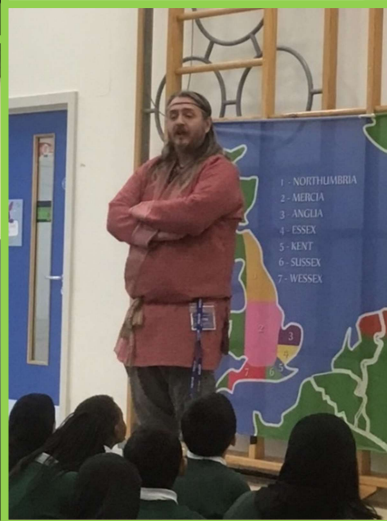
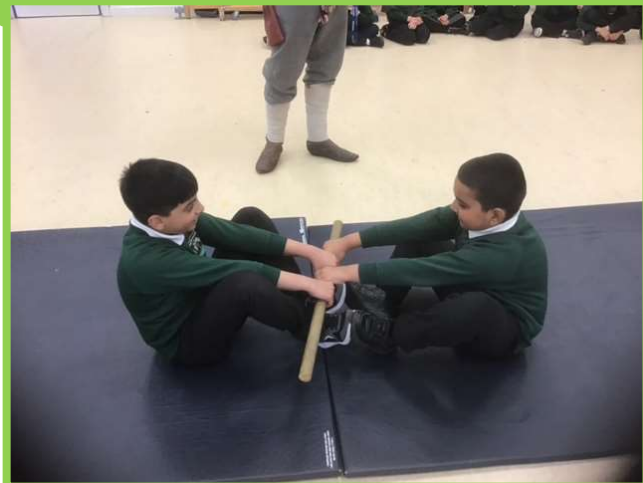


Year 4 Memorable Experience

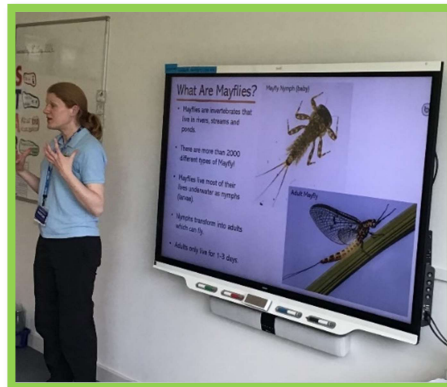
Year 4 had a visit from an Anglo-Saxon! We learnt about why the Anglo-Saxons came to Britain. We played Anglo-Saxon games, solved riddles and completed a quiz. In the afternoon, we learnt all about armour and battle techniques. At the end of the day we had the chance to challenge each other in spear wrestling!



It was an amazing day and everyone enjoyed it and learnt lots of facts about life in Anglo-Saxon Britain.



Year 4 River Holme Project



Conservationists from the River Holme Project came into school to work with Year 4. The children learned about the short life cycle of a mayfly. They also were made aware of the food chains the mayflies are a part of. The visitors also brought with them different creatures which can be found in a river. Everyone involved had a go at finding and recording the different species of river bugs they could spot.

Before the Conservationists left, they set up a mayfly aquarium. The aquarium will be with us for the next 2 weeks. All three classes will have the opportunity to look after some nymphs, which are mayflies before they evolve, until they are ready to be released into the river.



Year 5 Memorable Experience

Year 5 took part in various exciting activities in our garden. The focus was birds. They thought about migration, bird song, beak adaptations, catching prey and nest building. On top of that, they revitalised and replanted some of our seasonal plant boxes.



Year 5 Passover Assembly

Year 5 put together an outstanding assembly and dramatic retelling of the Jewish Passover story.



Year 6 Memorable Experience

To bring biology to life and hopefully provide the children with an experience they will remember for years to come, the teachers were able to provide the remarkable opportunity for them to dissect a sheep's heart. Children were fascinated, informed and some slightly grossed out by this amazing experience.



Scalpels at the ready, the children were able to see the various parts of the heart: arteries, chambers and the general texture of the heart muscle. Many of the children were able to show a love for learning and scientific inquiry. Reflecting on their experiences, the children shared their aspirations of becoming scientists or doctors in the future.

We are proud of our students for their bravery and enthusiasm in tackling this challenging yet rewarding activity. The added bonus was that no children were sick during the experience!



School Council visit to the Mayor of Kirklees



Our Pupil Council members were invited to visit the Mayor. This special visit included sitting in the Mayor's Council Room, where the children were able to ask and answer questions, behaving like real Councillors. They were shown around the Mayor's Parlour where he prepares for his Council meetings and were shown all the silver wear that all the Mayors over the years have been given as presents.

School Council London visit.

Our Pupil Council thoroughly enjoyed our trip to London. They had a wonderful experience travelling on the trains and London Underground. We were fortunate enough to see the Changing of the Guard at Buckingham Palace; have a picnic in Jubilee Gardens and ride on the London Eye, seeing the sights from a great height.

The children witnessed a live debate in both the House of Commons and the House of Lords. We stood and had photos at the resting place of our Late Queen Elizabeth II in West Minster Hall. The children were amazingly well behaved and fully immersed in the experience as a tourist in London.





Year 3 and Reception Outdoor Classroom Day

On Thursday before the end of this half term, Year 3 and Reception children became Habitat Heroes with the Nature Park company. We explored our grounds to see what kind of habitats we had in our area and what animals and insects will happily live in our school grounds.

We had some very exciting visitors from the ITV journalists and their camera crew, visiting to film our fantastic children!



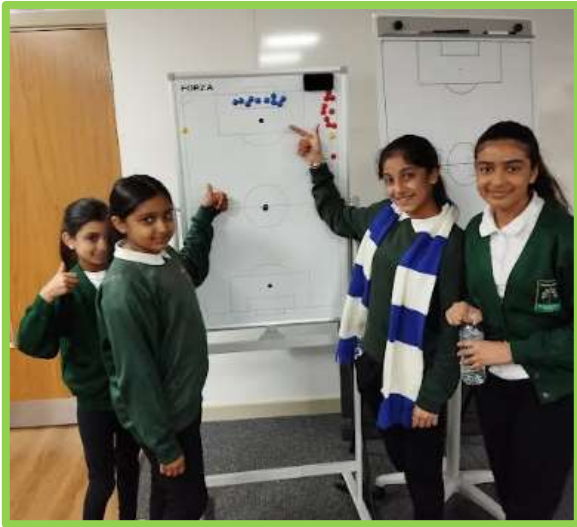
Watch out for us on the ITV Calendar news!



Each class was given a National Education Nature Park and Climate Action Award Certificate and some seeds to plant.

Huddersfield Town Training Ground Trip

We finally made it down to the 'top secret' training ground and it was amazing! First we were met by the legendary Andy Booth who presented us with our signed football banner and then we were shown around the training facilities. We met the younger players who were training in the gym; we sampled their breakfast that is cooked by their own in-house chef; we met the media team that promote all of the good things HTAFC do, along with the match scores!



We also went into the player changing rooms to see what it feels like to be a real player! Finally after a fabulous long day, we were allowed to unwind in the players' games room!



We were so honoured because not many people get to see behind the scenes. It was epic!

Carry My Story Project – Class 2B

As a class, we wanted to share information about our 'Carry My Story' project that we are continuing in 2B. After finding out about our own identity we are now moving onto finding out about a special visitor's identity from the project.

We began finding out about this person by opening up their identity box. It said on the letter that this person was a refugee. Some children didn't know what this meant so we watched a video (link below) by the charity 'Save The Children', to develop our understanding.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CRk8eaW3X1Y>

Next, we opened the identity box; inside were some photos, a key chain, a clear honey jar and a story.



As a class, we took the time to investigate this person's identity and find out about them.

His name was Ryad. He was born in Syria and came to Huddersfield as he was not safe in his country.

We took time to think about some questions that we wanted to ask him when he came to see us, such as "What was Syria like before the war? Why are you so interested in keeping bees? What would our world be like without bees?"



We couldn't wait to meet him and wanted to make sure he felt welcomed and valued within our school, so we got out our planning hats and thought of different ways we could do this. The children decided to decorate the outdoor classroom and share the work we have done.



They created posters and signs saying 'Welcome to our hive' and made him a special thank you card.

The day finally came for Ryad to visit us; we asked all our questions. He told us what it was like to have to make the decision to seek asylum and take refuge in England and how his family left everything they owned and knew in Syria and have set up very successful businesses in Huddersfield. His family continue to help people that find themselves in a similar position. The children were amazed as he brought a new swarm of bees in a special frame to show us and named them after our school! The children were awed to see such wonderful and important creatures up close.

TERM DATES 2023 - 2024

Friday 24 th May	School closes for May half term holiday.
Monday 3 rd June	Children return to school.
Monday 17 th June	Staff INSET Day, School closed.
Friday 19 th July	School closes for the Summer holidays.
Monday 22 nd July	Staff INSET Day, School closed.

Mount Pleasant Term Time and Holidays 2024 - 2025

Autumn Half Term 1

- Monday 2 September – (INSET Day)
- **Tuesday 3 September – Children return to school**
- Thursday 24 October - School closes for October half term
 - Friday 25 October – (INSET Day)

Autumn Half Term 2

- **Monday 4 November – Children return to school**
- Friday 20 December – School closes for Christmas holidays

Spring Half Term 1

- **Monday 6 January – Children return to school**
- Friday 14 February – School closes for February half term

Spring Half Term 2

- **Monday 24 February – Children return to school**
 - Monday 31 March – (INSET Day)
- Friday 4 April – School closes for Easter holidays

Summer Half Term 1

- **Tuesday 22 April – Children return to school**
 - **Monday 5 May – Bank Holiday**
- Friday 23 May – School closes for May half term holidays

Summer Half Term 2

- **Monday 2 June – Children return to school**
- Friday 18 July – School closes for the Summer holidays
 - **Monday 21 July – (INSET Day)**
 - **Tuesday 22 July – (INSET Day)**