



Mount Pleasant Primary School

Parent Newsletter – Issue 22

14th February 2019

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Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the Spring Half-Term Parent Newsletter, as we begin to look forward to slightly longer days and the start of warmer weather.

I would like to take the opportunity in this newsletter to share with you some of the wonderful work our many young leaders in the school are taking part in. Firstly, the **School Council** - as you will be aware from previous newsletters, has been working really hard with their fund raising efforts both for charities and for rewards for our own children. With the latest fund raising, they managed to raise enough money to purchase a Play-Station 4. This prize was revealed during one of our Celebration Assemblies and all the children were extremely excited to have such a wonderful prize. Mrs Saddiq has started to run lunch time clubs which allows children who have been chosen in the Golden Book to play along with their friends on the play-station.



The **Be-friender** project is well

established within the school and has been running for many years. The project encourages children to be supportive of each other within the school and reinforces the work that is already taking place to provide the pupils with a caring environment where they feel happy and safe to learn. The children chosen in Year 6 have been trained in the following: active listening, confidence building, gaining responsibilities within the school, and improving communication skills. Once children have been trained, through discussions; learning the Be-friender promise; rules of confidentiality and role-play. They are then empowered to

support children independently, with day to day problems, worries or concerns they have in and out of school. This project has been very successful over the years; children and visitors of the school have commented positively on how well our children are able to resolve problems in school.

Our **Play Leaders** are a group of trained children who set activities for the younger children every lunch time. The younger children respond well to the Play Leaders and enjoy the many games which they organise. This has built up good leadership skills for these Year 4 children. A big well done to them!

Yours faithfully,
Mrs N Nazir
Head Teacher



Year 1 Memorable Experience



We had a visit from a Park Ranger who needed us to help find his lost pet, Rex. Year 1 shouted and shouted as loud as they could and eventually Rex appeared – a dinosaur! Rex was a naughty dinosaur who kept hitting his owner with his tail. Mrs Cox said “This was the best dinosaur show we have had – it was amazing!”

“My favourite part was when Rex chased the mummies.” Fayha Hussain 1A



“Rex was so big and hairy!”

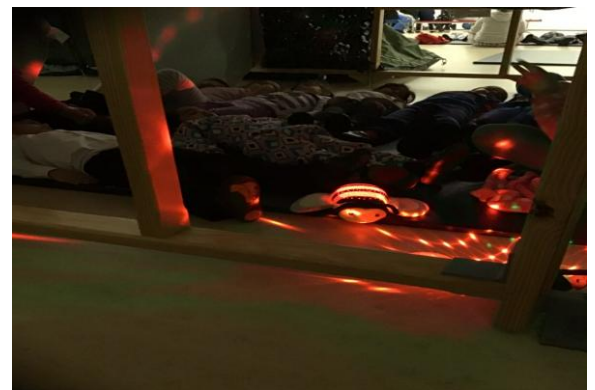
Ayaan Farooq 1A

“I liked it when Rex played with the ball.”
Subhaan Saleem 1A



Reception Memorable Experience

This half term we started our topic of ‘what happens when I fall asleep’, with a camping experience. The children got changed into their pyjamas and spent the morning doing activities you might do when camping.



They had hot chocolate and marshmallows, sang campfire songs, and practised getting ready to sleep in their sleeping bags. The children enjoyed star gazing and learning about nocturnal animals.

Year 2 Memorable Experience

Messy Morning

Year 2 children had lots of fun with shaving foam, jelly and slime! We also made footprint paintings, bubble pictures, magic potions and played with gooey mixtures! We had great fun getting very messy and talking about all the different activities.

"I loved playing with the shaving foam because it was sticky and hard to get off your hands" Oliwia Slupik 2A



Year 3 Memorable Experience

Our Year 3 experience this term was a *Scrumdiddlyumptious* visit to Sainsbury's supermarket.



Have you ever tasted Pomelo? Or how about Physalis? Well, Year 3 have! This half term we went on a yummy journey of discovery to Sainsbury's. We found out about the different types of food sold, and read the signs and labels to find out where the produce came from. We worked in groups to find a variation of fruits, including fresh, dried and canned.



Subhan Ahmed & Faizan Imran expressed their own, and no doubt lots of other children's wishes: *"Can we make the cake and eat it when we have found it all?"*

Nafisa Mumtaz & Tulisa Lyons exclaimed *"it was really exciting and fun looking for the different foods."*

We searched the aisles for the ingredients for a cake; priced these up, and worked out that it would cost us £11.47 to make a delicious chocolate cake.

Also, as part of our visit, we chose a selection of fresh fruits and vegetables to take back to the classroom to investigate!

Year 4 Memorable Experience



Our topic this half term was 'Blue Abyss.' We have been learning about different types of sea creatures and about life in the ocean. We also went to the 'Blue Planet Aquarium' in Cheshire Oaks where we saw different types of sea creatures such as sharks, stingrays, jelly fish, pork-fish, octopus and electric eels. Also, we were very lucky as we saw the divers feeding the sea creatures and it was a fantastic experience. We all had a wonderful day!



Year 5 Memorable Experience

Year 5 travelled back in time 5000 years to the dusty realms of ancient Egypt, cruising along the Nile and entering a world of mystery and curses, mummies and kings and much more!



They witnessed the ancient Egyptian mummification process performed on Pharaoh Stead which included the removal of the organs, such as the liver, intestines, lungs and stomach which the ancient Egyptians believed would be needed in the afterlife.

Children particularly enjoyed watching the brain being pulled out through the nose with a hook!

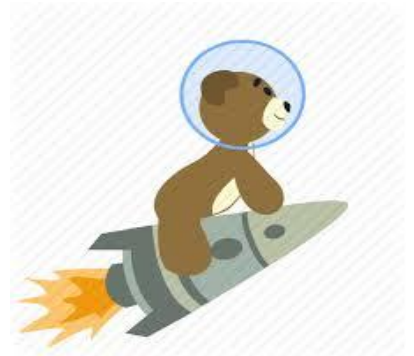
Year 6 Memorable Experience

This half term Year 6 have covered the topic 'A Child's War'. They will be visiting the University of Huddersfield where they will discover the Holocaust. 'Through Our Eyes' is a new exhibition about a group of children and young people who survived the Nazi persecution across Europe in the 1930's and 1940's.

Nursery Memorable Experience



This term Nursery children had a pyjama party. The children came dressed in their pyjamas and we went to our immersive Holodeck room and read a special story surrounded by stars and helped baby bear get to space.



Safeguarding




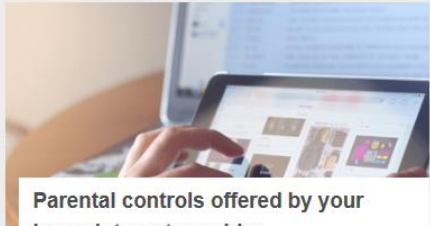


E Safety

Members of the Kirklees PREVENT team have recently visited our school and presented information to the children regarding the dangers of using on-line apparatus without adequate adult supervision.

We were made aware of the numbers of pupils who are accessing inappropriate gaming platforms, leaving them very vulnerable to 'interference' from unknown sources. 12+ age guidance is applied to these 'games' due to the level of violence or other material which is considered unsuitable for younger children. We are appealing to parents to take the initiative, stop this trend and prevent children from viewing the same images and material as older family members/friends. Parents who require any support with implementing these steps would be fully supported by the school staff. Please just enquire and we will support you with this.

Have a look at this site for lots more information to help you protect your children –

www.saferinternet.org.uk

 <p>What are the issues?</p>	 <p>Have a conversation</p>	 <p>Safety tools on social networks and other online services</p>
 <p>Parental controls offered by your home internet provider</p>	 <p>Parents' Guide to Technology</p>	 <p>Resources for parents and carers</p>

Reading Challenge Winners

These children have read regularly at home and are the winners from their class.

Nursery AM Maryam Hussain,
Leena Sheraz, Hishaam Shahzad.
Nursery PM Saif Ali & Jotham Onabiyi
Willow Adam Bashir & Hadiya Raza
Holly Subhaan Kadir & Arsalaan
Muhammed
Maple Salem Masoud & Aminah Iqbal
1A Joshua Adonoo & Zainab Ali
1B Ibrahim Afzal & Muhammed Ullah
1C Muskan Zenab & Bilal Zia
2A Fariha Adnan & Hafsa Sanya
2B Muhammed Habeeb Ullah &
Shafia Zeeshan
2C Atinder Singh Dosanjh & Eva Onica

3A Imaan Manning & Arafat Fakir
3B Hammad Imtiyaz & Zulaikha Bibi
3C Hadiqa Imran & Aleena Ali
4A Shawnel Kudya & Muhammed Ahmed Khan
4B Haniah Afzal & Aminah Ishaq
4C Xinyi Chen & Saim Kashif
5A Laiba Hussain & Sehar Nadeem
5B Janat Ali & Adam Nazir
5C Qairal Alrabi & Sadeem Noor
6A Eshaal Kaysher & Rehan Ahmed
6B Waseem Afzal & Maryam Khan
6C Aminah Khan & Esme Kudya

Well done to all of the children above!

Please encourage your child to read at home for at least 10 minutes every day so that they can earn tickets which are entered into a draw.

Sport



Children from both KS1 and KS2 have attended sports events this half term.

They have had the opportunity to improve their skills and take part in competitive sport, as well as having fun engaging with children from other schools.



There are lots of ways for parents to encourage children to get moving, exercise and have fun at home.

Get active with GoNoodle, an online resource which gets millions of children in classrooms and homes around the world exercising and leading a healthier life. The app is mainly dance based.

Visit <https://www.gonoodle.com>

Another site to try out is <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/football/supermovers>

Why not take a trip to Huddersfield Leisure Centre. They have a wide range of activities that children can get involved with, such as swimming, rock climbing and Judo. They also run clubs during school holiday time.

School Council

The School Council were invited to visit Huddersfield Town Hall to see the Main Hall, Council Chamber and the Mayor's room. Children were greeted by the Mayor of Kirklees, Cllr Gwen Lowe and Consort. They had a chance to ask questions and discover more about the role of specific people in the Mayoral office. They had an amazing time listening to the Mayor's body guards and asking questions about their roles in Kirklees. Some children even had the chance to put on the Mayors hat!



Notices

Parents attending School Events

We are always very pleased to see the large number of parents who support children and our school by attending school events. Children are always very proud and pleased when they see their family members in the audience. Recently, however, we have noticed that some families are arriving late to events and this has caused disruptions - this is a reminder that we expect everyone **to arrive on time** to school events. This will support all children, who as you can appreciate can become nervous when performing in front of large audiences. We must all do whatever we can to support children to remain calm and focussed. I am sure all parents will appreciate why we are having to put this system into place.

Attendance

Please see listed below our latest Attendance figures;

95.3% - current attendance

3.47% is authorised absence, (illness)

1.23% is unauthorised absence (including unauthorised leave of absence)

There is currently a high number of children absent from school for various illnesses and extended leave. All absences have an effect on our figures, we therefore encourage all our families to support our fabulous school to raise our overall attendance and reach our overall target of 97%.

Because we currently have children on our waiting list requiring school places, any requests for leave over 10 days will be followed up with a referral to the Kirklees APSO Service and procedures will be followed to have your child/children removed from our school roll and their place will be offered to another child.

Please see the table below of how quickly your child's attendance can fall;

LATENESS = LOST LEARNING

MINUTES LATE EACH DAY = LEARNING LOST EACH YEAR
5 MINUTES LATE = 3 DAYS LOST
10 MINUTES LATE = 6.5 DAYS LOST
15 MINUTES LATE = 10 DAYS LOST
20 MINUTES LATE = 13 DAYS LOST
30 MINUTES LATE = 19 DAYS LOST = A FULL GRADE DROP IN SATS

WHAT DOES 90% ATTENDANCE MEAN?

DAYS MISSED OVER A YEAR			
ATTENDANCE	BY CHRISTMAS	BY EASTER	BY THE END OF YEAR
100%	0	0	0 DAYS
95%	4	7	10 DAYS
90%	7	13	20 DAYS
85%	11	19	30 DAYS
80%	14	27	40 DAYS

If your child's attendance is under 95%, they are missing at least **TWO WEEKS** of learning time in a year, and at 90% they are missing **FOUR WEEKS**. This will significantly affect their work and reduce their grades – **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE MATTERS!**

Celebration of 100% Attendance

On a very positive note however, we had an amazing number of children who achieved 100% attendance for the Autumn term! They were all really excited to receive a fabulous certificate, a 100% pencil and badge for attending every day. A massive well done!



Diary Dates

Can parents please take note of the term times below and only book holidays in the school holiday periods.

Date	Activity
Friday 15 th February 2019	Children last day in school before February half term holidays.
HALF TERM HOLIDAY	Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd February inclusive
Monday 25 th February 2019	Children return to school.
Friday 12 th April 2019	Children last day in school before Easter holidays
EASTER HOLIDAYS	Monday 15th April – Friday 26th April inclusive
Monday 29 th April 2019	Children return to school for the Summer Term.
Monday 6 th May	School Closed for May Day Bank Holiday
Friday 24 th May 2019	Children last day in school before half term holidays
HALF TERM HOLIDAY	Monday 27th May – 31st May inclusive
Monday 3 rd June 2019	Children return to school.
Friday 19 th July 2019	Children last day in school before Summer holidays.

World Book Day



7th March 2019

This year, we have decided to go all out for World Book Day- we are going to be focusing the whole week on reading and enjoying quality texts! Each year group will have a focus book from which lots of activities will be planned, including children making parts of their costume for the World Book Day Assembly on **Friday 8th March**.

Children will be encouraged to dress up as characters from their year group's book. Please find below titles of books each year group will be focusing on as we know you will need time to prepare costumes!

Texts

- Nursery- The Tiger Who Came to Tea
- Reception- My Mum and Dad Make Me Laugh
- Year 1 –We Must Completely go to London
- Year 2- The Paper Bag Princess
- Year 3- Matilda
- Year 4- Brother Eagle, Sister Sky
- Year 5- Alice in Wonderland
- Year 6- The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe.