

Mount Pleasant Primary School

Parent Newsletter – Issue 36

February 2022



18th February 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I would just like to say that on a very positive note, Covid positive cases have significantly reduced, compared to the start of the term, when we had many staff and children testing positive. Thank you to all the parents who followed Government and school expectations through reporting positive cases and keeping children isolated for the required times.



Thank you to all the parents who took part in the SchoolPing Parent Questionnaire. We always value parental feedback and have done this in many ways over the years to gauge how parents view our school, and most importantly if there are any next steps we can take to make our school even better. Parents were extremely positive about the school, with the majority, over 90%, reporting positively on the following:

- My child is happy at this school.
- My child is safe at this school
- The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.

The majority of parents also agreed, that if any bullying did happen in the school, the staff dealt with it quickly.

With regards to how children are doing in school, parents were again very positive (over 90%) that they were kept well informed of their children’s next steps. As you are aware, we do this through parent informal discussions with the teachers at the two parents’ evenings and the annual school report. Parents also reported confidently that they knew what their child will be learning; this mainly happens through the half-termly Parent Curriculum Newsletters, and information is also shared on the school website.

Parents of children with special needs and disabilities also reported that their child was making good progress in the school.

The final question related to whether parents had confidence to recommend our school to other families; again, parents (over 90%) responded positively to this. We also know from conversations with parents that they talk to their family and friends about how great our school is. Parents who bring their children to our school from other schools, also comment how string the quality of education is at our school. As a result, we have for the first time in many years been completely full, with waiting lists in most year groups.

For some of the questions, we did have some parents who chose ‘I do not know’ and I would like to use this opportunity to explain what we are doing, in particular for our new families.

<p>There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school.</p>	<p>We ensure that all areas of learning in the EYFS and subjects in the National Curriculum are followed, so all children receive a broad, rich and balanced school curriculum. Please see the school website under Curriculum for further information. The Parent Curriculum Newsletters also provide a lot of information on what the children will be learning each half term.</p>
<p>My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school</p>	<p>During the last two years we stopped after school clubs whilst we managed bubbles and covid. However, this year we have restarted after school clubs, and we hope to do even more in the future.</p>

Once again, thank you to all parents who contributed to the questionnaire. It was lovely to receive such positive feedback. Please do continue to spend a few minutes of your time completing such questionnaires in the future as well, as we do like to have as much parental feedback as possible.

I hope everyone has a lovely half term holiday and I look forward to seeing everyone back again on Monday 28th February.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs N Nazir (Head Teacher)

Thursday 10th March 2022

We're Turning Mount Pleasant Pink!



Eden Smith is 6 years old and has Stage 4 Neuroblastoma – a very rare childhood cancer with around 100 children diagnosed every year. Her family need to raise £280,000 for Eden to receive a bivalent vaccine only available in America. The vaccine will increase Eden's chances of survival by greatly reducing her chance of relapse.



We are asking all parents to please send your child to school on 10th March wearing something pink, and donate £1 or more, to support Eden's fight against Cancer.

Thank you.

Reception Memorable Experience

As an introduction to our Day and Night topic this half term, the children in Reception took part in a Camping Day memorable experience. They wore their pyjamas and enjoyed a range of activities including singing around a campfire, eating tasty camping foods, hunting for nocturnal animals and investigating star constellations and shadows.



Year 1 Memorable Experience



Year 1 has had an exciting half term learning about dinosaurs. To start our topic, we had a special visitor – a T-Rex. We learnt what he liked to eat and about his history and then we became Dino Rangers for the morning.

The rest of the day was spent digging for fossils, making dinosaur swamp food, creating dinosaur crayons and following YouTube tutorials on how to draw a dinosaur.



It was a great start to our topic, and we enjoyed learning lots more about dinosaurs throughout the term.



Year 2 Memorable Experience



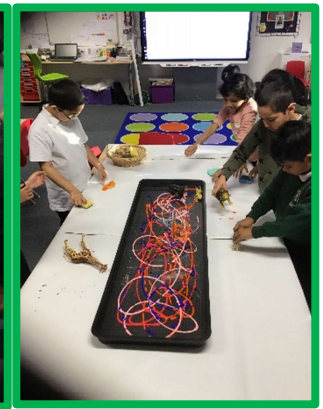
Streetfeet visited our Year 2 children to teach them how to behave safely when crossing the road. The children learned to stay as far away from the kerb as possible when walking on the pavement. This is called the safe space. They then learned how to safely cross a road, stopping at the kerb, looking left, right, then left again before setting off. They were told to always cross with an adult and to look carefully when they were crossing. The children enjoyed their learning.



Year 2 Messy Morning



Year 2 enjoyed a fantastic morning of muck, mess and mixtures! We made our own bubbling potions, played with gooey sweet-smelling slime and made prints with the colourful shaving foam.



Year 3 Memorable Experience

This half term we have been learning all about 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory' and eating healthily. As part of our memorable experience, we tasted some unusual and exotic fruits from all over the world. The papaya was very popular but not many children enjoyed the slimy lychee!

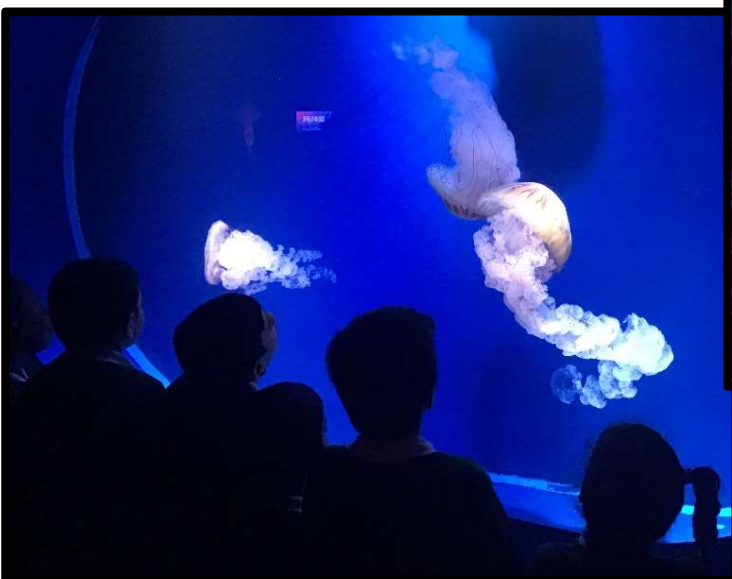
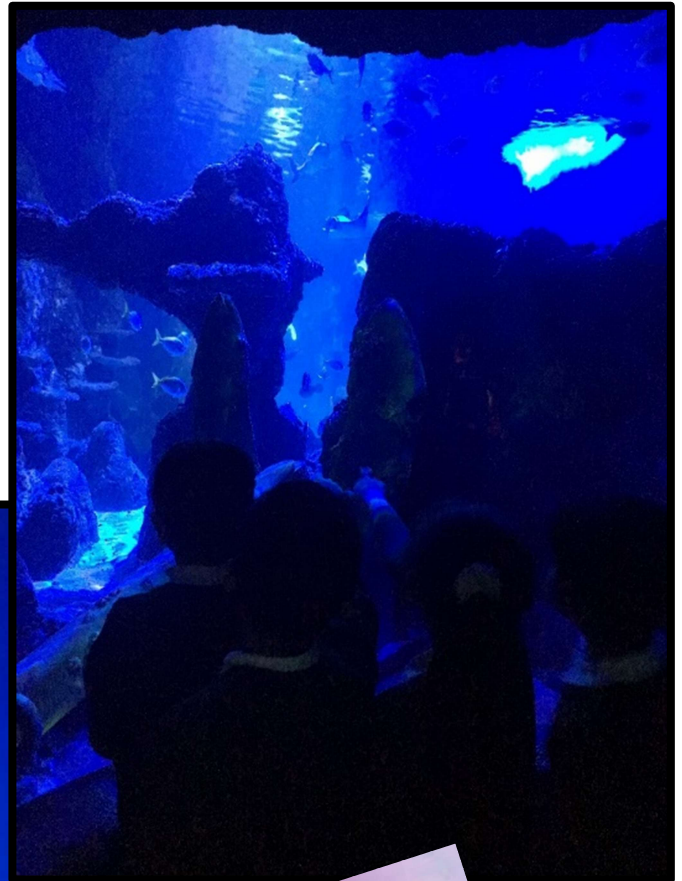
We invented our own crazy sweets that Mr Willy Wonka could make in his chocolate factory using the flavours from our favourite fruits that we had tasted earlier in the day.

We also put our chef hats on this half term and made some delicious stir fries. We learnt how to chop carefully before cooking our chosen vegetables. We thought they tasted great but some of us would make it less spicy next time!



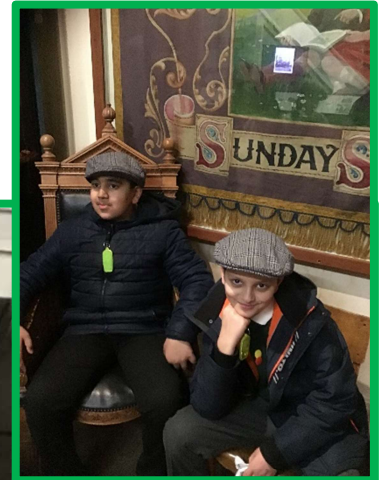
Year 4 Memorable Experience

For our memorable experience, each Year 4 class visited the Sea Life Centre in Manchester. The children had the opportunity to take part in a workshop, which raised awareness of the factors which harm ocean life. One activity saw each child wrap their thumb and little finger with a rubber band with the aim of freeing it without any help from other body parts. This demonstrated how difficult it is for sea life creatures which get caught in plastic pollution. Children then thought about solutions to these problems. After having lunch, the children walked around in groups to see all the wonderful creatures living in the aquarium, such as: sea turtles, sharks, jellyfish and even piranhas!



Year 5 Memorable Experience

Year 5 have been learning about our local history. We have studied old photographs and maps of Lockwood and compared them to how we see Lockwood today. We investigated technology from the past and identified their modern counterparts. Our memorable experience took us to the Tolson Museum to see images and artifacts from Lockwood's past.



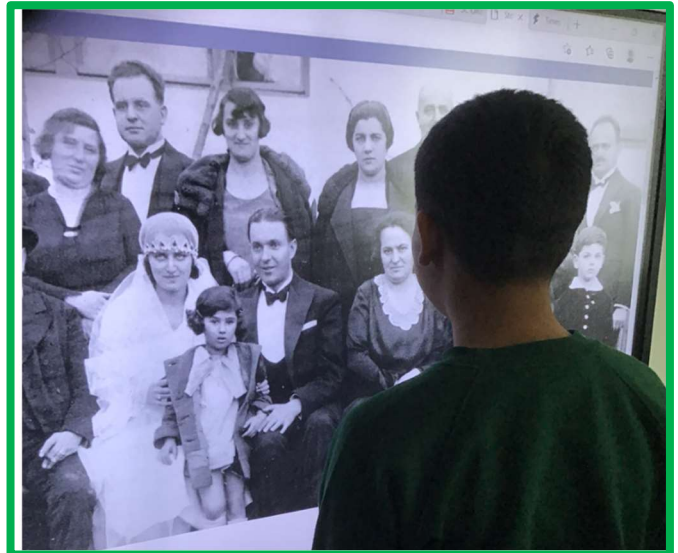
Year 6 Memorable Experience

This half term, Year 6 have been looking at WW2 and the Holocaust. To help deepen children's understanding we visited the Holocaust exhibit at the University of Huddersfield.

Children were able to see poignant personal photos of survivors from the Holocaust and their families and their original artefacts and documents, together with an original prisoner uniform.

Through the artifacts, survivors told their stories of discrimination, persecution, escape, forced labour, concentration camps and liberation.

The children really valued the experience.



Nursery Memorable Experience



This half-term the children have been learning about night and day.

For our memorable experience the children came to nursery in their pyjamas and explored the Holodeck room.

The children had lots of fun touching the interactive stars and making shadows.



'Wear Blue' Day



We had a fantastic time wearing our blue clothes for [#wearblueday](#).

We raised over £400 for The Huddersfield Town Federation who fund our popular breakfast club. The children, and a lot of the adults, came all dressed in blue and everyone spent some time drawing some pictures using blue too.

We will find out soon if we raised enough money to win a visit from one of the Huddersfield Town footballers! Thank you for all your support.



Sports

Pupils from Mount Pleasant have taken part in a variety of out-of-school tournaments recently. We have participated in football, athletics and badminton competitions.

We will soon be introducing the 'daily mile' across school, look out for updates!



Year 5 have focused on dodgeball in PE. They put their new-found skills to the test and went head-to-head in a class vs class dodgeball tournament.

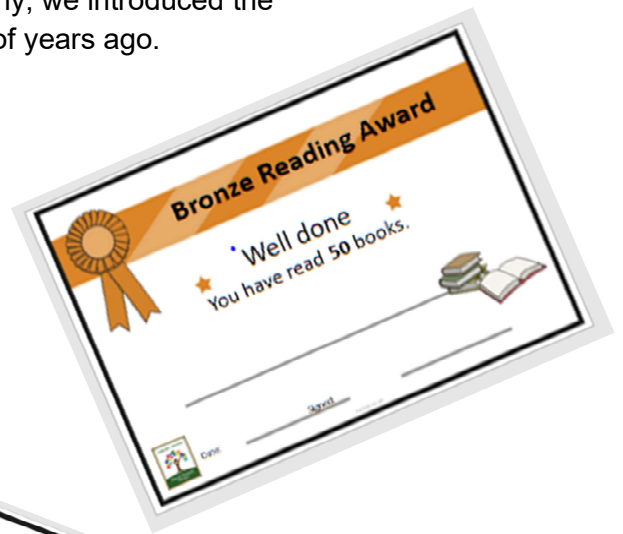
Safety Rangers

Year 5 enjoyed an interesting trip to the local fire station where they engaged in the 'Safety Rangers' event. They learnt how to keep themselves safe in a variety of ways; mindfulness; boxing; a healthy diet; road safety; and more



Home Reading Challenge

We all recognise the importance of reading and the impact this has on children's learning overall. To encourage home reading and to foster good reading habits early, we introduced the home reading challenge in EYFS and KS1 in school a couple of years ago.



Well done to all the EYFS and KS1 children who have been busy keeping up with their reading at home and to parents/carers for reading with their children and filling in their reading journals. Some children have already got their gold badges - what a fantastic achievement for this time in the year!



Bikeability



A number of Year 5 children had the opportunity to access one of the 3 bikeability courses available. These ranged from 'Learn to Ride' for children unable to ride a bike; Level 1 for children who could ride but weren't confident on the road; and Level 2 for children to increase skills in road riding. The instructors were impressed with all the children and are hoping to return in the near future to deliver more Level 2 courses.



Diary Dates

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

Friday 18 th February	School closes for half term.
Monday 28 th February	Children return to School.
Friday 8 th April	Children finish for Easter holidays.
Monday 25 th April	Summer Term begins. Children return to school.
Monday 2 nd May	May Day Bank Holiday. School closed.
Tuesday 3 rd May	Staff INSET day. School closed for children.
Friday 27 th May	School closes for May half term holiday.
Monday 6 th June	Children return to School.
Monday 11 th July	Additional Bank Holiday for Queen's Jubilee. School closed.
Friday 22 nd July	Children finish for the Summer Holidays.