



# Mount Pleasant Primary School

## Parent Newsletter – Issue 27

### February 2020

13th February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,



Welcome to the first Mount Pleasant Parent Newsletter of 2020.

I would like to take this opportunity to share some very exciting news about our new school Twitter account. We have just launched the Mount Pleasant Primary School Twitter account, which we will use to share many wonderful stories and experiences our children have at MPPS. If you have a twitter account, please search for @mountpleasantps which will take you to our Twitter page. If you don't already have a twitter account why not create an account for yourself? Year 3 and 5 have already shared some of their experiences, such as the 'Carry My Story' project. This is a great project between our pupils and pupils from Marsden School, which involves sharing our different cultural experiences with each other.

This week, we have been taking part in the national initiative Safer Internet Week, and whilst we are excited to have a school twitter account, we have also been talking to children about the need to stay safe online. Most social media accounts have age restrictions of 13+ and for very good reasons. We are aware that a few of our older children do have YouTube or social media accounts; please speak to your children about this, as we all need to work together to keep all our children safe online.

**Below are useful online safety tips for parents to talk to children and family about.**



#### Internet safety tips

**Only talk to people you know and trust in real life.**

1. **Don't give away personal information to strangers** - like what street you live on, or where you go to school. Say "no" if they ask you to share photos or videos of yourself
2. **Set your profiles to private**
3. **Be 'share aware'** - once you share something online, you've got no control over what anyone else does with it. It's illegal to take, share or view sexual images of under-18s, full stop
4. **Be mindful of your digital footprint** - it could come back to bite you
5. If you see something upsetting, or someone bullies you, **tell an adult you trust**
6. **Don't assume everything you see is true to life.** People often make their lives look more exciting online
7. **Watch out for hoaxes and scams**, like messages you're asked to pass on or that ask you for payment details or passwords
8. **Be wary of schemes** that promise easy cash in return for you receiving and transferring money, and don't be fooled by anything that glamorises gang lifestyles
9. **Watch out for loot boxes** or other ways that games get you to pay - before you know it you can spend a lot on them

We are looking forward to a great new half term, especially our World Book Day events, please see further information within this newsletter.

Yours faithfully,  
Mrs N Nazir

## Reception Memorable Experience

This term Reception took part in their very own camping day. The children brought their own pyjamas into school, used maps and followed the signs to find the Mount Pleasant Campsite. It was night time when they arrived at the campsite. The children had the chance to investigate and experience a range of activities that you might experience on a camping trip.



The children started the activities around the campfire singing some lovely songs whilst playing instruments. They then had a nice cup of hot chocolate with a toasted marshmallow; enjoying treats which are traditionally enjoyed around the campfire.



In the woods the children could hear lots of different nocturnal animals; they went on a hunt to see what animals are awake during the night. During their hunt they were fortunate enough to observe owls, bats, foxes and hedgehogs. The children used a range of natural materials to create pictures and images of these animals to record their experience.





Finally before getting into bed, the children used torches to create shadow puppets, read a bedtime story and stared up into the night sky to see the beautiful twinkling stars. The children learned a lot of new topic words and ideas that they can use in their play and learning as we continue our topic of light and dark.



### Year 1 Memorable Experience



Year 1 had a fantastic surprise this half term as part of our Dinosaur Planet topic! Rex paid us a visit and we really enjoyed it. He taught us his new rap and we trained him by teaching him how to stay still when we shouted 'STOP'. It was amazing!





## Year 2 Memorable Experience

### Messy Mixtures Day



Year 2 children came to school to get messy. They were able to make fairy potions, bubble pictures, mud pies and cover themselves in shaving foam, along with other sticky and gooey materials.



They enjoyed the mess so much, though the teachers and cleaners didn't enjoy the cleaning up after!

## Year 3 Memorable Experience

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



We carried out a range of activities, including looking at where foods come from, what Fairtrade is and what kind of products are Fairtrade.

We looked at how fruits come in different forms such as fresh, tinned and dried.



We had an amazing time exploring different kinds of food. On returning to school we tasted a range of unfamiliar fruits we hadn't tried before.



## 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 enjoyed a trip to the Blue Planet Aquarium in Cheshire Oaks for our memorable experience.



We watched divers feed stingrays and sharks. It was an amazing experience going through the shark tunnel. It really felt like we were under the water with all the sharks and other fish. As well as the sharks and stingrays, we saw jelly fish, pork-fish, octopus and electric eels. It was a fantastic experience. We all had a wonderful day!



## Year 5 Memorable Experience

Year 5 had a visit from the Chief Alchemist's very own apprentice. He brought with him a mysterious chest which contained a range of objects, including a riddle, a key, a map and scientific samples which had been taken from a magical place called Alchemy Island. These items were presented to the children.



Their first task was to solve the riddle in order to work out in which kingdom of Alchemy Island their journey would begin.

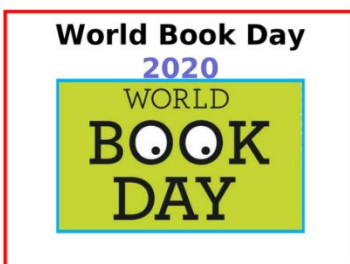


## Computing and Coding



Years, 4, 5 and 6 were very lucky as they had an iPad specialist in school to help them with computing and coding skills. Year 4 created presentations using Keynote, and how to open 2 pages at once. Years 5 and 6 worked on a programme called Swift Playground and used lots of coding terms to move a sprite.

## World Book Day



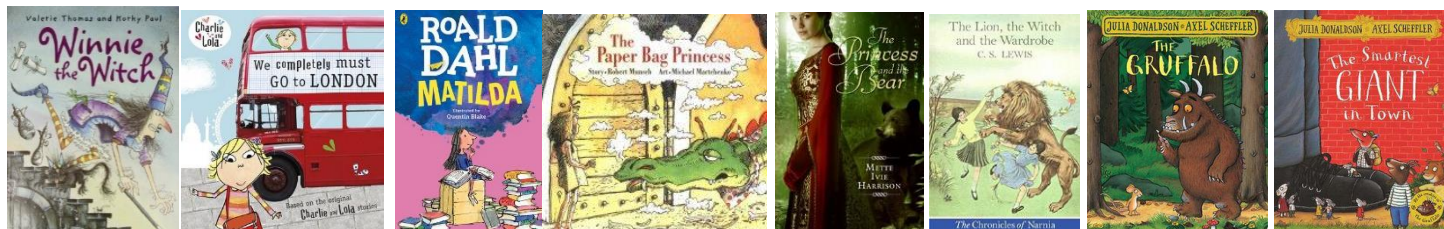
In the lead up to World Book Day, we have activities planned for the week commencing **2<sup>nd</sup> March**. This has always been a very successful and exciting week for the school, and each year our parents, children and staff become more and more creative with their World Book Day costumes.

This year we are planning lots of exciting activities to celebrate the world of books for the whole week. Like last year, each year group have a special book to enjoy for the week. On **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March**, we will have assemblies to celebrate the work the children have completed over the week, as well as enjoy everyone's costumes. It would be wonderful if you can discuss the chosen book with your child and together make costumes of one of the characters in the book – the staff will also help by making props during the school day for the children. **Alternatively, if your child wishes to dress up as another favourite book character, they may do so.**



See below the chosen book for each year group.

<b>Nursery</b>	Winnie the Witch	<b>Reception</b>	Books by Julia Donaldson
<b>Year 1</b>	We completely must go to London	<b>Year 2</b>	The Paper-bag Princess and alternative fairy tales.
<b>Year 3</b>	Matilda	<b>Year 4</b>	Princess and the Bear
<b>Year 5</b>	Alice in Wonderland	<b>Year 6</b>	The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe



### Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March- Footlights Production and Harry Potter Themed Dinner

All children will enjoy a production by the Footlights Theatre Company. The pupils will be enthralled by fantasy and captivated by friction when the actors bring some of our favourite books to life and inspire every child to explore more books. Also, on this day, the kitchen staff are putting on a Harry Potter themed dinner for the children to enjoy.

### Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March – Non-uniform day and Assemblies

As our hall can only accommodate a few classes at any one time, we will be having three assemblies throughout the day. We appreciate parents may have children in different year groups and may need to attend all three assemblies, but this is the only way in which we can accommodate the large number of children and parents. The assemblies will consist of children and staff showing off their costumes and telling us a little bit about their chosen book. There will also be a prize for the best costume in every class.

<b>9:15-10:00</b>	1A, 2A, 3A, 4A, 5A, 6A + Maple	Parents of the children in these classes are invited
<b>10:30-11:15</b>	1B, 2B,3B,4B,5B,6B+Holly + Nursery am	Parents of the children in these classes are invited
<b>2:15-3:00</b>	1C,2C,3C,4C,5C,6C+Willow + Nursery pm	Parents of the children in these classes are invited

Please arrive at the Main Entrance in good time to attend the assemblies.

### Book Fair

We will also be having a Book Fair. EYFS and KS1, parents are invited to attend the Book Fair on the selected days and times, to buy books with your children. For KS2 children, please send them with money, on their selected day, to buy a book. There are also three after school sessions where we will be selling books in the Small Hall.

	<b>Before School 8:30-9:00 AM</b>	<b>After School 3:15- 3:45 PM</b>
<b>Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Nursery AM with parents	Year 3
<b>Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Reception with parents	Nursery PM with parents
<b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 1 with parents	Year 4
<b>Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Year 2 with parents	Year 5
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March</b>		Year 6

## Family First for Schools



Family First was launched in 2017 to provide parents with all the tools required to help keep their children active, eating healthy and playing more sport. Here is your free e-copy of their magazine using the link below:

[https://issuu.com/sevenstarmedia/docs/ff-issue\\_5\\_digital130120](https://issuu.com/sevenstarmedia/docs/ff-issue_5_digital130120)

## Attendance

Attendance is currently averaging out at 95.5%.

All children who achieved 100% attendance last half term were pleased to receive their reward (100% certificate, pencil or a badge).

The best class attendance award went to the following classes;  
Early years – Willow – received the board games Snakes and Ladders  
KS1 – 2A - received the board games Snakes and Ladders  
KS2 – 4A - received the game Jenga

Please encourage your child to come to school every day so hopefully we can raise our overall attendance to over 96%, and they, along with all their friends and peers, can receive a well deserved reward next term.

We are noticing an increase in families applying for leave of absence. Please remember that taking your child out of school during term time will be marked as unauthorised and you will be issued with a fine from Kirklees Council. If you do need to take some term time leave, can you please add it on to one of the many holidays we have during the year to minimise the length of time your child is out of school. Any absence over five days will put your child into the category of a persistently absent child. Taking lengthy term time leave puts your child's learning and progress at serious risk. We are very proud of our children's achievements, and our school, which we believe can be 'Outstanding' in all areas; we need parents to support our school to achieve this grading and ensure that any term time leave of absence does not affect your child's, nor the school's attendance figures. Please speak to Mrs Nazir before booking any flights as she will be able to offer help, support and advice to minimise your child's absence.

## Diary Dates

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

<b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February</b>	<b>School closes for half term.</b>
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>Children return to school</b>
<b>Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April</b>	<b>School closes for Easter holidays.</b>
<b>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b>Children return to school.</b>
<b>Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Bank Holiday</b>
<b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May</b>	<b>School closes for half term holidays.</b>
<b>Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June</b>	<b>Children return to school.</b>
<b>Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b>School closes for Summer holidays.</b>