

Mount Pleasant Primary School

Parent Newsletter – Issue 13

21st July 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, I would like to start this final edition of our Parent Newsletter for this year by saying congratulations to everyone for another fantastic year at Mount Pleasant Primary School. I have been reflecting on all the exciting developments and great news from this year and I feel extremely proud to be the Headteacher of such a wonderful school.

Some of the key successes for this year has been seeing our brand new build under construction from start to almost the finish. I have visited the site many times and I am so pleased and I know everyone else will be too once it is fully completed. Our Ofsted visit in March was excellent as Ofsted verified the school as remaining Good. They were very impressed that although the school is in temporary accommodation and with changes in leadership, this had not affected the school's excellent performance. Finally, we had an amazing Awards Ceremony at Huddersfield University which celebrated our children's wonderful achievements with many key guests celebrating with the children, parents and staff.

Another key event from this year has been working on the school's new vision and values for the forthcoming year. Following staff training, parent and children's workshops we gathered all views and ideas and produced a draft vision, mission and values statement. Thank you for everyone's support in producing this key document for the school. This will be shared in its completed format in September. There will be a complete rebranding of the school in line with the new build with changes to the school logo and uniform. These will formally be launched when we have the full site access in the following academic year, September 2018.

On a sad note, many parents know Mr S Johnson (Safeguarding Officer and SENCo). He has worked with many children and parents over the years he has been at Mount Pleasant and supported families throughout. Mr Johnson has decided to take a year's break from work and explore Europe. Whilst we wish him lots and lots of luck and hope he has a fabulous time, we will miss him greatly. We have appointed a new SENCo who will be the Assistant Headteacher for Upper Key Stage, Miss S Peat, who will be starting her new role in September. She will spend the first few weeks getting to know the school, children and families and will ensure she meets all families involved in her SENCo role and as phase leader for Upper Key Stage 2. Mrs T Majeed will continue to support children with SEN in Early Years and Key Stage 1.

Next year promises to be another exciting one as we move into our brand new build in November. There will be opportunities for families to visit the new school as soon as the children have settled in. Finally, I would like to thank everyone for their hard work and full support throughout the year and look forward to working with everyone again in the new year. Have a great summer holiday everyone!

Mrs Naeem Nazir (Headteacher)



School Safeguarding Officer Mr S Johnson
Kirklees Duty and Assessment Service
Phone: 01484 221000, or
Website: www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.com

Provisional Results

Once again our children, staff and parents have worked extremely hard and as a result we have fantastic end of year results.

Early Years – **54%** of our children achieved a Good Level of Development.

Year 1 – **80%** of children achieved the Phonics screening test

	Subject	Expected standard
Y2	Reading	76%
	Writing	61%
	Maths	66%
Y6	Reading	53%
	Writing	70%
	Maths	70%
	SPAG	79%

This year, the threshold to achieve Reading Expected for Year 6 was raised to 26 marks where the previous year was at 21 marks. We had 11 children who had scores between 21 and 25 marks and with these children our percentage for Reading would have been 70% which was our teacher assessment. Nevertheless, we are very proud of all our children for trying and working so hard. Well done to everyone!

Change of School Time

The following changes to school times will start Tuesday 5th September 2017.

Reception to Year 6 times:

The school day - 8.40am to 3.10pm

Doors will open at 8.40am - 8.50am for Registration Activities

School gates will close at 8.50am

Registration 8.50am – 8.55am

School day ends at 3.10pm

Nursery times:

Morning session 8.30am – 11.30am

Afternoon session 12.15pm – 3.15pm

School lunchtimes will remain the same until we move to the new school after October half term. These times are as follows:

Reception	11.30am – 12.30pm
Year 1	11.30am – 12.30pm
Year 2	12.15pm – 1.15pm
Year 3	12.15pm – 1.15pm
Year 4	11.30am – 12.30pm
Year 5	12.00 noon – 1.00pm
Year 6	12.00 noon – 1.00pm

Tuesday 25th July 2017 - School closes for Summer holidays

Monday 4th September 2017 – Staff INSET Day, school closed for children

Tuesday 5th September 2017 – School opens for children

Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club runs every morning from 8.00am prompt. This is sponsored by Huddersfield Foundation. Please ensure your children are dropped off at the main entrance by a parent/carer so that your child can be registered into school.

Aspirations Day

On Thursday 29th June 2017, we held our 'Aspirations Day' for Years 4, 5 and 6. This was to help raise children's aspirations for their future careers. They were able to see the possibilities available to them and how they would achieve them. Many children had their dreams confirmed whilst others learnt that they may want to consider other jobs.

During the afternoon, the children had the opportunity to listen to and speak with a range of professionals and ask questions about their jobs. Visitors included the police, building project manager, paramedics, pharmacist, sales manager, trainee solicitor, science teacher, doctor and the fire service.

The children thoroughly engaged with the day. Junaid Ali from Year 6 said, "I was inspired by the doctor and he explained what he had to do before he became a doctor. Hard work is the key."

Amna Zahoor from Year 4 was very excited about the whole event. She remarked, "It was great to hear all the jobs that the police do. I didn't realise that they did so many!"

Likewise, the visitors enjoyed coming into school! Aamir Khan, a trainee solicitor, said, "This brings back memories of being in a primary school a long time ago. I was impressed with the young children and their future aspirations, including their understanding of society."



Staffing

We would like to welcome back Mrs Rashid and Mrs Beinish returning from maternity leave. We are sad to see Mr Hunt- Brown leave who has secured a job abroad! Also Miss Clarke and Mr Brooke will be leaving our team and we wish them the best for the future. Miss Moore is taking a break to as she prepares for the arrival of her new baby. We are pleased that Miss Anderson will be on student training within our school as she trains to become a teacher.

Year 6 Talent Show

The Year 6 children really pulled out all the stops this year, as they performed their talents on two separate occasions to huge audiences of parents and children. There was laughter, there were tears, and all pupils put their absolute all into their acts. Well done Year 6 and good luck to you all for secondary school!

Awards Ceremony

Our Annual KS2 Awards Ceremony ceremony took place on Thursday 6th July 2017 in one of the elaborate theatre rooms at Huddersfield University. It was an auspicious occasion that inspired pupils, teachers and parents alike. The event was to celebrate the children's hard work and excellent achievements. It was lovely to see so many parents turn up to support their children. There was an atmosphere of great excitement as everybody arrived and gathered together. There were five different categories (English, Maths, Creative Arts, Sports and Being Brilliant) with 60 certificates awarded.

The special guests were the Deputy Mayor, Gwen Lowe, Hardeep Singh and his daughter; Donovan Christopher, a poet; entrepreneur Ajaz Ahmed (Founder of the internet service Freeserve); Mrs Corinne Kelly, violin teacher from Kirklees Music School; Huddersfield Town Football Club, Julie Sheffield and Andy Booth, and our governors Dr Andy Williams and Mrs Jean Palmer. They all gave inspirational speeches and presented the awards.

The ceremony was opened with a bang by Hardeep and his daughter entertaining us with a Punjabi dance show. This was followed with other wonderful entertainment! Puppet and dance performances from some of our talented Year 6s; violin and piano recitals from Mrs Kelly and our skilled pianist Hibba Zahid (Yr6 pupil) and Donovan charmed us with his brilliant poetry.

The afternoon was a complete success and everybody involved was so proud of the achievements of the pupils. Seeing their siblings and peers receive the accolades also inspired other children to achieve great things and strive to improve.

A proud and excited parent quoted, "This is such a fabulous event. We are able to share with our children their successes. Thank you!"



Special Awards Assembly – July 2017

A big well done to all the following children in Key Stage 1 for displaying outstanding learning and behaviour.

1A	Nathan Irvine	1B	Clayton Costa	1C	Mohammed Asaghiar
2A	Hasan Munawar	2B	Kasie Reynolds-Stout	2C	Ayesha Zahid

Dinner Money and ParentPay

From 5th September 2017 school dinner money will be £2.12 per child per day (£10.60 per week) in Key Stage 2. Children who will be starting Year 3 in September will have to start paying via ParentPay unless your child is eligible for Free School Meals. Please contact Free School Meals on 01484 221928 or www.kirklees.gov.uk if you think you may be eligible

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 request from the office, these are not bought into credit.

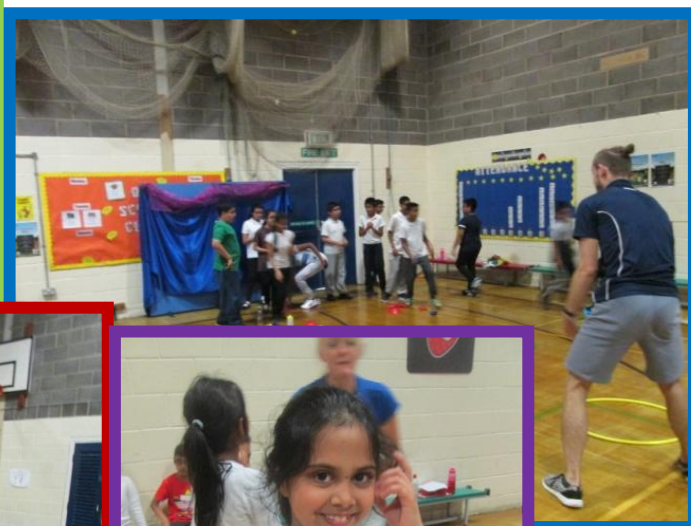
Trips/Events – The school request that all trips and events payable be paid online via ParentPay. Any letters regarding trips and events will have a barcode to pay at a PayPoint on them if you wish to pay via this method.

School Milk - from September school milk has to be ordered online. The school has provided parents with a letter and leaflet of how they can order milk online or visit: www.schoolmilkuk.co.uk and you will be prompted to register your child's details. If you require further help, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

Fantastic Friday – Fantastic Friday dinners will start on Friday 15th September 2017. Letters will be out the first week back.

Sports Day

On Friday 7th July the children at Mount Pleasant took part in our annual Sports Day. They spent time participating in a variety of activities including egg and spoon races as well as javelin throwing! Well done to everyone for taking part, displaying their sporting talents and trying their best.



Sing up!

15 children from Year 4 took part in the 'Sing Out To Reach Out' project. This involved meeting regularly with the choir from St. Barnabas Church, getting to know them and learning songs together. In July they all met in Huddersfield town centre for a concert with other primary school and community group partnerships, who each performed the songs they had learnt. It was a great opportunity to learn more about other groups in our community and find out what we had in common, and everyone had lots of fun singing!



Attendance

What a fabulous year for attendance; all our children should give themselves a pat on the back for their continued determination and dedication in coming to school every day and on time ensuring our figures have maintained the high standard we expect here at Mount Pleasant.

95% - current attendance

4% is authorised absence (illness)

1% is unauthorised absence (unauthorised leave of absence)

We listened to parents when it was suggested we change our reward system and with this in mind I am pleased to say this year we have rewarded all our children throughout the year who have achieved 100% attendance.

We have held attendance parties during the year which have been very enjoyable and successful. Children have been rewarded with movies, party games, food, drinks and treats.

At the end of the school year we had 64 children who had achieved 100% attendance. These children received a fabulous engraved trophy and a certificate. We invited all the children's parents to join us and celebrate their child's fabulous achievements altogether in assembly. This was a very positive experience for the parents and children, and I would like to say a massive "well done" to them all!

Gentle reminder; in September can all parents be mindful of the importance of getting your child/children into school every day and on time; punctuality can be a major issue not only for the

office staff but also for your child; it can be very distressing when a child has to go into their class when the lesson has already started. If you get your child into a good routine there is no reason why anyone should be late for school.

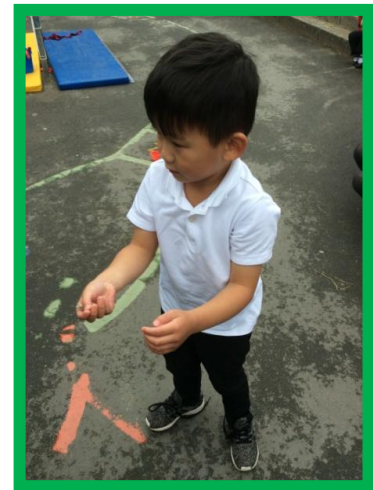
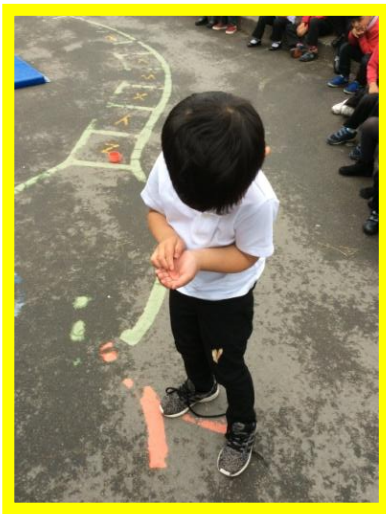
We also kindly remind parents that if your child is ill, please call the school absence line as soon as possible. For your convenience there is a facility on the absence line to leave a message. Could all medical appointments be made out of school hours.

Finally, it is very evident that our parents take school attendance very seriously and we would like to thank you all for your continued support, it is very much appreciated. Mrs T Kershaw

MEMORABLE EXPERIENCES

Nursery

In Nursery we have been reading the story of The Very Hungry Caterpillar. We have been learning about the lifecycle of a butterfly. We have had some caterpillars in Nursery which have become butterflies.



Reception

In Reception we have really enjoyed learning about sea creatures this half term and have discovered lots of interesting facts about sharks. We have loved reading "Billy's Bucket" and have had fun imagining what we might see in our own magic buckets. The beach day was a great success and the children got to try lots of different activities and made some excellent crafts. It was great that so many of our parents were able to attend the day and it really helped to make it special for the children.



Year 1



We started our topic with a very exciting carnival afternoon. The children came dressed in their brightest party clothes. We celebrated with a Brazilian Carnival, spending time looking at the costumes and listening to the music from Rio. The children played instruments and danced along, really getting into the Brazilian spirit.

Year 2

Beat, Band, Boogie - This half term Year 2 have been exploring different types of music and how sound is made. For our topic of 'Beat, Band, Boogie' we joined a samba band! We had a go at playing lots of different instruments including shakers, cowbells and bass drums. This led us onto learning about how sound travels and even making our own percussion instruments.



Year 3

For our memorable experience, Year 3 visited Castle Hill. During our exciting visit, we looked at the lands around the hill and strategic places where people would live to ensure they were not attacked easily! We even had to storm the moat and castle before having our lunch! After all the walking we were completely exhausted when we arrived home at school.



Year 4

Year 4 children enjoyed listening to a ukulele group. They learned all about the instrument and its origins. The group played a variety of music from different genres and eras. This was very interesting for the children as they gained knowledge of the type of music and where it originated from. They were also encouraged to sing along to some of the songs if they knew them. It was a very enjoyable, knowledgeable experience.



Year 5

This half term, Year 5s have been learning all about allotments. For our memorable experience, the year 5s visited a local allotment to see how they are maintained and what grows there. They were able to see a range of greenhouse structures, different methods used to cultivate plants and the tools which are used to maintain the allotment. Throughout the half term, children have been successfully growing their own plants, and focussing on germination, what plants need to grow and plant reproduction.



Year 6

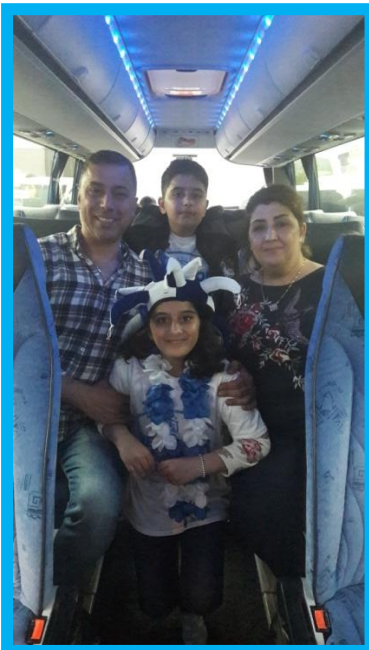
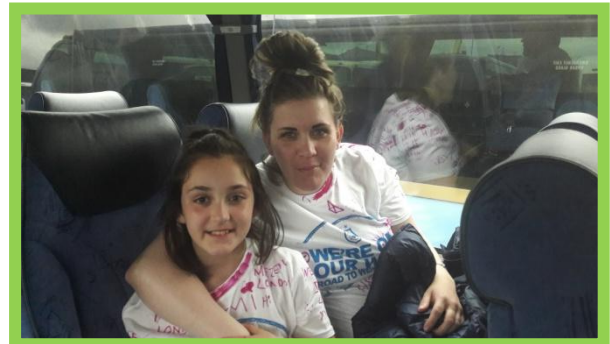
The Year 6 children and staff were treated to an end of year celebration trip this half term, donning their favourite sun hats and sunglasses for an excursion to Bridlington! As we arrived the local lifeguards/coastguards came to give the children useful information on staying safe when swimming in cold water - a message which had been previously mentioned in lessons at school.

Children paddled and played in the freezing water, while staff members kept a watchful eye over those who thought they could swim to freedom.

The day ended with a spending splurge in the souvenir and ice cream shops, before hopping on the bus and returning to school; we were cold, wet, but had thoroughly enjoyed our day!

Huddersfield Town Football Club – Premiership

Huddersfield Town Foundation offered a fantastic opportunity for some of our families to experience the Premiership play-off at Wembley. Our families had a fabulous day and we would like to thank Huddersfield Foundation for giving our families this amazing opportunity.



Happy Holidays!