

# Mount Pleasant Primary School

## Parent Newsletter – Issue 18

### 25 May 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the Summer 1 issue of our parent newsletter.

It has been a busy and very important time for our Year 2 and Year 6 children in particular, due to their SATs tests taking place in the last two weeks. We are really proud of our children who worked hard during their tests and demonstrated their knowledge, skills and understanding in a range of subjects.

The Year 6 SATs results are expected to be released to the school on 10 July. We will endeavour to inform parents of their children's results as soon as possible.

You will have noticed that our external play spaces are nearing completion. We are very excited and looking forward to having these facilities back in September. I regularly visit the site to inspect the different play spaces and you will be pleased to know that we have some amazing outdoor resources on the way for our children to enjoy. I have also been working with the council in an aim to revamp the grassed area at the lower end of the school grounds. This area has not been used very well over the past few years and I am keen to see this developed so that it can be used to its fullest potential. Some of this space will become an 'all-weather' playing area for Early Years children to enjoy, which will include trim trails, slides, woodland paths as well as an outdoor classroom.

Children have also given feedback on the best ways to utilise this site and they are very keen to have a large self-contained 'sandpit' area in which they can go in and dig. We will be reintroducing the auditorium for outdoor assemblies and performances during the warm summer days. This is just one of the 5 different outdoor play spaces that the children will have access to. Full plans of the outer layout will be shared in the next newsletter, which will include details of the Early Years play space, KS1 playground, KS2 playground and the school's very own Fruit Garden.

I am sure parents will be pleased to hear that we are becoming increasingly popular as a school, and over the last few years our pupil numbers have increased significantly. Most year groups are now full and we are invited to attend pupil admission appeals for many of the year groups, as we have children on the waiting list. This demonstrates how popular our school is for families.

Whilst a 'full school' is great news for the school, I would advise all parents to think very carefully about booking any holiday during term time, as an unauthorised leave may leave us with no option but to take children off roll and offer the place to a child on the waiting list. Whilst we do not want any of our children to miss out on the wonderful new school facilities, this is a process which is sometimes enforced on the school by the Local Authority. I hope that it will never come to this for anyone!

Finally, I would like to wish all our Muslim families 'Ramadan Mubarak' and looking forward to a very 'Happy Eid.' Please note the school is closed on Friday 14 June 2018.

Mrs N Nazir  
Head Teacher

## Milk Bottles

Milk is now provided in new plastic recyclable bottles. These are easier to open and carry for our children.



## New School Uniform



The school will be introducing a new school uniform for all children from September 2018. This will include:

- Green logo jumper
- Green book bag with school logo
- Green PE bag with logo
- White sweatshirt
- White shirt/polo shirt
- Black trousers or skirt
- Black shoes

The school considered various samples from different suppliers, many of which were on display at Parents Evening. We asked parents for their comments and received fantastic feedback.

This year, we will be providing every child a new school jumper and book bag from July onwards ready to wear in September 2018.

Please look out for letters coming home soon regarding the final details of the uniforms as well as choice of sizes available for your children.

## Year 4 Vaisakhi assembly



Year 4 took part in an assembly to show how Sikhs celebrate the festival of Vaisakhi. This is a time when Sikhs celebrate belonging to their religion and all that it stands for. The children told the story of Vaisakhi which comes from India.

The children acted out the story and took part in a Vaisakhi dance. Everyone really enjoyed the assembly.

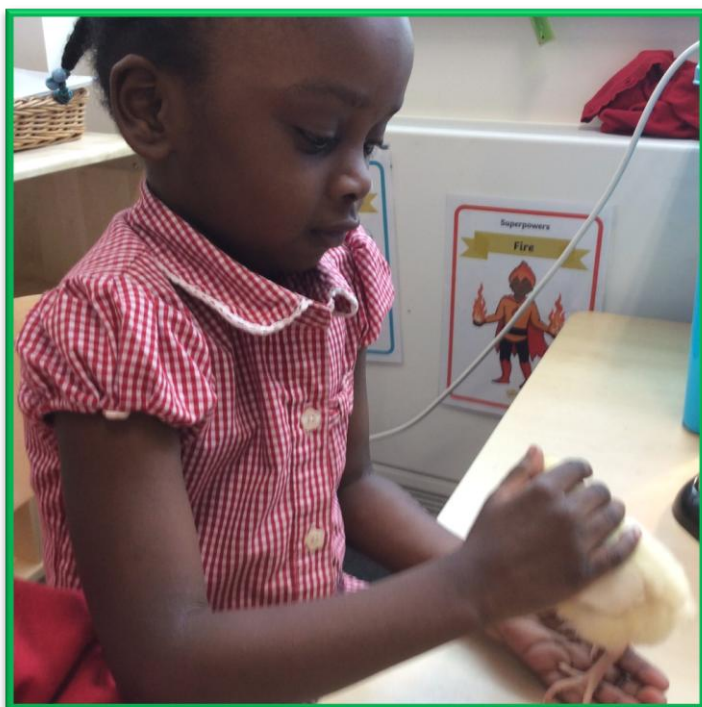
## Year 5 Racism Workshop

This term Year 5 children were invited by Huddersfield Town Football Club to attend a "Show Racism the Red Card" Event. Children were invited to take part in a workshop where we discussed what racism is and how it affects people of all backgrounds. Later on during the day, Year 5 had the amazing opportunity to meet some of the Huddersfield Town First players, discuss how racism affected them within football and how they resolved conflict. We also had a full stadium tour which we all loved!



## Memorable Experiences Nursery

This term we have been learning about chicks. We had an incubator and hatched 8 chicks. They were very cute. We looked after them until it was time for them to go back to the farm.

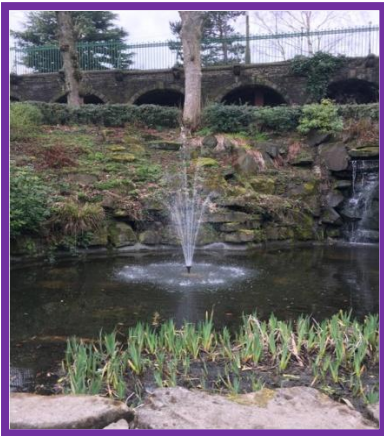


## Reception

This half term the children in Reception have been learning about the life cycle of chickens. We were very excited when the farmer brought us 10 lovely eggs in our incubator. The children took great care of the eggs and we watched 9 beautiful chicks hatch. The children learnt about how chicks change and what they need to survive. They were all very brave and enjoyed holding the chicks. The 9 chicks have now gone to live on at Ms Afeefah's mum's farm and are having a great time!

## Year 1

As part of our 'Enchanted Woodland' topic, Year 1 visited Beaumont Park earlier this half term. We spent time drawing flowers, measuring trees and spotting birds. The weather was very sunny so we had a wonderful time.



## Year 2

Year Two took part in a Samba workshop where they learnt about the Latin and African influences of the music. They had the opportunity to play different beats and rhythms using various percussion instruments such as djembe drums and tamborims. The children thoroughly enjoyed the session and have been using what they have learnt in class.



### Year 3

Year 3 had a wonderful time visiting Castle Hill this half term. They explored the grounds and scaled the heights of Victoria Tower. There were 156 steps!



### Year 4

This half term Year 4 children went to Beaumont Park for their Memorable Experience. As part of our topic this half term, we have been learning about America. This allowed the children to take part in activities which involved them mapping routes around the USA. They were then able to name the states of America and were familiar with famous tourist attractions. The children had a wonderful time!

### Year 5

For our memorable experience this half term, the Year 5 children went to Gulliver's World as part of our topic - Scream Machine. At Gulliver's, children were able to experience a wide range of theme park rides, including log fumes, dodgems, pirate ships and larger (scarier) rollercoasters. This was an excellent opportunity for the children to experience different forces in real life settings and enjoy the atmosphere at a theme park. Overall, it was a fantastic day which we won't forget!

### Year 6

This half term our topic was "Hola Mexico." For our memorable experience, we began by creating skulls using Paper Mache. We created the face of a skull, attached it to a balloon and then began to glue newspaper onto the balloon. Later in the term, we painted them white and used our knowledge of Mexico, to design the pattern for our skull.



## Attendance

Attendance is slowly rising slowly averaging out at 95%. See comparison below for your information:-

2017/18		2016/17	
Overall attendance	94.7%	Overall attendance	94.9%
Authorised Absence (illness)	3.9%	Authorised Absence (illness)	3.9%
Unauthorised Leave of Absence (hol)	1.27%	Unauthorised Leave of Absence (hol)	1.1%

To avoid your child unnecessarily missing out on valuable learning time can I please remind all parents that doctors/dentist appointments be made out of school hours.

Can I also please remind parents that minor ailments for example coughs/colds, runny noses etc are not a good enough reason to keep your child absent from school. Our new initiative to communicate child's attendance is to notify parents by telephone/letter when a child has hit the attendance trigger of 90 and below. This is going really well as it is keeping parents updated and informed.

Finally, to celebrate our all our fabulous children's attendance - we have 536 children throughout the whole school who have a percentage over 90%. 371 of these children have a percentage over 95%.

## Year 6 Cricket Club

Gurman Randhawa (Huddersfield born) played for Yorkshire, Durham and also England under 19's, came in to give the Year 6 boys an introduction to cricket and hopes to return to see their progress.



## Messages from the Office

**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 reminders from the office, if these are not bought into credit. If your child decides to change from dinners to sandwiches, or vice versa, please inform the office. Kitchen needs to order dinners and if your child changes to sandwiches, you may still be charged.

**Trips/Events:** The school request that all trips and events payable be paid online via ParentPay. Alternatively, 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:** Milk is now ordered online. The school will provide parents with a letter and leaflet of how they can order milk online at the end of each half term.

**Appointments:** We seem to be having an increasing number of children leaving school for appointments. Please book dentist, doctor or other appointments outside school time.

**Absence:** If your child is not in school for whatever reason, please ring the office first thing.

**Nut Allergies:** Due to many of our children suffering from nut allergies, please do not send nuts in your child's packed lunch or as a snack.

**Packed Lunches:** Can parents please note that it is school policy **NOT to allow warm food** in packed lunch boxes. If you would like your child to have a hot lunch you need to buy a school dinner. All food in packed lunch boxes should be cold. The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health guidance on food safety is very clear; warmth is one of the factors required for food poisoning bacteria to grow, and hot food which is kept in the ambient temperature of a lunchbox and eaten barely warm is unsafe practise.

**Domestic Violence – Message from West Yorkshire Police:** West Yorkshire Police have now introduced a new system with regards to domestic violence. If the police are called to a domestic violence incident and a child from the school lives at the address, the police will notify the Head Teacher the very next morning.

**GDPR – School Privacy Notice:** As you will be aware new EU data protection legislation, the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) comes into effect on the 25th May 2018. In order to be compliant as a school, we have updated our privacy notice, which is available to view on the 'Privacy Notice' page of our school website [www.mountpleasantschool.co.uk](http://www.mountpleasantschool.co.uk). The notice highlights the data we hold, why we hold it, who we share it with and how long we hold it for.

**Lockwood Tots –** Lockwood Tots group runs every Wednesday in school from 9.00am – 11.00am at a cost of 50pence per session.

If you require further help, please do not hesitate to contact the office.

## Responsibilities

Although the school gates open at 8:30am and children in Years 5 and 6 (with parental consent) are able to come to school by themselves, the school cannot take responsibility for any child until the school doors open at 8:40am (with the exception of Nursery and children who attend Breakfast Club). Parents are responsible for their children until 8:40am.

We would also like to request that parent dropping and picking children up park safely and appropriately. Parents are parking on the coned areas, which is making it unsafe for children and parents who go home walking.

## Diary Dates

Date	Activity
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2018	Children break up for Half Term Holidays
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2018	Children return to school
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2018	Year 2 children visit Beaumont Park
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> June 2018	Year 3 trip to Mother Shipton's Cave
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2018	Year 4 Recycling Workshop
	New to Reception Parents meeting, 9.00-10.30am
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> June 2018	Non uniform day – celebrating football World Cup (further details nearer the time)
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2018	New to Nursery Parents meeting, 9.00-10.30am
	Year 6 Fiesta, 1.00-3.30pm
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2018	Year 1 visit Hepworth Church and School
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2018	EYFS Beach day (parents invited)
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2018	Year 1 trip to Chester Zoo
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> June 2018	Year 6 trip to Filey Beach
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July 2018	Hepworth School visit Mount Pleasant Primary
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July 2018	Mission Active Day (in school)
	Year 5 Day 2018
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	Key Stage 2 Annual Awards Ceremony – University of Huddersfield
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	Year 6 Transition Day at Moor End Academy
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	Aspiration's Day
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	Year 6 last day at Mount Pleasant Primary
	Nursery trip to Gulliver's World
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2018	Reception visit to Beaumont Park
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	Children break up for Summer Holidays
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2018	Children return to school