



Mount Pleasant Primary School

Parent Newsletter – Issue 19

24th July 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the final parent newsletter for this academic year. In this issue, we will highlight some of the wonderful educational experiences our children have benefitted from. These include: (1) our Annual Awards Ceremony which was held at Huddersfield University, (2) our Aspirations Day through which children saw first-hand the many excellent career opportunities available for them, (3) the Year 6 Leaver's assembly which effectively demonstrated how our school vision and values is a living part of your child's life at school. We will also share information about their 'memorable experiences' and some of the recent school trips and visitors to the school.

The final phase of the school building project will be completed on Friday 20 July. We are so pleased with our new external play spaces which generations will enjoy for many years to come. Over the summer holidays some additional works will be carried out which will include canopies over the external spaces around Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classrooms, to enhance outdoor learning. We will also be carrying out some developments in the grassed area adjacent to Lockwood Road. This will be resurfaced with new play equipment as well as improvements on our Roman style auditorium.

The official **Opening Ceremony of the school will take place on Friday 14 September.** On this day, parents will be invited to collect their children from 1.30pm, so that together families can attend our afternoon of celebrations which will continue until 4pm. The summer fun fair will include food stalls, bouncy castles, mehndi, sporting activities (on our new multi-use games area) as well as other stalls which will include fun competitions and entertainment.

Year 6 SATs Results – I am delighted to announce that our Year 6 children have performed brilliantly with their KS2 end of year tests. As Year 6 parents know, the tests are very challenging with the threshold raised once again this year. Despite this, and as well as all the disruption from the building works etc, our staff and children worked extremely hard and this was proven through the results which showed that we have increased our percentages for all subjects compared to last year. We achieved above National for Maths with 85%; Writing and SPAG are in line with National and Reading improved by 9% from our figures of last year.

Other Results – Our Reception children and staff have done really well, as their end of year results show; 'A Good Level of Development' (GLD) has been increased by 10% from the previous year to 64%. Well done! Year 1 Phonics – Well done also to our Year 1 children and staff who achieved a wonderful 79% of children achieving the phonics standards. Key Stage 1 – We are also very proud of our Year 2 children and staff who have performed amazingly well with their end of key stage tests. All of our results will be published on our school website over the summer holidays.

On a final note; I would like to say a huge thank you to all the children and staff for working incredibly hard all year. I would also like to take this opportunity for our amazing parents who work hard to form an effective 3-way partnership with the school - a key ingredient for the successful results we have achieved.

I will end my message by wishing everyone a very well-deserved rest. Best wishes to our former Year 6 pupils in their future, and I look forward to seeing everyone else in September – fully refreshed and ready to start another great year at Mount Pleasant Primary School.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs N Nazir
Head Teacher

Awards Ceremony

This was such a lovely special event for the children, held in the lecture theatre at the University of Huddersfield. Awards were given to one child from each class in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 for the following categories - English, Mathematics, Sports, Creative Arts and for 'Being Brilliant'. This year for the first time we also invited all Year 6 pupils for a graduation ceremony and each child received a graduation certificate. We were so pleased to see so many parents there to support their children and share in the celebration.



Our theme for the celebration this year was 'Happy'. The Mayor, Cllr Gwen Lowe and her consort attended, along with other guest speakers, poet Donovan Christopher who got the audience involved with his rap song; School Governor, Bridget Crabtree; Dame Naila Zaffar, retired Head Teacher and ambassador for education, and Mr Azam Gabbair, a Huddersfield born self-made millionaire businessman. All gave inspirational speeches for the children telling them about the rewards that can be achieved through hard work and perseverance. Kirklees Musica students performed with a guitar and vocal duet and Year 6 talent show students gave an outstanding performance of robotic dancing. We hope that the memories of the day will stay with our pupils and their parents for a long time to come.



Aspirations Day

The children were treated to an afternoon of interactive activities and inspirational talks from professionals from our community; all were invited to encourage the children to 'THINK BIG, AIM HIGH and ACHIEVE', which is the school motto. We were visited by a doctor, dentist, surgeon, midwife, solicitors, pharmacist, graphic designer, science teacher and textiles graduates. The event was also attended by all three emergency services; Huddersfield's Green Watch brought a fire engine; Community Police Officers brought the police van and showed a video, and the NHS sent an ambulance and a first responder car.



The children were enthralled with them all, and loved dressing up in the various professional uniforms, having their heart rates monitored and printed out, wrapping their teachers in bandages and neck braces, and having a go at the various sirens!

Year 3 pupil, Natasha Nawaz said, "Aspirations was the best because I got to dress up as a paramedic, see the work of an artist and meet a police officer, ALL IN ONE DAY!"



Year 4 student Samia Ahmed said, "I think Aspirations Day is a great way to help children achieve their dreams" and Reception pupil Muhammad Ullah said, "I want to be a policeman and see the dogs in the police station. I want to help people".

The feedback from the children has been brilliant. Our goal is to raise their aspirations and help children to dream big dreams, aim as high as possible and truly believe that they can achieve whatever they want.



World Cup Football Day

Each Year group within the school supported a different country for our Football World Cup Day, with the children dressing for the day in the colours of their chosen country. All activities and learning during the course of the day were centred around this event with the children making the different country flags, designing football shirts, learning about the culture, history and geography of their chosen nation, and enjoying many other innovative and exciting activities as well as having party food.



Messages from the Office

Dinner money: Please note that school lunch prices will increase to £2.20 per day from September, 2018. Kirklees Council require dinner money to be paid in advance so dinner accounts must be kept in credit. The School Office will contact parents if they fall into a debit balance. If an outstanding debit balance remains unpaid we are required to pass this on to Kirklees. The Council advises that children who have unpaid debts in their account should bring a packed lunch from home, until their debt is paid.

Visits: The school request that all visits/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. **Your payment for a school trip or event is considered by the School as your consent for your child to take part.**

Lockwood Tots - Lockwood Tots group runs every Wednesday in school from 9.00am – 11.00am at a cost of 50` pence per session. **Please note the first session during the Autumn Term is Thursday 4th October, 2018**

Memorable Experiences

Nursery & Reception

The Nursery and Reception children had a brilliant Beach Day where the children were accompanied by their parents and the playground was turned into a beach for the day, with sand castle making, a paddling pool, (donkey) bike rides and face painting. Children were dressed in beach wear and enjoyed other activities like biscuit decorating, bracelet making, egg and spoon races and photo booth pictures. Everyone had the special treat of a fish and chip lunch in trays in the classroom.

Nursery memorable experience was a wonderfully exciting visit to Gulliver's Kingdom; along with their parents they enjoyed the rides and the picnic lunch.

On our trip to Beaumont Park the children played on the swings and adventure playground, enjoyed parachute games and walked around the nature trail through the woodland. We were all exhausted on our return – sure the children will have slept well that night!

Year 1

Year 1 visited Chester Zoo as their memorable experience and were very excited to see the giraffes being fed and the miniature monkeys, as well as all the other animals. We had a great day out and were very proud of how well behaved all the children were.

A group of 18 children went to Hepworth School and Hepworth Church where, alongside Hepworth children, they took part in a pretend Baptism and made friendship bracelets. All the children made Eid cards and then visited the Jamia Masjid Noor Mosque in Lockwood where they learnt about Wudu, Mendhi and the Five Pillars of Islam.

Year 2

As part of the topic 'Wriggle and Crawl', Year 2 visited Beaumont Park to investigate minibeasts and their habitats. Children conducted a 'minibeast hunt', where they did a tally showing how many of each minibeast they found. Pupils eagerly searched for and carefully collected minibeasts, so that they could look closely at the creatures' appearances, observe how they moved and explore where they lived. This was followed up in class where children wrote about their visit for the English lessons, and explored food chains in Science.

Year 3

This term Year 3 went to Mother Shipton's Cave, Knaresborough, where they went into the cave, made a wish in the magical wishing well and learned all about the minerals in the water that turn things into stone.

Year 3 were also involved in a drama workshop with Gearshift, retelling stories and games and writing comic strips.

Jane Middleton, artist, worked with Year 3 around our school's vision and values, making canvases and posters with acrylic paints, producing vibrant pieces of artwork.

Year 4

For their superb memorable experience this term Year 4 pupils were visited by the very talented Friends of Beaumont Park Ukulele Band who played a variety of classical and contemporary music on their instruments.

A group of Year 4 boys also spent some time with poet, Donovan, developing and performing a rousing rap song about positive relationships and attitudes.

Year 5

Year 5's memorable experience this term was the design of a 3D allotment, where they planned out the virtual planting of fruit and vegetables and used a variety of arts and crafts materials.

For the school's World Cup Day celebrations, Year 5 supported England and came to school sporting the colours of the English flag – red and white. All the activities throughout the day had a football theme, including

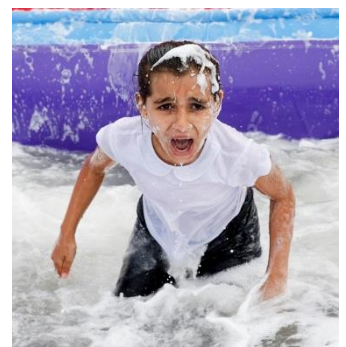
an exciting quiz about the different countries in the World Cup; researching and creating posters about England, and designing new football shirts for the team to wear. The children also learnt the song 'Three Lions', by The Lightning seeds. Although they were knocked out of the semi-final, we are all immensely proud of our team!

The focus of the Year 5 Art Day was our new core values – A.C.H.I.E.V.E. – *Aspirational – Connected – Happy – Immersed – Energised – Valued – Empowered*. Artist, Jane Middleton came into school and helped children create an amazing banner which displays all the words of our values. Using a range of materials, the children made collages on leaves and flowers and they even reflected on their own achievements to create their own, personal, mini banner.

Year 6

We are sure Year 6 have spent their last term in school having lots of memorable experiences to take with them as they move onward and upwards to High School. We wish them the very best of luck in their new schools and are sure that the education they have received here at Mount Pleasant will stand them in good stead in future years.

You will see the fabulous photos here of the 'It's a Knockout' challenge at the Leeds Road playing fields when they competed with other local schools. They had a fun filled (and wet) afternoon, and we are very proud of them for coming 2nd.



At the end of June they visited Filey Beach for the day where they enjoyed activities on the beach, exploring the rock pools and visiting the life-boat station.

As an end of SATs treat for the children we took them to Beaumont Park where they had a great day playing games, having fun in the adventure playground and eating pizza and ice-cream.

Year 6 held a Mexican Party, where children cooked their own fajitas and invited parents to share in the party, as part of their topic on Mexico.

The children practised hard for their leavers' assembly, which we named 'Mount Pleasant's Got Talent' as it was a fabulous opportunity for them to show off their various talents and skills to parents and fellow pupils. We were entertained with dancing, comedy sketches, impersonations of teachers, poetry and a group singing the 'Happy' song.

Attendance

Our current attendance is averaging out at 95%.

We have had a fantastic year of attendance and I am pleased to announce that 90 children have achieved 100% attendance. These children's achievements were celebrated in assembly and they all received a trophy and certificate.

2 outstanding pupils in Year 6 received a £20 book token for exceptional attendance throughout their time spent at Mount Pleasant Primary.

Please note – we do not authorise term time holidays. All parents have been provided with a school holiday calendar for 2018-2019 and it is essential that children are able to attend school every day. If you are making any plans to take your child out of school during term time, under no circumstances must you

book anything until you have spoken to the Head Teacher. We are full in most year groups and have waiting lists for these groups; taking your child out of school in term time can put your child's place at our school at risk of losing it. We all need to avoid this from happening.

Staffing Changes for September 2018

We welcome some new members of staff, joining our teams in September:

- Mrs S Ashtiaq, Assistant Head in UKS2; Miss H Culloty and Miss G Wood, teachers in KS1; Miss L Brown, teacher in KS2;
- Mrs S Bi, ETA, and Mrs N Ahsan, Special Needs ETA.
- Miss F Moore is also returning from her maternity leave into Reception.

Sadly, we say goodbye to the following staff - Miss R Khan, we wish her all the best in her new married life living in London. Mrs T Majeed, who is moving to sunny Dubai and will be working as an EYFS Leader. We wish Mrs N Waheed all the best in her retirement, as well as Miss Leijinse who is starting her teaching degree. They will all be greatly missed.

Please note the following changes in the leadership team. If you have a child in any of the following year groups and would like to discuss your child's education further, please make an appointment with the appropriate responsible leader.

- EYFS – Mrs S Winter and Mrs S House
- Year 1 – Mrs S House
- Year 2 – Mrs S Ali
- Years 3 and 4 – Mrs S Peat
- Years 5 and 6 – Mrs S Ashtiaq

Mrs S House – Safeguarding Lead; Miss S Peat – SENCo; Mrs S Ali – Maths Lead; Mrs S Ashtiaq – English Lead.

Poetry

Poet Donovan Christopher worked with a group of our Year 4 children and together they created a great rap which they performed in front of KS2 children and staff. We love the messages – well done Year 4 boys!

We're the Boys in Year 4

We're the boys in Year 4,
We're going to be all we can be,

And the future you hoped for.
Try very hard and you will see.

A-B-C-D

E-F-G-H-T

J-K-L-M-N

O-P-Q-R-S

T-U-V-W

X-V down to the Zee

You can be **ALL** you want to be.

You can be anything if you try.

You can even help a friend, If they fall, help them up again.

Try your best, nothing less,

I'm telling you education is good for you.

Now you can be all you want to be!

Written and performed by:

Awais Alam, Zakir Akram, Mussa Abu Bakr, Jonathon Phillips, 4A
Assadullah Munir, Talha Usman, Ala Shaeboub, Abu Bakr Alghadi, 4B
Ibrahim Javaid, Zain Zarab, Daniyal Majid, Shehryaar Akhtar, 4C

Diary Dates

Date	Activity
Tuesday 24 th July 2018	Last day in school. Children break up for the summer holiday.
Monday 3 rd September 2018	INSET Day
Tuesday 4 th September 2018	INSET DAY
Wednesday 5 th September 2018	First day back in school for children.
Wednesday 5 th September 2018	<p><u>Special arrangements for Reception children:</u></p> <p>Reception children from other Nursery schools to attend 8.50 am – 11.30 am only.</p> <p><u>School closed for Reception children who attended Mount Pleasant Nursery.</u></p>
Thursday 6 th September 2018	<p>Reception children who attended Mount Pleasant Nursery School attend 8.50 am – 11.30 am only.</p> <p><u>School closed for Reception children from other settings.</u></p>
Friday 7 th , Monday 10 th and Tuesday 11 th September 2018	All Reception children to attend 8.50 am – 11.30 am.
Wednesday 12 th September 2018	All Reception children to attend 8.50 am – 11.30 am. <u>All parents to join their child for lunch at 11.30 am</u>
Thursday 13 th September 2018	Full days for all Reception children 8.50 am – 3.10 pm All parents must stay with their child for their first session.
Friday 14 th September	All parents to collect their children at 1:30pm to attend the opening ceremony.
Monday 15 th , Tuesday 16 th , Wednesday 17 th October 2018 12.30 pm – 2.30 pm	Year 5 Safety Rangers training with Huddersfield Fire Station.
Monday 8 th – Wed 10 th October 2018	Year 6 Kingswood Residential Trip.
Friday 26 th October 2018	Children break up for the half term holidays.

New School Uniform and School Bags

You will have received a text message to inform you that the new school uniform jumpers have arrived at school. In line with our new exciting school colour scheme, the jumpers are green and have the new school logo. As mentioned previously, every child will receive 1 free jumper this year, as well as a Book Bag and a PE bag which are also in the school colours and come with the logo. If you have not been able to collect your child's jumper, the school office will be in touch to confirm the next slot for when they can be collected. The school uniform policy is on the website; please take some time to read it.