

Mount Pleasant Primary School Parent Newsletter – Issue 33 July, 2021



Dear Parents / Carers,

We have finally made it to the end of another unusual year!

I am so proud of the way everyone has handled the pandemic situation and remained positive despite all the challenges. To recap on this unusual year: in the autumn term, we all had to adjust to the school's risk assessment in line with government policy for managing the virus. A main change for parents meant they were unable to come into classes as they were used to doing. Children and staff also had to adapt to the many changes, the main one being working in their consistent class bubble and having staggered lunches and break times. Whilst we were quite fortunate in the first half term, in the second, as virus rates increased, we had to close some bubbles and manage online learning. In January, schools were partially closed, and many families had to manage online learning once again, with staff juggling between working at home, teaching remotely and coming into school for the children still at school.

Returning to school in March was fantastic, and the children were very happy to be at school, as were the staff and parents! Again, we were very fortunate at the beginning, but in the recent 2-3 weeks, as the virus rates have increased, we have had to close a few bubbles.

Despite bubbles closing, and individuals having to self-isolate, I am really pleased that the children have continued with their learning and made lots of progress, especially the children who have been in school throughout. I hope you enjoyed reading your child's school report.

Recapping all the above, I cannot thank all our school community enough for being so wonderful - thank you!

On Thursday, we had an amazing Graduation for our Nursery children as they said a final goodbye to Nursery, in readiness to join the 'Big School' and Reception in September. Well done to all our wonderful Nursery children.





It's always sad to see our lovely Year 6 children leave and I am sure there will be quite a few tears from the children, and from the staff. They had an amazing fun day on Monday in celebration of their successful year. All the very best, Year 6 - you have been brilliant!

In addition to the Year 6 leaving, it's always very sad to say goodbye to staff who are leaving. They have been brilliant throughout their time at Mount Pleasant. And as they start their new adventures, we wish them all the very best.

Finally, I hope everyone has a lovely summer holiday, and I look forward to seeing everyone back on Wednesday 8th September.

Yours faithfully,
Mrs N Nazir
(Headteacher)

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Solar Dome

The new Solardome has been getting its use this half term. The children have taken part in their Growbag sessions, learning about how the things we plant become the food we eat. Reception have spent time caring for the plants and making sure they have plenty of water. The children have been really engaged in their learning. We hope to continue to grow our delicious fruit and vegetables and provide the children with them for their school dinners. Watch this space for more exotic plants in our Solardome.



Reception Memorable Experience

Reception classes had a very busy day at Mount Pleasant Beach for their memorable experience.



We searched for different sea creatures in the rock pool, decorated seashells, created pirate hats, built large sandcastles, had our faces painted, paddled in the sea and rode donkeys along the seafront.



We even travelled in a yellow submarine!



"I loved having my face painted. I had a ladybug painted on my face." Rayyan

"I really enjoyed riding the donkey bikes. I won the race 5 times." Aahil.

We had traditional fish and chips for lunch and finished the day with a trip to the local ice cream shop.



The ice-cream ladies looked very familiar and provided excellent service with a smile. We were all very tired from breathing in the sea air!

"I liked making an octopus biscuit. We used blue icing for the sea colour. It was fun!" Yalin

"I loved it when we were all dancing to the 'Sailor went to Sea' song!" Anniebeth

"I really enjoyed having ice cream. I had strawberry sauce and sprinkles!" Topaz

Nursery Memorable Experience

This half-term in nursery we celebrated Beach Day alongside the Reception children. The children started the day off with decorating biscuits which they took home at the end of each session. We had a carousel of activities for them to participate in; face painting; creating amazing flower/pirate hats; painting colourful shells, building sand castles; popping bubbles, and taking cool selfies in our pirate and crab photobooth frames. We finished our beach day off with a yummy ice-cream treat and some bubbles to take home with us.





This term we also learnt about Road Safety. Children wore hi-vest jackets and went in small groups to practice crossing the road safely. The children remembered our four Golden Rules to help them recognise and look out for hazards on the road



They remembered to “STOP, LOOK, LISTEN and THINK!”

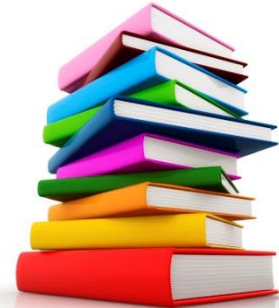
Reception Reading Superstar



Hirah Shahzad from Willow class is our Reading Superstar! Hirah has previously received bronze, silver and gold book badges for reading 50, 75 and 100 books. She is now on her second reading record and has read over 200 different books! She is definitely ready to go to Year 1. She has a passion for reading and is a joy to observe.

We are so proud
of you Hirah.

Well done!



Reception and Year 1 Sports Day



Reception and Year 1 competed in their Olympic style sports day. All children took part in a variety of activities including welly wanging, long jump, sack races and the egg and spoon race. The children had a fantastic time and managed to survive the heat! We split into 4 countries and collected up the points across both year groups. South Africa came 4th, USA, 3rd, Spain 2nd and our winning country was Great Britain.



Year 1 Memorable Experience



Year 1 started their "Enchanted Woodland" topic with an adventure in the woodland area. The children went looking for clues to see which sneaky animals had been trespassing. They have spent a lot of this term exploring the outdoors and began to close their topic with a well-deserved trip to Beaumont Park. The children had a great time identifying trees and exploring the area. As a special treat for some brilliant behaviour we had a play in the park. The children had a fantastic time!



The children dressed up as woodland animals on a hunt in the woodland area.

They found some fairy doors and talked about who might live there and what they might do.



Year 2 Memorable Experience

Year 2 walked all the way to Beaumont Park. They followed a map to do the nature trail, then they did a mini beast hunt and finally did some sketching, before walking back to school.



Year 5 Memorable Experience



HEALTHY FOOD

Year 5 created their very own salad bar as they learned about healthy eating and seasonal food. They prepared all the ingredients themselves and had to each create a salad that included a balance of different types of food, several foods that are in season, and a range of different colours. (Almost) all children found the healthy food really tasty!



Year 6 Memorable Experience

Year 6 Fun Day!

Every year, Year 6 take part in a treat day. This day rewards all the hard work the children have done throughout Year 6 and their time at primary school. Usually, it would be a trip to a beach or theme park, however due to Covid, this was not possible. So, instead we thought we would bring the treat day to the children at school. What a day it was! An inflatable bouncy castle, bouncy slide and bouncy assault course were enjoyed by all – especially Mrs Saddiq and Mr Lamph, who had to ‘test’ them to ensure they were safe!



The children loved having fun on all of these before having a picnic lunch. Finally, to cool down after such a hot day, we ended in style with a water fight! The children loved being able to target their friends.... and teachers! It was a memorable day, which we hope the children will look back on with a smile.

The staff in Year 6 would like for all the children to go away with happy memories of Mount Pleasant and wish them all the best in the future.

Class Teachers for September 2021

Class	Teacher	Class	Teacher
Nursery	Mrs Matial	3A	Mrs Razaq
Holly	Mrs Robbins-Smith / Mrs Wood	3B	Mrs Whitfield
Maple	Miss Horton	3C	Mrs Noble
Willow	Miss Wood	4A	Mrs Whinfrey
1A	Miss Moore	4B	Mr Master
1B	Mrs Rafiq	4C	Mr Ali
1C	Miss Hampshire	5A	Mrs Essabhai
2A	Mrs Coates	5B	Mrs Ho
2B	Miss Longden / Ms Afeefah	5C	Mr Shotter
2C	Miss Samuels	6A	Mrs Saddiq
		6B	Miss Brown
		6C	Mr Lamph

Notes from the Office

- ❖ Please note that school meals will be increasing to £2.35 per day from the start of the Autumn Term, 6th September, 2021.
- ❖ Reminder: From Year 3 all children (unless they are on benefits related free school meals) need to pay for their school meals. Universal Free School Meals only applies up to Year 2. So if your child is moving up to Year 3 in September you will need to ensure there is sufficient money in your parent pay account in advance to pay for their school meals. This will be £11.75 per week.
- ❖ Please can parents make sure that all children's school clothes / belongings are marked clearly with their full name. We will then be able to return all found items to their rightful owners.

Term Dates

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

Autumn Term 2021 / 2022

First half term:

Monday 6th – Tuesday 7th September (Staff INSET Day 1+2 – school closed for children)

Wednesday 8th September 2021

Children start school

Friday 22nd October 2021

Children finish for half term holidays.

Second half term:

Monday 1st November 2021

Children return to school.

Friday 17th December 2021

Children finish for Christmas holidays.

Spring Term 2022

First half term:

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Children return to school

Friday 18th February 2022

Children finish for February half term holidays.

Second half term:

Monday 28th February 2022

Children return to school.

Friday 8th April 2022

Children finish for Easter holidays.

Summer Term 2022

First half term:

Monday 25th April 2022

Children return to school.

Monday 2nd May 2022

May Day Bank Holiday

Tuesday 3rd May 2022 (Staff INSET Day 3 – school closed for children)

Friday 27th May 2022

Children finish for May half term holidays.

Second half term:

Monday 6th June 2022

Children return to school.

Friday 22nd July 2022

Children finish for Summer holidays.

Monday 25th – Tuesday 26th July (Staff INSET Days 4+5 – school closed for children)

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