



# Mount Pleasant Primary School

## Parents Newsletter - Issue 35 (Dec 2021)

Dear Parents/Carers,

At the end of another great term at Mount Pleasant Primary School, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on this term in comparison to this time last year. This year, whilst we are still living with the Covid virus, we have made many adjustments to try to keep our lives as normal as possible. In school, we are no longer required to work within class bubbles, and this has meant we have been able to be more creative with working in year groups. Last year we were unable to have our annual Reception Christmas performance, so this year it has been lovely hearing Reception children practising their songs and learning their lines. Whilst it would have been amazing to have parents come and watch the children perform, it was safer to record the children and allow parents to watch at home. I know parents do appreciate why we have had to do it this way. Hopefully, next year we will be able to go back to inviting parents into assemblies and performances.



Also, in comparison to last year, we have been able to go on out of school visits (Yorkshire Wildlife Park and Greenhead College) as well as have visitors in school (Wonderdome etc). We have also been able to carry out more interventions across the year group, and I thank parents for supporting this as interventions are essential in ensuring children are able to catch up on any missed learning due to Covid.

We've also had many great events in school this half term, including anti-bullying week, where children looked at the value in being kind and smiling! Every child also made a poppy and decorated their class doors to commemorate Remembrance Day, and the School Council raised money and awareness for Children in Need. We ended the term with Christmas Jumper non-uniform day, Santa Dash, and Christmas parties. A special well done to all the children who impressed their teachers for Special Assembly and who were rewarded with lovely prizes.



For all our families celebrating Christmas, I hope you have an amazing time with your friends and families. Happy New Year to everyone - let's hope it's going to be a fabulous one for everyone! See you all in 2022!!!!

Mrs N Nazir (Headteacher)





CHRISTMAS  
JUMPER  
DAY

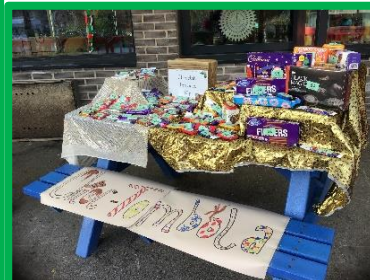




### Year 1 Christmas Fair



Year 1 had a fantastic time at their Christmas Fair. We had chocolate tombolas, face painting, snowball slingshot and lots of other exciting crafts. We also had a Movie Night for Years 1 and 2 to raise money for exciting activities next half term. Thank you to all the parents and families who supported us in our fundraising efforts. We've managed to raise over £300!!



## Sports Tournaments



This term pupils from Mount Pleasant have participated in lots of out of school physical activities. We have been to a Boccia Festival; Year 5 & 6 Girls' Football; KS2 Sports Hall Athletics; Years 3 & 4 Girls' Football.



On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December we hosted a sports event in school. Linda Stacey and her team visited us from Newsome Academy. Pupils from Year 3 to Year 6 took part in a Commonwealth Games Festival

## Kirklees Musica Ukulele Concert for Year 3 & 4



Kirklees Musica teachers came into school to present a medley of Christmas songs and carols with their ukuleles and guitar. The children thoroughly enjoyed enthusiastically singing along with them. It was a wonderfully interactive experience for the children and some of them had the chance to 'fish' in Santa's chimney to find out which song was to be played next, or found Christmas jokes, like *"What do you get if you cross a skunk and a bell?" – answer – Jingle Smells!*



## Santa Dash

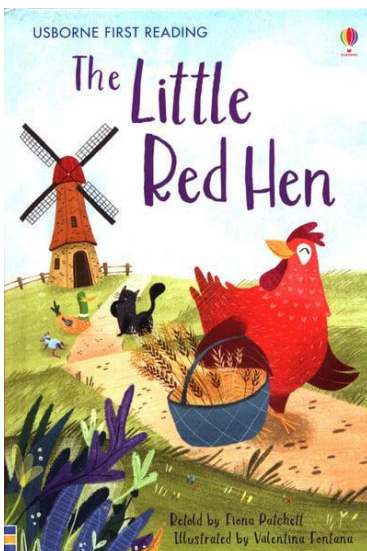
The school took part in the School Games National Santa Dash organised by our local School Games Organiser on Thursday 16th December, joining thousands of other young people across the country who also took part. Santa joined us for the run around our MUGA and the children were able to dress up in their favourite Christmas jumper, wear red or bring a Santa hat to join in with the fun!



# Memorable Experiences

## Nursery

This half-term the children have enjoyed reading traditional tales, especially 'The Little Red Hen'. For our memorable experience we made our own bread just like the little red hen. It was very yummy!



Year 1

Year 1 started their new topic with an exciting Superhero Day! Children and staff dressed up as superheroes and helped Supertato save the day! We freed some peas and realised this was the wrong thing to do! Supertato sent us on a mission to stop the peas from causing mischief. They'd destroyed the library, so we had to use our superhero skills to tidy up and trap the Evil Pea.



It was a fantastic day. We are really excited about our new learning.



## Year 2

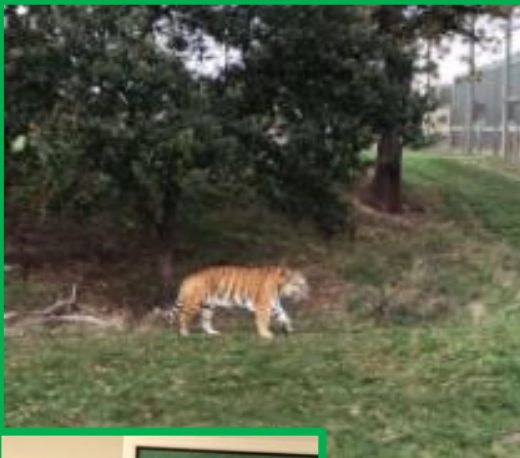


Year 2 has had a fantastic half term learning about castles. We have designed and made our own castles from recycled junk.

We had knights training as part of our topic on castles. We designed our own shield, using symbols to show our values and qualities, for example a lion to show we were brave. We also enjoyed a knight's feast with bread, cheese and grapes and a taste of ginger drink.



## Year 3



On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> November, Year 3 went to Yorkshire Wildlife Park for their memorable experience for their theme 'Predators'. The children saw lots of exciting animals such as baboons, polar bears, lions, tigers and rhinos. 3C were even lucky enough to hear the lion's roar!

The children also took part in a lesson where they learnt more about food chains, were able to feel different animals' skulls and even touch giant snails, snakes and Colin the Cockroach!

The children really enjoyed their time at the zoo and have produced some fantastic writing about their experience too!



## Year 4



Year 4 had a great time creating totem poles for our memorable experience. We began by understanding the importance of totem poles to First Nation Americans. Traditionally these were carved and made to commemorate ancestry, history, people, or events.

Totem poles were also used to display symbols which were important to those who made them.

## Year 5

Year 5 experienced the wonders of space through the 'Wonderdome' – an indoor immersive experience where they learned about distant planets and our local solar system.



5B won plenty of prizes competing in our Dancing with the Stars competition. They also put their own spin on the Nativity story using the iPads to film and edit short films.





## Year 6

This term, Year 6 children have had a wonderful time going up to Greenhead College to experience a "Science Day". Children had the opportunity to take part in experiments which were led by Greenhead College students. They had an opportunity to create fireworks with a variety of chemicals; investigated how different materials reacted with acids and alkaline, and experimented with solutions to work out how concentrated they were. Year 6 thoroughly enjoyed their time at the college and learned lots about chemicals and their reactions to different materials. It has inspired many of them to think big, aim high and achieve their dreams of attending the college in the future.



## Remembrance Day

This Remembrance Day, to honour those who lost their lives in the war, Mount Pleasant pupils have been busy making their own poppies, writing poems, painting poppy fields, and learning about why Remembrance Day is so important for us all.



## Anti-bullying Week



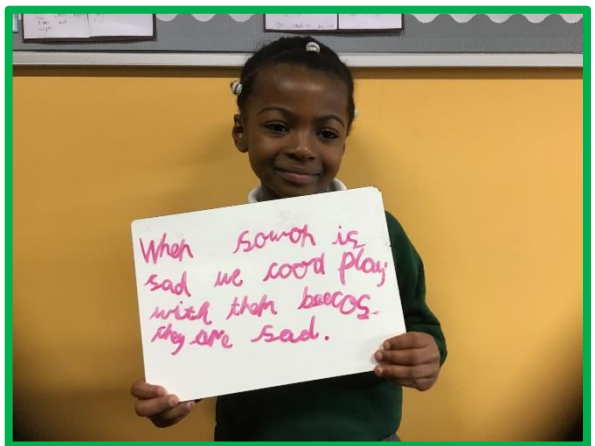
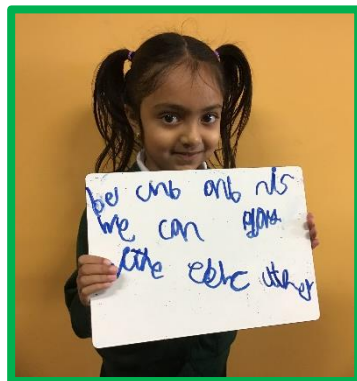
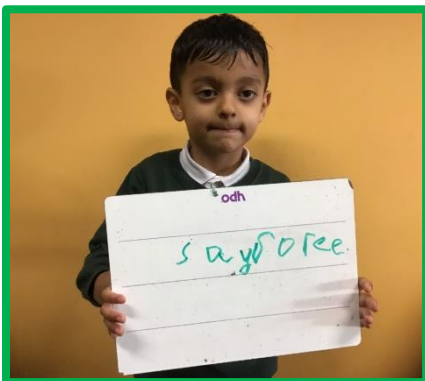
Anti-Bullying Week 2021 in November began with odd socks day on the 15<sup>th</sup> where children (and adults!) were encouraged to wear odd socks to highlight the issue of bullying and to show we're all unique and different and that we respect each other's individuality. Photos below show some of the odd socks worn in Reception and Year 1. Year 2 children designed their own funky socks – see their colourful designs here.



The theme this year was 'one kind word' as the isolation of the last year has underlined how little acts of consideration can break down barriers and brighten the lives of the people around us. The children enjoyed lots of lessons looking at kindness and bullying and got involved in lots of activities around the theme.

They created their own buckets to fill with kindness after reading the book 'Have you filled a bucket today?'.

Children showed their kind words by writing them on whiteboards.



Children In Need Day



The children had fun 'Working It Out' with Joe Wicks. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TziZfxjk04Y>



### Term Dates

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

**Please note there will be an additional day holiday for children on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> July to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.**

Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> January	Children return to school for Spring Term.
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> February	Last day in school. School closes for half term holiday.
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Children return to school.
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Last day in school. School closes for Easter holidays.
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Children return to school for Summer Term.
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Last day in school. School closes for half term holiday.
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Children return to school.
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Last day in school. School closes for Summer holidays.

