



Newsletter

December, 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer,

It has been a bit of a strange year once again with another lockdown in January and subsequent restrictions with classes in bubbles. It was great to have some normality when we returned in September. It was so good to see the children socialising once again on the yard, and during lunch.

The school council, buddies and Ambassadors have made a brilliant start in their new roles. They will be pursuing their responsibilities in the new year.

The children and staff are all working really hard and doing some amazing work. I hope that the parents' meeting in February will enable you to see all the great things your child has been learning.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas. Please stay safe and have a lovely holiday. Mrs Blackham

RSA: Rights Respecting Schools SILVER RIGHTS AWARD ACHIEVED!



We are very proud to announce that Mount Pleasant have achieved the Silver Rights Respecting Award. The virtual meeting took place on Wednesday, 1st December when Mr Dyer and the Rights Respecting team spoke at length about everything that we do to promote respect, equality and participation and were assessed on three strands: Teaching and learning about rights, ethos and relationships and participation, empowerment and action.

"Everyone's rights are important and teach us how to be kind, it's important we spread awareness," explained a pupil.

"Mount Pleasant is an inclusive supportive community where children are actively engaged in their learning", was noted by the assessor, Kathy Allen in her final report. Well done!

Dates for your Diary

Friday 17th December 2021: End of Autumn Term 2
Tuesday 4th January 2022: Teacher Training Day (School Closed)
Wednesday 5th January 2022: Spring Term 1 Commences
Friday 18th February 2022: End of Spring Term 1
Monday 28th February 2022: Teacher Training Day (School Closed)
Tuesday 1st March 2022: Spring Term 2 Commences
Friday 8th April 2022: End of Spring Term 2
Monday 25th April 2022: Summer Term 1 Commences
Monday 2nd May 2022: Bank Holiday (School Closed)
Monday 9th May 2022: Year 6 SATs Week
Friday 27th May 2022: End of Summer Term 1
Monday 6th June 2022: Teacher Training Day (School Closed)
Tuesday 7th June 2022: Summer Term 2 Commences
Monday 27th June 2022: Extra Bank Holiday (School Closed)
Tuesday 5th /Wednesday 6th, July 2022: Year 6 Transition

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Festive Fun



The children and staff have been enjoying some festive fun in the run up to the end of term.

Bluebell Room

Bluebell Room in Reception have been participating in a variety of Christmas crafts. They have been experiencing different textures and exploring clay, glues, paints and glitters.



They have been having lots of fun!

Reception and Nursery

The Nursery and Reception children did an amazing job of performing 'Whoops a Daisy Angel'. The recording link has been



uploaded on to Class Dojo

Christmas Raffle



for you to enjoy.
Many thanks to all who donated to the Christmas raffle this year. We made some amazing hampers and made £365 for school funds.



The school councillors from Y2 and Y5 picked the tickets and they delivered the prizes to the winners.



Thank you to Mr & Mrs Lee

We would like to give a huge 'thank you' to the Heighington Community for the donation of presents. For the last few years, Mr Gerald Lee has delivered a huge pile of gifts to

Mount Pleasant and a number of other schools. So kind and generous!

The Academics perform live at Mount Pleasant



The staff and children were treated to a live performance of Christmas songs on Wednesday 15th December. Chris Little (left) has been coming to school to teach the Y5 and 6 ukulele and kindly offered to do a concert with his band for Christmas.

The staff and children danced to Christmas classics and had a brilliant time. In fact, the staff enjoyed it the most! We are hoping to book an open air concert in the summer.

Thank you, The Academics.

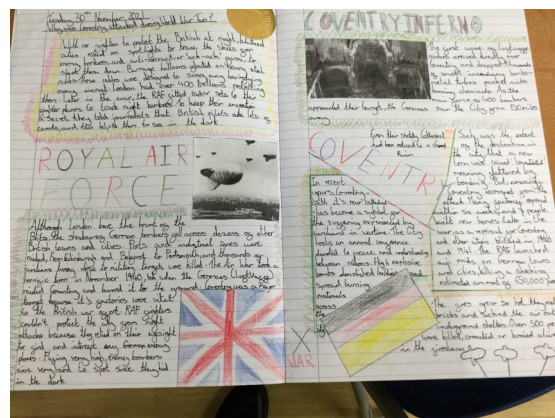


We have learnt about...

Toys from the Past

For the topic on Toys, Y1 took an amazing trip to Bowes Museum where they got the chance to explore and play with some old toys. They learnt about what they were made from and why, and discussed how they knew they were old. They were challenged to find out how they work. The children got to make their own peg dolls too.

They are working very hard on their new phonics scheme. Well done, Y1!



World War 2

Year Six have been studying the topic Britain at War. They examined the impact of the Blitz bombing raids on numerous cities of the U.K. This work describes the devastation experienced by the city of Coventry. Their class novel 'The Boy in the Striped Pyjamas,' has been a huge hit—wonderful but an incredibly sad and shocking tale about the impact of war.

Rhymers are readers

"If children know 8 nursery rhymes by heart by the time they are 4 years old, they are usually among the best readers and spellers in their class by the time they are 8". (Megan Fox, Reading Magic)



Little Learners have been singing lots of songs over this half term and took part in World Nursery Rhyme Week. As well as learning some new songs they have enjoyed many activities linked to some of their favourite rhymes.





Other News



Y3 Learn all about Darlington

This term, year 3 have completed a local study about Darlington. Working closely with the Head of Steam museum, the children learnt all about Darlington's past and how the first passenger train helped put the town on the map. The children found out about George Stephenson (1781-1848) and Edward Pease (1767-1858), whilst also taking in the sights and sounds of the town. They visited the Head of Steam



museum as well and learnt about steam trains and the roles on board these magnificent trains. A story teller also visited us in school. She told us a great story about the birth of the railway and of a hungry station cat.



Explorers and Pirates AHOY!

After a fantastic visit to The Trincomalee in Hartlepool, the children in 2D have immersed themselves in finding out about life at sea and famous explorers and pirates. They played dice and dominoes just like real pirates would. They obeyed Blackbeard's demands for curtains that were opaque in their science lesson and they tested materials to see which made the best stuffing for a pirate soft toy. They have had a very busy term- ooh arrrgh!



Have a very Happy Christmas from all at Mount Pleasant

