



Newsletter

April, 2022

Dear Parent/ Carer,

We have had a really interesting and enjoyable term with lots of brilliant activities going on and some getting back to normality. As always, the children and staff are working really hard and it is evident in the excellent standards of work that are being produced. Y6 and Y2 are gearing up for their exams in May and we have very high hopes for them, despite the challenges of the last two years. Thank you for your support in all that we are trying to achieve.

Mrs. Blackham



Delightful Dancers Take the Stage

On Monday 28th March, some children in year 5 and 6 took part in the Darlington Dance Festival at the Hippodrome. The children had been learning the dance for a couple of months before performing it to a packed-out theatre. They were so nervous as they walked out on the stage for the first time, but as soon as it was over they all wanted to

perform again. Miss Hewitt was so proud of every single one of them, well done! Thank you to Alison Coleman, the choreographer and teacher, and to Miss Hewitt and Mrs Watson who accompanied the children on the night.



Dates For Your Diary

- Friday 8th April 2022: End of Spring Term 2
- Monday 25th April 2022: Summer Term 1 Commences
- Friday 29th April 2022: Nursery and Little Learners (Closed)
- Monday 2nd May 2022: Bank Holiday (School Closed)
- Monday 9th May 2022: Year 6 SATs Week
- Tuesday 17th May 2022 – Friday 20th May 2022: Year 6 Carlton Residential Trip
- Friday 27th May 2022: End of Summer Term 1
- Monday 6th June 2022: Extra Bank Holiday (School Closed)
- Tuesday 7th June 2022: Summer Term 2 Commences
- Monday 27th June 2022: Teacher Training Day (School Closed)
- Tuesday 5th July 2022: Year 6 Transition
- Wednesday 6th July 2022: Year 6 Transition
- Monday 11th July 2022 – 15th July 2022: Sports Week
- Thursday 21st July 2022: End of Summer Term 2

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Out and About

Y2-What been happening?

2D have been doing lots of work in history about the work of Mary Seacole and Florence Nightingale. They discovered what conditions were like in hospitals at that time and were shocked to hear about the insanitary conditions the patients had to endure. Patients were made to lie on the floor in filthy clothes and blankets and their bandages were rarely changed leading to disease and infection. The class learned how the nurses helped change conditions in hospitals and they looked at some of the artefacts that would have been used in Victorian times. They then designed and made a wash bag for themselves and considered what essential items needed to go in it. They made a felt logo for the outside to represent an item that is used to keep clean. They practised running stitch and proved very adept, so quickly moved onto sewing the cloth bag together. The final task is to attach the handle. They understand how important it is to maintain standards of hygiene and how it impacts health.

Life in Little Learners

Little Learners have been learning about spring and helped to plant a variety of herbs and spring flowers in the outdoor garden. They have been learning how to use planting tools and equipment and have especially enjoyed using the watering cans to water and look after the plants.



Year 6 outdoors

This term Year 6 have learnt about outdoor survival skills by way of fire lighting and cooking using the fires they made. The pupils practised using flints to start fires from brushwood, that they collected and then learnt how to cook toast and hot chocolate on the fires.



Dancing

The Haka is a famous pre-match dance performed by the New Zealand All Blacks before rugby union Matches. The class learnt how to perform the Haka and competed against Year 5.



Other News

Charity - Little Treasures

On Friday 1st April, we celebrated Autism Awareness and Acceptance by dressing up in all colours to show how we are all different and unique at Mount Pleasant. We raised £108.70 which we sent to Little Treasures. Thank you for all your kind donations.



Y1 topic- People Who Help Us

Over the term, Year 1 have been learning about people who help us. To support their learning, we have had a number of visitors come into school to talk about their role, how they help people and any other interesting facts about their job. A group of student nurses demonstrated how to administer first aid and give cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) to the test dummy. The children have loved learning about the different roles and used the information to support in them writing through different genres. They could be the next generation of nurses, doctors and police.



Bug Fun

Year 3 have been lucky to have Bugs n Stuff visiting us this term to coincide with our rainforest topic. We're lucky enough to see marine toads, scorpions, poison dart frogs and cockroaches. Guy had an amazing range of critters, plus lots of information on them all.



And Finally....

COVID Update

You may have heard that the national guidance in relation to COVID has again changed for April. The full guidance is here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/people-with-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infection-including-covid-19#children-and-young-people-aged-18-years-and-under-who-have-symptoms-of-a-respiratory-infection-including-covid-19>

In a nutshell, the guidance states that:

If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and **avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test**, if they can. After 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, the risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower. This is because children and young people tend to be infectious to other people for less time than adults.

Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education setting.

Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school, college or childcare, and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend

It is not recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional.

Children and young people who usually go to school, college or childcare and who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend as normal.

These are national guidelines, which we will be following. As a temperature is a key symptom of COVID-19, we will still send children home who develop a temperature and ask children not to return to school if they receive a positive test until the 4th day, after a positive test result (as above).

In practice, this would look like:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Positive result	Day 1 at home	Day 2 at home	Day 3 at home	Return to school

Attendance Awards

At Mount Pleasant, we always aim to reach a target of 96% attendance across school. This is the minimum target that the Government sets.

Each week, the class with the highest attendance receives a reward and the children who have 100% by the end of each term are rewarded with an entry into the prize draw.

This year, we have been hit by Covid, sickness, chicken pox, colds and flu but we are still striving to reach our target.

Sometimes, you might get a call from Mrs Blackham, Mrs Clark or Janine Lowther, asking for information about absences and if there is anything we can do to help. Please note, it is all part of our policy and we have to ensure that we are doing all we can to improve our attendance and ensure children not at school are safe.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask.



Have a lovely Easter holiday from all at Mount Pleasant

