



Newsletter

March, 2024

Dear Parent/ Carer,

What a quick term this has been. I am looking forward to some warmer weather as we head in to the final term. As usual, there have been lots of things going on in school.

The children and staff are working really hard and it is evident in the excellent standards of work that are being produced. Y6 are gearing up for their exams in May and we have very high hopes for them.

I'd to wish our lovely Mrs Hewitt a very happy birthday– she is 70 today and is here, smiling every morning. What a star!.

Mrs Blackham

Delightful Dancers Take the Stage

On Tuesday, 25th March, some children in year 4 and 5 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. Mrs Snowden and Mrs Watson were so proud of every single one of them, well done!

Thank you to Alison Coleman, the choreographer and teacher, and to Mrs Snowden and Mrs Watson who accompanied the children on the night.

Mrs Blackham and some families of the dancers were in the audience. Definitely a '10' and

FAB-U-LOUS!



Dates For Your Diary

Thursday 28th March 24 – End of Spring Term 2
Monday 15th April 24 – Summer Term 1 Commences
Monday 6th May 24 – Bank Holiday (School Closed)
Monday 13th – Thursday 16th – Y6 SATS
Tuesday 21st May – Friday 24th May – Y6 Residential Trip to Carlton
Friday 24th May 24 – End of Summer Term 1
Monday 3rd June 24– Summer Term 2 Commences
Monday 10th June 24 – Teacher Training (School Closed)
Tuesday 16th July 24 – School Summer Fayre
Tuesday 23rd July 24 – Summer Term 2 ends

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Out and About



Reception become farmers for the day at Baydale Farm.

Reception class recently enjoyed a fantastic day out, visiting Baydale Farm. This is a working farm and we visited during the lambing season. The children helped to bottle feed some very young lambs with milk. They then fed the mothers with hay and special sugar pellets. After this, they collected sugar beet which had been harvested and can also be used to feed animals. Wheat is grown at Baydale and the children all had a go at milling the wheat into flour. Later in the day, the children learnt about the life cycle of a hen and got to hold a chick. They were very cute! The children also experienced sitting in a tractor. We discovered that the seats are very high up! Our day finished with an excellent Easter Egg hunt in the field and some worm dancing!



Fantastic Fundraising

Many thanks to all who send in money for the various fundraising events that happen.

This year we have supported the Headlight Project, who support some children and families in

school, raising £159 during the 'Turn Blue Monday Bright' campaign.

Comic Relief raised £153 and finally, the Easter egg raffle brought in £129 for school. The School Council will update you as to what this will be spent on in the next newsletter.



Other News

Y5 and the Terrible Tudors

Year 5, had a Tudor day this term. This supported their learning throughout the Spring term and allowed them to fully immerse themselves within Tudor life. They were allowed to hold period weapons such as axes, shields, swords and armour. They learnt about how horrendous it was to visit the doctors, especially if you needed something amputating! And of course, no Tudor day is complete without looking



at one of the most famous Kings of England; Henry VIII. They learnt about his loves, losses and divorces whilst also dabbling in a bit of execution fun too!



Y1 topic- People Who Help Us

Over the term, Year 1 have been learning about people who help us. To support their learning, a number



of visitors come into school to talk about their role, how they help people and any other interesting facts about their job.

The paramedics gave a tour of the ambulance and explained what some of the equipment is for. The police explained how dogs are used to help fight crime and the guide dog was amazing- helping to guide their owner whist out and about.

The fire engine was spectacular and very loud!

The children have loved learning about the different roles and used the information



to support them writing riddles and information texts.

The children could be the next generation of nurses, doctors and police.



And Finally....

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 in to the prize draw.

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

Here are the Bronze Award winners for the Spring term. They have attended school every day since returning in January.



And here are the Silver Award winners. They have been here every day since September! Well done!

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 know that children not at school are safe.



Have a lovely Easter holiday from all at Mount Pleasant

