
MONTGOMERY NEWS



Montgomery Primary School | Friday 17th November 2017

Another busy fortnight and as I walked through the Key Stage 2 corridor this week, for the first time this year I heard children practising Christmas songs, and so it begins...

Today has felt very different with our pyjama theme for Children In Need! Thanks for all your donations - I will be interested to hear if it makes the children more or less willing to go to bed tonight!

Next Wednesday we will be wearing pink to remember our colleague and friend Alison Jordan. We hope you can support us in this.

Jason Edge

Head of School

LA Authority Review

On Tuesday of this week we underwent a mini-inspection from the Local Authority to see how much progress the school has made towards being judged as 'Good' from our Ofsted grading of 'Requires Improvement'. This is part of the Local Authority's role in ensuring that the school has responded to the report with both urgency and rigour.

This consisted of a learning walk (lesson observations), book scrutinies of children's work, individual interviews of senior leaders, speaking to children, interview with a group of teachers, scrutinising of action plans and a meeting with governors.

The day was extremely intense with lots of challenging questions and large amount of time spent in classrooms looking at all classes. It resulted in a hugely successful report with lots of strengths and areas that have rapidly improved; many of the challenges we still face involve having high achieving statutory SATs data.

Most significantly from the findings was the quote:

'This does not feel like a requires improvement school'.

Main findings

Strengths:

- Presentation in books is good with high expectations
- Consistent approach to teaching across classes and year groups
- Excellent relationships between children and staff
- Systematic teaching of spelling, grammar and number skills in maths
- Children take pride in their work and are proud of their school
- Children were respectful
- Adults manage children's behaviour well
- Work in books demonstrate that children are making good progress
- Test scores in Year 6 show an improving picture across the school
- Standards across the school are rising
- Leadership at all levels are clear about the challenges
- Leaders have empowered teachers to set high expectations
- Leaders take swift and decisive action to tackle any underperformance
- Teachers value the CPD held

Challenges

- Statutory data needs to be above national outcomes for attainment/progress
- To ensure that staffing remains stable and secure
- Data in new tracking system is helpful in evaluating actions
- Continue to ensure the more able in Literacy are stretched

We are naturally delighted with these findings and it reflects the incredible hard work of all the staff team, particularly during the autumn term.

The Local Authority will continue to monitor the school on a half-termly basis as we continue to embed the systems we have put in place.

Tempest Photos

On Tuesday November 21st Tempest will be in to take individual photos. Parents are welcome to come in at 8:15 if they have a child who doesn't attend Montgomery but would like a family photo.

Fireworks

Thank-you to all those who attended this fantastic event on Thursday. The FOMs profit from the evening was £2966.33. Amazing! This will go to paying for our school trip to the pantomime in December.

Christmas Fair

Thank-you to the parent who donated the hamper below! We are still in need of raffle prizes for our Christmas Fair. If you have something suitable you could donate, please do so through the school office.



Parents Evenings

Parents evenings will take place on Monday 27th November and Wednesday 29th November. A separate letter has gone home for this; please contact the office to arrange a time via email admin@montgomery.devon.sch.uk or telephone 285240. Alternatively, please come into the office.

Contact details

Please see the attached letter about contact details. Thank you.

2018 Reception Admissions

For those parents with children due to start Reception in September 2018, applications can be made from 15th November.

E-Safety

E-safety is very much a hot topic in education at the minute, as technology becomes ever more sophisticated and children are using it at a younger and younger age. While these advances are wonderful, they do also come with dangers if left unchecked. Therefore, we are delivering e-safety lessons in the classrooms as part of our Computing curriculum and also each week in the newsletter we will give you a link to an e-safety website that you can look at and discuss with your child.

This week's website:

<https://www.barnardos.org.uk/followme>

Mr Edge also discussed e-safety in whole school assembly on Monday as part of anti-bullying week.

Year 6 Bikeability

If there are any more Year 6 parents who would like their child to do bikeability (WB: 27th November) further to the information they have received, please return the paperwork to the office as soon as possible.

Phonics Workshop for Reception Parents

Thank you to all those who attended the phonics workshop and thank you to Miss Dyke and Mrs Brown particularly for their very enthusiastic demonstrations of the Jolly Phonics actions!!!

Alison Jordan Memorial - Wear pink!

As many of you will know, in June this year we sadly lost Mrs Jordan who was a teaching assistant in EYFS. The team who worked with her have been working on ideas for a permanent memorial to remember her. Therefore, we would like all children to wear something pink (Mrs Jordan's favourite colour) if possible, on **Wednesday 22nd November** with a suggested donation of a £1 which will be used to buy each child a pebble. Each pebble will be decorated with a picture or message by every child in the school and these will be then used to create a path around a tree in the school grounds. We know that many of you still miss her greatly and we hope that you will be able to support this cause.

Christmas Pantomime

Children from Reception to Year 6 will be attending the Christmas Pantomime (Cinderella) on Monday 11th December at The Corn Exchange. This has been paid for by the FOMs team and is thanks to your generous donations over the years! We will send out more details nearer the time.

Theatre Alibi

Theatre Alibi will holding a performance of 'Apple John' in our school hall on Thursday 30th November at 7pm. The show is suitable for young and old! Tickets are priced at £5 for adults and £4 for children and are available from the school office.

Sports Update

The past few weeks has been busy but amazing and successful for the Montgomery sports stars!

Firstly, well done to the Boys U12's Futsal A and B teams who finished 4th and 11th overall out of 17 teams in a high school tournament! Amazing achievement!

A huge congratulation to the 3 Sitting Volleyball and Kurling Teams who competed at St Lukes high school! B team finished 5th position, A team finishing in 3rd with a bronze medal and the C team coming up top place bringing home the gold with a 1st and through to the county finals! Very proud of you all!

Next, 12 cross country runners competed out in Killerton in warm sunny conditions with 8 of our runners finishing in the top 100 places out of 250+ children for the boys and girl's races! Incredible!

Lastly, a huge well done to the Girls U12's team who began their first ever tournament representing the school against many other primary and high schools! Well done to the A team for finishing 10th and a fantastic result for the B team bringing home the 'spirit of the games' medals for showing brilliant values such as self-belief, determination, honesty, team work, respect and passion to the game marked by the referee. The PE team and the rest of the school are extremely proud of the Montgomery teams with such a positive start the year!

By Abbie Harris, Sports Coach

Dates for your diary

Autumn term 2nd half: 30th October- 15th December

Spring term 1st half: 3rd January- 9th February

Spring term 2nd half: 19th February- 29th March

Summer term 1st half: 16th April- 25th May

Summer term 2nd half: 4th June- 27th July

Tempest photos: 21st November

Wear pink for Mrs Jordan: 22nd November

Parents Evenings: Monday 27th & Wednesday 29th November

Parent forum with Mr Edge: Wednesday 6th December@ 9am and 6pm

Christmas Fair: 1st December

EYFS nativity: 5th December - 9.30 & 6th December 2pm

Reception to Y6 visit to Cinderella pantomime @ Corn Exchange Monday 11th December 2017

KS2 Christmas Show: 12th December - 9.30 & 2pm

KS1 Christmas Show: 13th December - 9.30 & 2pm

Christmas lunch 14th December

Christmas jumper day 15th December (last day of term)

KS2 SATs week: 14th- 18th May

Contact Us

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