
MONTGOMERY NEWS



Montgomery Primary School | Friday 22nd September 2017

We have had a wonderfully positive start to the term. I have spent a lot of time in classrooms over the last two weeks and there is a calm, rigorous and purposeful atmosphere across the school. There is a key focus on English and Maths and the standards our children achieve. However, we are still ensuring all children experience a broad and balanced curriculum which has always been part of the Monty ethos.

Last week myself, Mr Boxall and Peter Vickery (Chair of Governors) had our first meeting with a representative from the Local Authority. Via an initiative the school is involved with called 'Keys To Success' which is as a result of the school being judged as 'Requires Improvement' by Ofsted in February. Those of you who attended the parents forum will know that these meetings will take place every half term to check on our progress of improving the school towards good. This meeting explored the many actions we have taken as a school over the last 7 months as well as continuing to challenge us to improve further. It was a positive and robust experience and we look forward to our next meeting in November.

We had the first of our 'Meet the Teacher' events yesterday when the Y6 staff presented their outline and expectations for the year ahead. I hope those who attended found it useful. The rest of the year groups (apart from EYFS) are next week and we look forward to seeing you.

Jason Edge

Head of School

Macmillan Coffee and Cake - 28th September

We are having a coffee and cake session for Macmillan Cancer Support on Thursday 28th September at 2pm in the cafe. Staff and FOMs will be donating cakes but if there are any parents who would also like to donate cakes then that would be fantastic. Please give them into the school office.

'Meet The Teacher' Event, Y1- Y6

As a way of giving a better idea of what and how the children learn in each class, we are setting up 'Meet The Teacher' events.

Both class teachers from each year group will give a short presentation on the curriculum in their year, expectations and other important information. There will then be a chance to speak to the class teachers afterwards if there is anything you wish to notify them about. We hope it will 'demystify' what the children are doing at school.

All meetings will start at 3:45 pm. Please come to the designated classroom at 3:30 pm.

Y1: Monday 25th September (Beech classroom)

Y2: Tuesday 26th September (Cherry classroom)

Y3: Wednesday 27th September (Rowan classroom)

Y4: Thursday 28th September (Larch classroom)

Y5: Tuesday 3rd October (Willow classroom)

Learning Ambassadors

We are having a 'reboot' of our learning ambassadors system which was first introduced the academic year before last. Children can earn certificates and badges for being an independent, adventurous, reflective, critical, curious, focused, collaborative and lead learner. Each week in our whole school assembly on a Monday we will be discussing one of them, starting with 'independent learner' this Monday.

School Garden Volunteer

Mr Vickery, our Chair of Governors, currently helps to maintain our school garden alongside a small group of children. However, due to other pressures on his time, he is looking to pass this responsibility onto another volunteer by the end of the autumn term.

A small amount of time is needed during school hours and any volunteer will need an enhanced DBS check. Please contact the school office if you are able to help.

Alison Jordan

Following Alison's sad death in June, the staff are currently close to agreeing a way in which all members of our school family can remember her. We will let you know when this decision has been made.

Playgroup

We have a playgroup in the cafe every Thursday from 9 - 10:30 am with refreshments and toys for pre-school children in a very relaxed and friendly atmosphere! Please do come along!

Parking

We have had a complaint from a local resident about illegal/ inconsiderate parking. If you do drive, please consider the local restrictions and our neighbours. Thank you.

EYFS Parents Meetings

Miss Dyke, Mrs Brown and Mrs Dart wish to thank all new Reception parents for their time and for such positive parent meetings this week! It has been great to find out more about your families and talk about how well the new children are settling into our school. Next week, Mrs Ridout and Mrs Hill are looking forward to having meetings with the Nursery parents.

Medical Appointments

We have had several parents take the whole day off school for a morning or afternoon appointment. Children should be in school after or prior to the appointment. If they do not attend after or prior to the appointment, then it will be marked as unauthorised absence.

Mrs Wing

You may remember that at the end of the Summer Term, Mr Wing left us for sunnier climes in Dubai. Mrs Wing is all set to go out and join him at October half-term which means she will be leaving her role as SENCO here. We will be very sad to see Mrs Wing go and she has worked extremely hard with many of our Monty families over the last few years. We are pleased to say that Mrs Way has been working alongside Mrs Wing since September and attending many meetings with families and other

professionals so that she can become our new SENCO from November.

Studio Equipment

Much of our equipment for the children to use and play with is damaged or incomplete. If any of you have toys such as Lego, Duplo and Playmobil in good condition that you wish to donate, please give to the school office or speak to Mrs Battershall.

E-Safety

E-safety is very much a hot topic in education at the moment, 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 will be giving you links to e-safety websites that you can look at and discuss with your child via our newsletters. This week's is from the NSPCC <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

Dates for your diary

Autumn term 1st half: 5th September - 13th October

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

Friends of Montgomery (FOMS), new members meeting and AGM: 25th September: 6.30 - 8.00 pm

FOMs disco: 12th October

Non- uniform day: 13th October

FOMs fireworks display: 9th November

Parent forum with Mr Edge: TBA in November

Christmas Fair: 1st December

KS2 SATs week: 14th - 18th May

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