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# MONTGOMERY NEWS

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Montgomery Primary School | Friday 11th May 2018

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**We are at the time of year where lots of external assessments of the children are taking place- Y2 and Y6 (who have their SATs week next week) in particular. Last week, I wrote to year 6 parents outlining my views on SATs, which I would like to share with a wider audience:**

‘Our school was graded as ‘Requires Improvement’ by Ofsted in February 2017. Much of the report centred on the fact that the children at Montgomery needed to make better progress. When we are re-inspected (likely to be towards the end of the next academic year), the Year 6 results from this will form a key part of the discussions as a barometer of how children achieve across the school generally. Therefore the importance placed upon these results for us as a school cannot be underestimated.

It would have been very tempting for us a school to narrow our curriculum down to English and Maths at the expense of doing subjects such as PE, Art or Music in order to boost the children towards higher SATs scores. We have taken the decision as a school not to follow this path, despite many schools who are in a similar position doing just that. As a head, I believe it is every child’s right to have a broad and balanced curriculum and that belief will not shift regardless of the emphasis on a set of test scores and its effect on any possible inspection outcomes. I am sure that as parents you agree with my stance on this.

Finally, we are all incredibly proud of the fantastic progress the children have made in Year 6 this year. They have shown a mature attitude to the learning and I know that they have done their very best. SATs results should not, and will not, define them as people. My thanks also to all the adults involved in their learning this year- they too have done their very best!

**While this is particularly pertinent to Year 6, I would like to stress that this is my beliefs for all year groups and we will continue to provide a broad and balanced curriculum which our children deserve.**

**Jason Edge**  
Head of School

## Census Day- Thursday 17th May

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We have a special menu on this day- a Royal wedding party themed lunch:

Sausage rolls and chicken nuggets  
or  
Cheese and onion pasty and veggie nuggets

Crisps  
Cucumber and carrot sticks  
Grapes and pineapple

Ice lolly for dessert with fruit squash to drink.

## Whole School Photograph- Wednesday 23rd May

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Please let the school office know if you do not wish your child to be photographed.

## Non- Uniform Day

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We will be having a non-uniform day on Friday 25th May (last day before half term) for Devon Air Ambulance who will also be doing a whole school assembly on Monday.

## Bake Sales

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These have raised a fantastic £369! Thanks to all those who have donated (and bought) cakes!

## E-Safety

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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:

[www.vodafone.com/content/digital-parenting.html/#](http://www.vodafone.com/content/digital-parenting.html/#)

## Summer Fair

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Our annual Summer Fair takes place on Friday 13th July. Fingers crossed for good weather!

## Year 6 SATs breakfast

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To help the children have a relaxed start to the day, we would like to offer our traditional 'Year 6 SATs breakfast' in the school hall from 8:20am. Toast, cereal, fresh fruit, milk, water or juice - the Y6 children are very welcome to eat with us or just pop in to have a chat with their Year 6 friends and teachers.

## Half Marathon Running Challenge

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We have got 16 children taking part in the Exeter City Community Trust half - marathon running challenge on Sunday 20th May. The race starts at 9.15am from the Exwick Sports Hub. It would be amazing to have support from the Monty community, to encourage and cheer on the Monty Milers that are taking part and representing the school.

## Compost Workshop

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On Friday Year 4 had a compost workshop, Demelza from the council came in and told children all about how to make compost, what you can put in a compost bin and the mini beasts that live in compost to help break the waste down. Then the children got to search through compost with magnifying glasses to investigate these mini beasts further.

In the afternoon, Demelza took the children outside for a min beast hunt in our own garden. We are hoping that now we know how compost works we can work together to create more for our outside school area to help the school environment.



## A Monty Wedding!

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On Wednesday 16th May, the children in EYFS will be celebrating the upcoming forthcoming royal wedding by holding their own Monty wedding at the St Thomas Methodist Church! The children will be dressed and acting out a wedding ceremony. This will be in school time and is for the reception classes; the Nursery children will have a special wedding party at school and will all join for a celebration at the end of the day! Look out for the wedding photos on the blog.

## Foodbank- A message from our School Parliament

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The manager of Exeter Foodbank came to our school assembly on Monday 30th April.

You can bring in some food to donate to people who can't afford it. They store food at the Orange Elephant until a family who needs it takes it home. All food has to be dried, tinned and longline.

**Please bring in your donation by Thursday 17th May.** Some families find it very hard to afford their food. Even if you donate 1 can of baked beans you could make a difference. On busy weeks they give away about a tonne of food (that is the same weight as a fully grown polar bear!) Every week Exeter Foodbank give food to over 100 people. Last year they gave food to over 5000 people, including 17000 children.

Top priority items : Rice (500g) and loo rolls  
Medium priority items: Rice pudding tins, fish (tuna) tins, tinned meat balls, pasta sauce, noodles and pasta snacks, sponge puddings, milk-UHT, semi-skimmed & instant coffee.

We look forward to receiving your generous donations!

Written by Frankie Richardson (year 3)

## Key Stage 2 Sports Day- Date Change!!

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Our sincere apologies but due to a clash with Year 6 transition, Key Stage 2 Sports Day will now be held on Wednesday 11th July, not the 5th as published in the last newsletter.

## Dates for your diary

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

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

School Census Special Dinner Menu: Thursday 17th May

KS2 SATs week: 14th- 18th May

Whole School Photograph: Wednesday 23rd May

Non- Uniform Day: Friday 25th May (for Devon Air Ambulance)

Y1 Phonics Screening Week: 11th-15th June

EYFS/ KS1 Sports Day: Wednesday 4th July

KS2 Sports Day: Wednesday 11th July

## Contact Us

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