

# MONTGOMERY NEWS



Montgomery Primary School | Friday 7th September 2018

**Welcome back! Sadly the heatwave of June/July seems a distant memory now as we move into the autumnal weather.**

**It was wonderful to see our reception children starting 'Big School' for the first time on Tuesday. They looked extremely smart and they certainly seem to have settled well, as have all our children. There were lots of successes at Monty last year and we are all looking forward to building on them this year.**

**I have had a couple of queries about the changes to lunchtimes and this is outlined below. The changes have been hugely positive but please do ask a member of the senior leadership team if you have any questions.**

**I have also spent a long time this week confirming dates for the rest of term so please do check some key ones at the bottom of the newsletter (including Christmas performances- eek!).**

**Jason Edge  
Head of School**

## Absence Email

If you would like to email the school to notify us if your child is absent we have now set up a separate email address: [montgomeryattendance@ecfschools.org.uk](mailto:montgomeryattendance@ecfschools.org.uk)

## Playgroup

We have a playgroup in the School Cafe every Thursday from 9:00 - 10:30am. A lovely relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Please come along we would love to meet you!

## Secondary school applications

It is that time of year when our Year 6 parents need to make their child's application for secondary school. Parents can make their application from the 1st September - 31st October.

## EYFS

Welcome to all our Nursery and Reception children in EYFS! The children have made a super start this week and we are delighted by how well they are settling already. The rest of the school is looking forward to meeting the children as the weeks progress!

Please do not hesitate to speak with your child's teacher or any member of the EYFS team if you have any queries:

- Dandelion class (Nursery) - Miss Pratt (Mon-Wed) and Mrs Ridout (Wed - Fri)
- Sunflower class (Reception YR) - Miss Pollard
- Daisy class (Reception YR) - Miss Dingle
- EYFS teaching assistants - Mrs Rowland, Mrs Smith, Mrs Brook, Miss Howe
- EYFS lead/assistant head - Mrs Harman

## Meet the teacher, Years 1-6

Last year we ran 'Meet the teacher' meetings at the start of the autumn term for years 1-6.

Following the success of them, we will be running them again. The two class teachers from each year group will give a short presentation on the curriculum and expectations of that year group and be on-hand to answer any questions afterwards. Each session will begin at 3:30pm

Date	Year Group	Classroom
Monday 10th Sept	2	Apple
Tuesday 11th Sept	5	Willow
Thursday 13th Sep	1	Beech
Tuesday 18th Sept	3	Rowan
Thursday 20th Sept	4	Elder
Monday 24th Sept	6	Sycamore

## Lunchtimes

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We have changed our lunchtime system in the school whereby Key Stage 2 go out to play first before eating in the second half of lunch. The overall time of 1 hour for lunch and the time given for eating for children is still the same as is the time for playing.

What it does mean is that lunchtime finishes at the same time for the whole school rather than having three separate times for EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 which had previously caused difficulties in terms of staffing. This is now at a higher ratio and also some children were in lessons while others were playing outside which can be distracting. The system has also improved behaviour with children 'letting off steam' before coming into the hall with a calm, sociable atmosphere. As ever, we will monitor this.

## Free School Meals

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### Free School Meals and Pupil Premium Children

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they may also be entitled to a sum of money paid to their school to boost their learning.

**If your child qualifies for free school meals, it's important that you tell their school** – even if they take a packed lunch – as this enables them to claim pupil premium.

### Is Your Child Eligible?

Schools are given a pupil premium for:

- Children who have qualified for free school meals at any point in the past six years. The school receives £1320 for each of these children.
- Children who are/or have been looked after under local authority care for more than one day. These children are awarded a premium of £2300.
- Children from service families who receive a child pension from the Ministry of Defence. They are awarded £300.

**In March 2018 the Government announced that free school meals would only be available to children in KS2 whose families have a net income of £7400 or under, effective from 1 April 2018.** If your child was previously entitled to free school meals but is no longer, they will still receive pupil premium based on the 'Ever 6' qualification (a pupil who has ever had free school meals in the past six years).

### How to Claim Pupil Premium

Prior to April 2018, children qualified for free school meals – and accordingly pupil premium – if you received any of the following benefits:

- Income support
- Income-based jobseekers' allowance
- Income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of state pension credit
- Child tax credit, provided that you are not also entitled to working tax credit and have an annual gross income of £16,190 or less

These benefits have now been rolled into a single benefit, called Universal Credit. From April 2018, free school meals and pupil premium will only be allocated to pupils with a family income under £7400 (net) per year.

Your child's school will be able to tell you what you need to do to register your child as eligible.

Since September 2014, all children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 have qualified for **free school meals**, regardless of their family income, but only the children who would qualify for free meals under the above income-based criteria will receive the pupil premium.

To complete the application process follow this link

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/eyscs/for-providers/business-finance-and-funding/early-years-pupil-premium/>

If you wish to come into school and use a school computer to make the application, make an appointment to see Dave Woodland on any Monday morning, who will help with the process.

### New arrivals!

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We are delighted to announce that Mrs Morris safely had a baby girl on 31st August named Jemimah. Mr Bruce's wife also gave birth to Sophia on 14th August. Congratulations to both families and we look forward to meeting them very soon!

## FOMS

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Please like our FOMS Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/friendsofmontgomeryschool/>

We also have a school Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/montgomeryprimaryschool/>

*Meet the FoMS!*  
**THURSDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER - 6:30PM**

**Would you like to know a little bit more  
about what we do and how we help the school?**

**Would you be interested in helping  
out at events from time to time?**

**COME ALONG AND MEET US IN THE SCHOOL  
CAFE - REFRESHMENTS & NIBBLES PROVIDED!**

**FOLLOWED BY**  
*Friends of Montgomery School*  
**AGM**  
**7:30PM IN THE SCHOOL CAFE**



## Dates for your diary

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Meet the teacher: dates as above

10th/11th October: Reception parents evening

15th-26th October: Half-term

26th/28th November: Y1-Y6 parents evening

5th/6th December: EYFS nativity performance

12th/13th December: KS1 Christmas performance

18th/ 19th/ 20th December: KS2 Christmas performance

21st December: End of autumn term

## Contact Us

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Tel: 01392 285240

Email: [montgomeryadmin@ecfschools.org.uk](mailto:montgomeryadmin@ecfschools.org.uk)

Reporting absence:

[montgomeryattendance@ecfschools.org.uk](mailto:montgomeryattendance@ecfschools.org.uk)