



February 23rd 2018 Issue 21

### **Welcome back and enabling work**

I hope you and your children had a nice half term and managed to spend some time together.

I am sure many of you will have been surprised by the appearance of our school with trees and bushes having been cut down and large piles of earth around the site! These enabling works need to take place. The excavation on the field is to create a new car park which will be larger and be much better for health and safety on site, giving more room for staff and school visitor's cars away from the children.

The work will also mean that the drainage of the field will improve, allowing us to use it much more often. I will keep you updated with the different developments as the project progresses.

### **Maths Parents Information Sessions**

It was good to see a number of our parents/carers and grandparents attend the Maths Information Sessions on Thursday with Mrs Bartoli, Miss Blackburn and myself. Maths is a passion of mine and is such an important subject used in every-day life and in many jobs. The higher expectations of the new curriculum will stand our children in good stead for the future and by working closely with parents we can help support our children as much as possible. Copies of the information can be found on the website by following the link:- <http://montablopri8402442.wp-sch.durham.gov.uk/maths-meetings-for-parents/>

### **Parents' Evening**

Our Spring term Parents' Evenings are on 14th and 15th March. During the Autumn term, almost 100% of parents attended the Parents' Evening which was great to see. If you would like to make an appointment, please phone or call in at the School Office. Parents of Nursery and Reception can see Mrs Bartoli or phone to make an appointment.

### **Miss Lauder's Class Assembly**

We have changed the order of class assemblies a little and Miss Lauder's Class will be the next one on Wednesday 28th March at 9am. Parents/carers and grandparents are welcome to attend and we look forward to seeing you then.

### **30 Hour Provision and Open Afternoon for Nursery**

From September, we will be able to offer 30 hour childcare for eligible 3-4 year olds.

We would like to invite any parents who may be interested in seeing our Nursery provision for their 3 year olds to an Open Afternoon on Tuesday April 24th. Mrs Bartoli and Mrs Patterson will set up some activities for your child to enjoy and you can talk to the staff about the provision.

### **World Book Day**

World Book Day is on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> March this year. We will be celebrating our love of books in school with an exhibition of children's work in the school hall from 3pm until 5.30pm on Thursday. All work will be inspired by the story *'The Flower'* by John Light and you are welcome to wander around the hall to look at all of the work. The teachers have put a lot of thought into this and I hope you are able to visit.

During the week we will be having visits from the librarians and the children will also be taking part in lots of book related activities in their classes.

The children and staff are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character.

### Box Fit

Due to World Book Day exhibition of children's work in the hall, Box Fit will take place on the yard so please send your child with some warm PE wear for this session. Thank you.

### Mother's Day

On Friday 9th March we will be celebrating Mother's Day in school. Last year it was very busy in the hall so this year we will use the hall, Miss Richardson's and Dr Greenwell's classrooms to give us more space. Mums/carers and grandmothers are welcome to attend and it will be lovely to see many of you in school from 1.30pm.

### Head lice

We have had some cases of head lice reported in school. Please check your child's hair regularly and ensure that they are treated if necessary. Thank you.

### Culinary skills

Earlier in the year, Dr Greenwell's class learned some new culinary skills and this week Miss Blackburn's class have been chopping, grating and cooking. They have thoroughly enjoyed these activities and this adds to our very creative curriculum.

### Cool Milk

The government provide free milk to children in school up to age 5, which we give to children. Parents of children who are over 5 can purchase milk through the cool milk scheme, which your child would then receive each day. If you would be interested in this then please follow the link which has more details.

<http://www.montalbo.durham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/82/2014/07/School-Milk-Parent-Letter.pdf>

### Water bottles

Please can parents send water bottles filled only with water. Thank you.

### Attendance for w.b. 19.2.18

Class	Present
Mrs Bartoli's Reception	100%
Miss Lauder's Class	92.3%
Miss Blackburn's Class	92.3%
Dr Greenwell's Class	97.2%
Miss Richardson's Class	98.1%
School Total	95.5%

### Dates for the diary

Thursday March 1 <sup>st</sup>	World Book Day – exhibition for parents any time between 3pm and 5.30pm
March 9 <sup>th</sup>	Mother's Day event in school 1.30pm
March 14 <sup>th</sup> and 15 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Evening
March 19 <sup>th</sup>	Miss Lauder's Class Football at the Alun Armstrong Centre 9.30-11.30am
March 20 <sup>th</sup>	Miss Richardson's Class Multiskills at Staindrop Academy 9.30-11.30am
March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Reception Festival at Staindrop Academy 9.30-11.30am
March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Football League Matches (KS2) at Staindrop Academy
March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Clarinetists to Teesdale for a Music Workshop
March 28 <sup>th</sup>	Miss Lauder's Class Assembly at 9am
March 28 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Egg Raffle for children
March 29 <sup>th</sup>	Teacher Training Day

Mr Minikin

Head Teacher

### Punctuality

Please ensure that your child arrives at school no later than 8.55a.m. in order to make a prompt start for lessons. Remember Wake Up, Shake Up usually starts at 8.45a.m. 35 minutes of learning was lost to lateness this week.