



January 25th 2019 Issue 18

Year 5 Class Assembly

This morning Year 5 entertained and educated us in their Class Assembly. They have learnt a great deal this year and showcased their knowledge of World War 1 through their work on the class text, War Horse. They also demonstrated some WW1 dancing and sang in English and German. We learnt many historical facts and heard a conversation in French between two soldiers. We saw an excellent 'Newsround' clip where the presenters told us about animals in the war.

Then we moved on to this term's learning around Space and heard many facts about the sun and planets within our solar system using narrated animation. The children shared some fabulous artwork and demonstrated the breadth of the curriculum at Montalbo so well. Well done to all of the children and thank you to Mrs Leonard, Mrs McIntyre, Mrs Wood and Mrs Kicks for their work towards this. Thank you to the many parents and family members who were able to join us.

Valentine's Disco

Friends of School are making arrangements for a Valentine's Disco again this year. Tickets will be available at the start of February and the format will be similar to previous years. Nursery/Reception and Key Stage 1 (Year 1 and 2) disco will be 5.30pm-6.30pm and Key Stage 2 (Year 3 upwards) will be from 6.45pm to 7.45pm. Tickets will be £1.50 and include hot dog and a drink.

FOMS Treat – Chinese New Year Dragon Dance!

After our Friends of Montalbo School meeting this week, it was agreed that Friends would fund a visit from a Chinese Dance Group to celebrate Chinese New Year on February 5th. This will be a spectacular event that will incorporate the dragon and other traditional Chinese customs. The dragon symbolises good luck, long life and wisdom and after watching the dance Key Stage 2 children will take part in a series of workshops to produce their own dance. We plan to do a range of activities in school to educate the children on this special day and it promises to be a memorable occasion. Thank you to Mrs Leonard for arranging this.

Year 6 Residential

Miss Richardson has been busy searching for suitable venues for a residential visit for our Year 6s after SATs. We like to try different options each year and this year she has chosen Ford Castle in Northumberland. To give you more information, we would like to invite Year 6 parents and children to an information session at 5.30pm on Tuesday February 5th. We hope that you are able to join us.

Cleaner Wanted

Due to the extension works at the front of school, we require an additional 10 cleaning hours (2 hours per day). If you would be interested in this post, details can be found on the school website homepage <http://www.montalbo.durham.sch.uk/> or by contacting the school office.

Space Camp

A reminder for Year 3 and Year 4 children and parents that Space Camp is on Thursday 31st January. On Thursday, children will go home after school in their usual way and return to school for 6pm having had their tea. Dr Greenwell has attached the powerpoint from the parent information session to the latest news section of the school website <http://www.montalbo.durham.sch.uk/space-camp-presentation/> which will remind you of the kit list that you are asked to bring when you drop your child off. Year 3 and 4 parents are invited to see an assembly on Friday 1st February at 1.30pm and may want to take their tired children home afterwards!

Mammal Web

As well as being able to use some amazing space resources, Dr Greenwell has secured for school a motion camera which will be able to monitor wildlife on the site. We will load the information on to the

Mammal Web so that their distribution can be monitored and it is another great resource for school to keep. I will let you know what we spot once the builders have gone.

Extension Update

Hopefully, over the weekend the scaffolding will be taken down towards the front of school and a path can be made to the new entrance. This is important as we need to move into the new School Office and my new room to allow Key Stage 1 classes to move into vacated spaces.

The School Office and Head Teacher's room are almost ready, with the phone lines being the last part to be activated nearer the half term holidays. The revamped Nursery and new Reception classes need a few finishing touches next week before more furniture arrives. The flooring is almost complete.

The builders' area will start to be cleared over the next couple of weeks and the area will be turned back to grass. The grassed area will be fenced off too.

The weeks before half term are a logistical challenge as we strive to ensure that things continue to run smoothly whilst all this moving is going on!

OurSchoolsApp

Remember that updates are often given on OurSchoolsApp. This app can be downloaded to any smartphone or tablet. Once downloaded, search for our school and press OK. Notifications will then be sent to your device.

Attendance for w.b.

Class	Present
Reception	83.7%
Year 1	98.9%
Year 2	98.8%
Year 3	97%
Year 4	97.5%
Year 5	91.5%
Year 6	98.8%

School overall attendance 95%

Please ensure that your child arrives at school no later than 8.55a.m. in order to make a prompt start for lessons.

150 minutes of learning was lost to lateness this week. I think this was due to the cold mornings so please leave enough time for your journey. Thank you.

Dates for the diary

January 31st/1 st February	Space Camp – evening sleepover drop off at 6pm.
February 1 st	Assembly for Year 3 and Year 4 parents/families.
February 5 th	Chinese New Year Dance and workshops
February 5 th	Year 6 Information session about residential 5.30pm
February 12 th	Valentine's Disco Nursery/Reception Y 1 and Y2 5.30-6.30pm Y3,4,5 and 6 6.45-7.45pm
February 13 th	Year 6 Netball festival
February 14 th	Year 2 Multiskills Festival
February 15 th	Dr Greenwell's Class Assembly
February 15 th	Band Workshop
February 18 th – 22 nd	Half term
February 25 th	2 nd Half Term Begins
February 28 th	All Star Cricket Y1-3 (every Thursday for 6 weeks)
March 15 th	Miss Scott's Class Assembly
March 26 th and 27 th	Parents' Evenings

Mr Minikin

Head Teacher