

MONTALBO NURSERY & PRIMARY SCHOOL

...Climbing to Success!

September 9th 2016 Issue 1

Welcome Back

I would like to welcome everyone back to school for our brand new academic year. We have many exciting events and activities planned for 2016-17 as we strive to provide the very best possible provision for the children. The teaching staff have been in a great deal over the summer and the classrooms look great!

New Starters

Our new Nursery and Reception children have made a great start to their school lives over the last few days. I am sure that they will enjoy a fantastic year. We also are delighted to welcome several children joining us from other schools. Finally, good luck to Miss Connolly (Foundation Teaching Assistant), Mr Foster (Sports Apprentice), Mrs C Wood (Breakfast Club and Lunchtime Supervisor), Miss Lauder (Class 1) and Dr Greenwell (Class 3) as they join the team.

Dinner Money

School dinners now cost £2 per meal or £10 for a whole week. Please send it to school in a named envelope. Payments can be cash or cheque with cheques made payable to Durham County Council.

Website - www.montalbo.durham.sch.uk

The website is becoming a more useful tool for children and parents. I will endeavour to keep the Headteacher's blog, latest news, calendar and School Office sections up to date. Miss Blackburn will update Foundation Stage, Class 1 and Class 2 and Miss Richardson will keep Class 3 and 4 up to date.

Photographer

A photographer has visited school today to help update some of the canvases we have in the hall. These photographs represent the values we have chosen at Montalbo and will look fantastic.

Parking

Please try and be considerate when dropping your children off at school. Several people are parking on the junction of Fairfield Road and Montalbo Road which causes a hazard.

Roald Dahl

Tuesday is Roald Dahl Day. To celebrate the great author's birthday we are having a Roald Dahl's themed week! The children do not need to dress up but will have a lot of fun throughout the week.

Writing Success

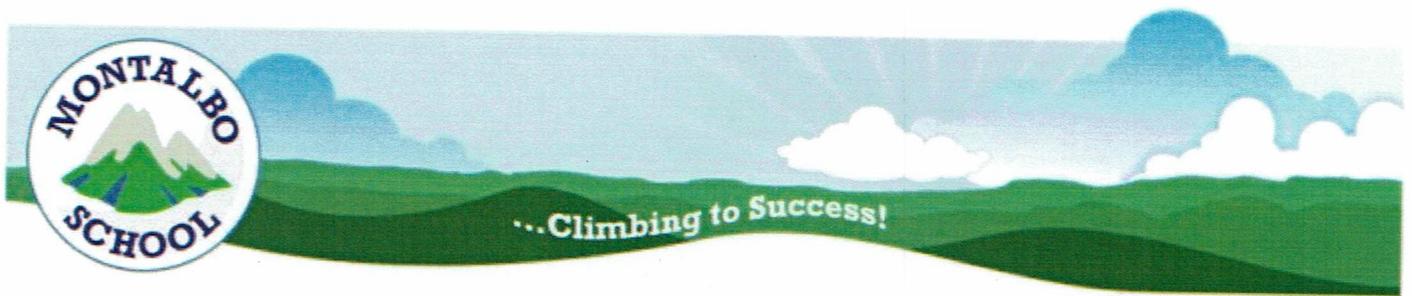
Congratulations to William in Class 2 for his success in the Short Story Competition ran by the Witham Hall over the Summer Term. We were thrilled for him and the newspaper article about him is on our 'In The News Board'.

Swimming for Class 4

Swimming will take place for Class 4 on Thursday 15th September. Children will need swimming costumes and a towel each Thursday until 8th December.

After School Clubs

After school clubs start next week. You can collect a form from the office if you haven't received one. If you'd prefer Miss Blackburn has set up an electronic version on the website. Follow the path from our website www.montalbo.durham.sch.uk – pupils – school clubs, fill in the boxes and press submit. There will be a prize for the first parent to use this! Unfortunately, due to safety limits, Gymnastics is full.



MacMillan Coffee Afternoon

Mrs Ridley will be organising a MacMillan Coffee Afternoon from 2pm on Friday September 30th 2016. All parents, grandparents, friends and family are welcome. Further details will follow shortly but if you would be able to help out in any way please see Mrs Ridley. Thank you.

Water Bottles/Names in Uniforms

Please provide your children with a named water bottle. It is really helpful if all school clothing has your child's name in. Thank you.

Attendance

The government has recently asked schools to promote attendance and the links between good attendance and achievement. Some of the statistics are quite surprising. For example, if a child has a 90% attendance, then that equates to half a year's absence over their primary education. We are going to celebrate and reward 100% attendance each half term.

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. too.

PE Kits

Please ensure your child has the correct PE kit in school with the appropriate fitting footwear too.

Foundation Stage - PE on Thursday

Class 1 - PE on Monday and Thursday

Class 2 - PE on Tuesday and Thursday

Class 3 - PE on Tuesday and Friday

Class 4 - PE on Wednesday and Thursday (Swimming)

Meet the Teacher

On September 26th you have the chance to drop in to school between 3.30pm and 5.30pm to meet and talk to your child's new teacher. This is quite informal and no appointments are needed.

Application for a School Place (Secondary School) for September 2017

A letter will be sent out on Monday informing Y6 parents of the process for applying for a secondary school place. The application process opens on 12th September and closes on 31st October.

Dates for your Diary

September 12-16 Roald Dahl Themed Week

September 15th Swimming starts

September 26th Meet the Teacher

September 30th MacMillan Coffee Afternoon

October 6th Class 4 to the Bowes Museum WW1 Project

October 18th Class 4 Rugby Festival at Teesdale School

October 21st Class 4 Assembly 9.00a.m.

October 24th-28th Half term

Mr Minikin

Head Teacher