



International School Award
2011-2014



Final Summer Term Newsletter 2013



BLOSSOM & GROW AT MONTALBO

Last Friday we had our first monitoring visit by HMI (Her Majesty's Inspectorate). The Inspector was quality assured by a colleague to ensure the visit was robust. The Inspector found that the action plan drawn up by the Governing Body was 'FIT FOR PURPOSE'. He stated that all necessary actions to bring about rapid school improvement were in place. He will in due course write a letter to this effect which will be added to the Ofsted website alongside our report.

He stated that he felt significant progress had already been made to ensure standards across all classes continue to rise. He met with School Staff, Governors and most importantly the children to gauge their views on actions already implemented. When asked what they were most proud of the group of pupils interviewed stated "our teachers". They were asked about their targets, work, safety and care. When questioned about the school they said that it was a safe place where everybody treated each other like you would wish to be treated. They felt there was no bullying but admitted that occasionally friends fall out but were clear that in their eyes this was not bullying.

One child described being at Montalbo like being home. The Inspector described all pupils he talked to in classes as being confident, enthusiastic about their learning and articulate – a credit to us was a phrase he used. He will return in the Autumn term to measure progress against actions taken and the impact on learning.

Special thanks to Mr Shipman Mrs Thompson, Mrs Mutton & Mrs Cole for giving their valuable time on a hot day to talk with our Inspector

Special thanks to all the ladies who organised & helped out at the discos on Tuesday evening and to Mr Tallentire who once again gave his services free. There were some lovely cakes to compliment the hot dogs –so on behalf of all the children many, many thanks. They all had a good time!

**FRIENDS OF MONTALBO MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO EVERYONE IN SCHOOL.
We appreciate all you do for us**

STAFFING CHANGES

As you are all aware this term brings changes to our school team. We say goodbye to Mr Howell and wish him well as he moves onto pastures new. Miss Metcalfe also leaves after two terms as Mrs Donaldson returns from Maternity leave.

We advertised for a Y3/4 teacher to join our Senior Leadership team to improve reading & writing across school but were unsuccessful and will therefore re advertise this post in early September

In September the Y3/4 class will be taught by Ruth Fearn. A separate letter has already been sent to current Y2 and Y3 parents whose children will be directly affected. I can reassure you all that this teacher has excellent references and her teaching ability substantiated by Head teacher colleagues.

To support all classes next year some staff will move to different areas:-

Nursery will be taught by Mrs Taylor ~& supported by Mrs Patterson, Mrs Kicks 2 days per week & Mrs Eilbeck one afternoon per week.

Reception children will be taught by Mrs Ridley & supported by Mrs Wood on a full time basis.

Y1/2 will be taught by Mrs Donaldson & supported by Mrs Eilbeck 4 ½ full days per week. Year 3 /4 will be taught by Miss Fearn & supported by Mrs Rudge

Y 5/6 will be taught by Mrs Pannett and supported by Mrs McIntyre

TOKENS TOTALS for SUMMER TERM

GREEN 36 points

RED on 32 points

YELLOW on 32 points

BLUE on 21 points

OVERALL WINNER OVER THE YEAR FOR MOST POINTS

GREEN with 94 points

(Red 90 pts, Yellow 84 pts & Blue 77 pts)

WHEN BUYING EQUIPMENT/ UNIFORM etc FOR SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER

Think carefully – Can your child fasten the laces/buckles on shoes or would Velcro be better?

Are the shoes dark in colour & suitable for school not the catwalk?

Has your child a warm coat for playtimes?

Could they bring in wellies so they can access the grass & school garden?

Are all clothes & belongings clearly labelled?

Has your child a water bottle?

Is their PE kit complete and available in school?

Avoid large school bags –the cloakroom space is cramped. A school book bag or document bag is much better as A4 paper fits better.

We will not tolerate breaches in school uniform or children who are ill equipped for each school day from September. There will be sanctions imposed for these and incomplete homework etc –so be warned. We need you all to help us in our journey of improvement.

Things to do over the summer holidays –so get your thinking caps on, equipment at the ready and.....

- Learn a new word & its meaning every day
- Practise spelling high frequency words & spelling patterns appropriate to your age
- Visit the Lindisfarne Gospel exhibition
- Find out & draw/write about St Cuthbert
- Make a collage of tickets, wrappers etc to describe your Summer holiday fun
- Calculate the cost of all the ice creams you eat
- Keep a holiday journal
- Read at least 6 books –write a short book review on some of these.
- Learn to tell the time digitally & using analogue clocks –converting between the two.
- Speed up your mental maths
- Learn a new skill

BRING YOUR EVIDENCE & I'LL SEE YOU GET A PRIZE

COME DINE WITH ME & other cookery news

On Wednesday Olivia, Clarice and Niamh W. accompanied me to the 'Ready Steady Cook Off' & to hear who had won the competition.

Whilst we were not successful in the categories our children thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Olivia even got to be a taster.

Mrs McIntyre & a group of Y5 and 6s made some delicious scones for a lovely afternoon tea treat.

The Y5s & 6s had a great time at the Crown Mickleton learning how to make ice cream and eating a delicious lunch. They made thank you cards following their visit.

This week Y3 and 4s have taken part in some bridge building challenges and have also produced some great Aboriginal artwork.

Reports were sent out and many parents have responded by filling in the parental comments slip. Please take the time & trouble to do so.

You should also have received notification of what level your child is currently working at, what is age appropriate and so you can understand whether your child is working at/above/below National expectations. Every term this will be updated & sent to you so you can monitor progress and understand if they're on track, under achieving or are making better than expected progress. We hope the covering letter made the levels understandable. Should you require any clarification please see us in September.

MAY I WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY FUN PACKED SUMMER & THANK EVERYONE FOR THEIR SUPPORT OF OUR SCHOOL, ITS VALUES AND ASPIRATIONS. See you all on Wednesday 3rd September!