



MONTALBO NURSERY & PRIMARY SCHOOL

...Climbing to Success!

March 10th 2017 Issue 23

Garden Update

The first phase of the garden redevelopment took place this week with the removal of tree stumps, bushes, a shed, broken fences and more. The site was then levelled where possible and new fences erected around two sides of the garden. I have been impressed with Kevin Tatchley and his team who have worked very hard and worked alongside me to make sure children are safe whilst the work is going on. I would also like to thank James Rowlandson, Town Councillor, who agreed to the funding for this phase. The garden now looks much bigger and over the coming months it will be developed into a tremendous space for the children to use. I am extremely grateful to Mrs Abi Smith for the many hours she has put in applying for funding, arranging meetings, speaking with contractors and discussing ideas with me to enable this to go ahead.

OurSchoolApp

Hopefully, many of you will have downloaded 'OurSchoolApp' to your mobile phones or other devices and I know from talking to parents that they feel it is working well. Thank you to Mrs Collin who is running this application from school.

Parents' Evening Appointments

Parents' Evenings have been timetabled over three days again to allow plenty of time for you to meet and talk with your child's teacher. The dates are Monday 20th March, Tuesday 21st March and Wednesday 22nd March and you can arrange a 10 minute slot between 3.40pm to 5.50pm. Please arrange this via the School Office. Thank you.

Mother's Day Afternoon Tea

We would like to invite Mums and grandmothers in to school on March 24th at 2pm for Mother's Day Afternoon tea. If you are unable to make it, another female relative could attend. We hope you can join us then.

Easter Egg Raffle

The Friends of Montalbo School are organising an Easter Egg Raffle on Friday 7th April. They are asking for a donation of an Easter Egg as on the last Friday, the eggs will be raffled. Raffle tickets cost 50p each and can be bought on the day by the children. The idea is that the children sit in the hall with the raffle tickets and go and collect their prize once it's drawn. The more eggs we receive, the more children can win!

Sports Hall Athletics

On Wednesday I went with Mrs Dupuy and Class 4 to a Sports Hall Athletics Level 2 Sainsbury's School Games event at Teesdale Leisure Centre. The class competed in many relays of different lengths, obstacle races, throwing and jumping competitions and really enjoyed competing against other schools. They won many of their heats and took part in each event with enthusiasm. Well done Class 4.

Silver Sainsbury's School Games Award

I was very pleased to receive this award this week which is recognition of the school's work to try and engage children in sporting competition and out of hours physical exercise. This is high on the government's agenda and I am certain we can achieve the gold award next year. Well done to all of the children and special thanks to Miss Richardson and Mr Foster for their work and commitment in helping encourage active children.

Foundation Bus Trip!

As part of Foundation Stage's half term topic of Transport, Miss Smith has arranged for the children to go on a trip around town on a service bus. I know the children are looking forward to the experience and thank the parents and helpers who have volunteered to accompany them.



Hitachi Visit

On Wednesday, Class 3 visited the Hitachi train manufacturing factory at Newton Aycliffe as part of their topic work on the railways. They were given the opportunity to build electrical circuits and take part in various tasks throughout the morning including sitting in the First Class Carriage of a brand new train. The children were very engaged throughout the visit and came back eager to tell me all about their experience.

Year 5 to Deepdale Wood

Last year I was able to access some funding to enable Honia Devlin of Bright Woods Forest School to deliver some Forest Schools activities to Year 6s including den building, foraging, survival skills and more. Honia contacted me again recently and would like to work with Year 5 children planting marginal aquatic vegetation around a new pond created at Deepdale Wood - waterproofs and wellies needed! I think this type of community involvement has many benefits and I am keen for us to take part.

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

If you or any friends or family shop at Sainsbury's, please could you ask them to collect the Active Kids Vouchers. This will enable school to exchange them for PE equipment. The collection box is located next to the staff room so your child could drop them off there themselves. Thank you.

End of Year Accounts

As we approach the end of the financial year, please could we have any outstanding monies paid as soon as possible. Thank you.

FOMs Update

The disco was very successful and thanks once again to FOMs for this. I will let you know the exact amount of money raised when I have it.

Attendance for w.b. 6.3.17

Class	Present
Reception	92.9%
Class 1	95.9%
Class 2	98.7%
Class 3	99.7%
Class 4	99.7%

Overall attendance this week was 97.9%

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. There were 10 minutes of learning time lost this week

Dates for your Diary

- March 17th Y5s to Deepdale Woods
- March 17th Billy Bob Buttons (children's author) in school
- March 20th Science Day in school
- March 20th-22nd – Parents' Evenings
- March 21st – Tennis Festival for Class 3
- March 24th – Mother's Day Afternoon Tea
- April 6th – Class 2 trip to the Locomotion, Shildon
- April 6th – Football team tournament at Staindrop Academy
- April 7th – Y5s African Drumming at The Hub
- April 7th – Class 2 assembly 9.00a.m
- April 7th – Easter Egg Raffle
- April 10th -21st Easter Holidays
- April 24th Summer term begins
- May 1st – May Day Holiday
- May 8th-11th Key Stage 2 SATs (Y6s)

Mr Minikin

Head Teacher