



MONTALBO NURSERY & PRIMARY SCHOOL

...Climbing to Success!

March 17th 2017 Issue 24

Billy Bob Buttons Visit

As part of our work on encouraging children to read for pleasure at home, we invited in children's author Billy Bob Buttons to talk about his books and where he gets his inspiration from. After a whole school assembly, he held workshops with Class 3 and Class 4 where they asked him a number of questions. I know the children have got a lot from these sessions and thank Miss Smith for organising this.

Parent Governor

A vacancy has arisen for a parent governor on our governing body. The governing body is asking you to nominate someone with parental responsibility for a child at the school. If it receives more than one nomination, then a ballot will be held. If you would like to apply or find out more about this role, please contact Mrs Cole, Chair of Governors on 07944863824 or leave your contact details at the school office. Thank you.

Foundation Bus Trip

This week our Nursery and Reception children had a trip on a service bus around town. They have been learning about different forms of transport and enjoyed this experience. Thank you to our helpers who accompanied the children.

Class 3 visit to Flatts Woods

On Wednesday Class 3 will be visiting the local wood to help inspire some creative writing. This also forms part of the work as our school tries to achieve the Woodland Trust's Green School's Award.

Red Nose Day

Next Friday, March 24th, is Red Nose Day. The theme is Make Your Laugh Matter and we suggest children and staff come to school in mismatched or bright clothes plus their red noses, bringing a small, voluntary donation. Unfortunately we have sold out of red noses but I believe Oxfam and other local shops still have them. It would be great to see how wacky your clothes choices are!

Disco

The Friends of Montalbo raised a magnificent £459.46 from the Valentine's Disco. Some of this money is being used to help with the garden development, along with funding received with from various other sources.

Garden Update

The polytunnel has been installed now which was the culmination of phase 1 of the garden redevelopment. I would like to thank National Polytunnels who donated this to us and in particular Richard Morris who has helped measure and draw out the garden layout to scale. I took each class down to the polytunnel this week and they were amazed at the different temperature inside, even at this time of year. It will open up some marvellous opportunities to grow fruit, vegetables and flowers all year round. The School Council have been writing letters to garden centres this week to try to persuade them to donate us various things to go in there – thank you ☺

The second phase of the garden redevelopment starts on Monday, with pathways and a circular sitting area created. During this phase, turf will also be laid and raised beds built into the polytunnel. We are very excited for this to begin and after this the garden will become useable, if not yet quite finished.

We have been busy planning and applying for funding for phase 3, which requires a great deal of thought and money! I will keep you updated as things develop.

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 if you haven't already done so. 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! Quite a collection is accumulating in the School Office so thank you to the children who have brought one in so far!

Year 5 to Deepdale Wood

The Year 5 children braved the elements today to plant some marginal plants around a pond created in Deepdale Wood. Once we have the key elements of our school garden finished, I’m interested in creating habitats for creatures which is why some of the logs are still on site.

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.

Attendance for w.b. 13.3.17

Class	Present
Reception	98.8%
Class 1	91.8%
Class 2	98.3%
Class 3	93.8%
Class 4	94.1%

Overall attendance this week was 95.2%

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 39 minutes of learning time lost this week

Dates for your Diary

- March 20th Science Day in school
- March 20th-22nd – Parents’ Evenings
- 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