



October 19th 2018 Issue 7

New Clubs

There are a few new clubs next half term which I know will prove popular. This year, due to the stage going up and Christmas activities, these will stop in December. There will also be no clubs on the nights of Parents Evening. Chill out will continue to run on every night as usual until the end of term.

Mrs Daniels will be running a Christmas Market Enterprise Club. Here the children will be able to make things to sell at a Christmas Market that we are planning in our school garden on December 11th. Mrs Daniels has asked if as many children as possible could bring in a filled jam jar for our jar tombola. The jars could be filled with any small items including sweets, small toys, glow sticks, hair accessories, a small teddy or whatever you may have around the house. It's a great chance to have a clear out of good condition small bits and bobs!

Creative curriculum

I have had some meetings earlier in the week but still managed to get around each classroom each day. I was really pleased to see on Monday afternoon; cooking, clay models and BFG potions being made. The fire pit has been used for the first time this week and children have been out to the woods, at sporting festivals and really making the most of the lovely autumnal conditions. All of the subjects of the national curriculum are important and we will be looking at how we can maximise opportunities for our children in each subject this year.

Official Garden Opening

On Thursday I was delighted to be able to welcome volunteers, project funders, school governors, Friends of Montalbo School, contractors and sponsors to the official opening of Montalbo Railway Heritage Garden. It was a lovely occasion and guests were amazed by the space and the possibilities for teaching, learning and play that the garden has. The development of this space has been a real team effort, well supported by the school community and the local area businesses.

The Year 6 children were involved in the afternoon and acted as guides, informing our guests about the different features within the garden. They researched the local area in more depth this week and produced leaflets to support them in their explanations. The guests commented favourably on their maturity, manners and confidence and this makes me very proud. Well done Year 6s!

Extension Update

The staff have been able to have a sneaky peak into the new hall extension this week and have been surprised by just how big the hall will be when it is opened up. It will be much warmer, brighter and usable. When the classes are in their final positions after all the work is done, the space will be much better for indoor PE and after school clubs and we look forward to that day! Next week the partition wall between the old and new parts of the hall will come down and the painters will be in school.

During the half term break, the remainder of the timber frame will go up at the front of school and the footprint of the building work will be complete.

Sporting fun

This week the Year 4 children went to Staindrop to take part in the rugby festival. They have been receiving expert coaching in rugby this half term so were putting their skills to the test against other local schools. The children were all very excited to take part in this event and played very well throughout the morning. As the morning progressed the confidence of all of the players continued to increase and there were some close scores in the matches played. Well done year 4.

Year 6 attended the Multi Skills Festival at Staindrop Academy this week. They took part in mini tag rugby, high 5 netball, ball tag and many other activities. It was a great, action packed morning where they developed many core skills. We would like to say thank you to Staindrop Academy PE department for hosting such fun and engaging events. Well done Year 6 for showing great sportsmanship.

Premier League Primary Stars Football Kit

Premier League Primary Stars aims to inspire children to learn, be active and develop important life skills. This term we have been very lucky to receive a free Kit and Equipment Pack. We would like to say thank you to Premier League Primary stars who have provided some excellent equipment for our afterschool football clubs.

Photograph Orders

Please place all photograph orders by 31st October. Thank you.

Poppy Leaves

Thinking towards Remembrance Day, the whole school has been busy making a collective poppy mural. As part of this, we would like to include personal messages from the children and their families. If children would like to write a message of remembrance about a family member, please collect a paper leaf from the school office. Could this be returned to school by Monday 29th October.

Flu Immunisation

The parents and carers of children in Reception and Years 1 to 5 should have received either an email or a letter regarding this year's flu vaccination. Please remember that you need to give consent by visiting: www.hdft.nhs.uk/nasalfu-consent . Our school code is 46697. If you do not have internet access please contact the Immunisation team on 0300 0030 013

Data Forms

Please could parents/carers who have not returned data collection forms do so. It is important that we have the latest information. Thank you.

Attendance for w.b. 15.10.18

Class	Present
Reception	95.8%
Year 1	95.8%
Year 2	88.3%
Year 3	97%
Year 4	93.8%
Year 5	99.6%
Year 6	98.8%
School overall attendance	95.9%

Please ensure that your child arrives at school no later than 8.55a.m. in order to make a prompt start for lessons. 11 minutes of learning was lost to lateness this week.

Dates for the diary

October 21 st	October half term
October 28 th	School 2 nd half term begins
October 31 st	Flu Immunisation for Reception, Y1-5
October 31 st	School Nurse Drop In 3-4pm
November 1 st	Halloween Disco
November 6 th	Diwali workshop for Year 6 in school
November 19 th	Book Fair in school all week
November 20 th + 21 st	Parents' Evenings
November 23 rd	Miss Richardson's Class Assembly

Mr Minikin, Head Teacher