



March 4th 2022

Welcome Back

I hope that you and your families have had a good break. It has been brilliant to have almost the whole Montalbo staff team back together for the first time in a long time!

COVID 19 changes

As the data around COVID 19 has improved, we have started to change many of the practices we previously had in school to limit any potential spread of the virus. For example, we have gone back to having assemblies in the hall and all classes will eat in the hall once again. We still need to have an outbreak management plan and temporary arrangements may need to be put in place should an outbreak occur.

The advice from Public Health, who we follow with all of our infection controls, is that if anyone has COVID 19 they should isolate for 5 days after the date of a positive test and continue to isolate until 2 consecutive days of negative tests (the same advice as before half term). Please could all parents continue to be vigilant for symptoms of COVID 19 and test their child for COVID 19 if they have symptoms. If any parents/adults who collect children have symptoms, please do not come to school until they have tested negative.

Visit to Year 3

In the week before half term, Ms Russ, a parent and archaeologist, visited Year 3 to give the children more information about the Stone Age which has been their History topic. Ms Russ brought in a number of objects from her digs and the children were amazed to hear she had actually uncovered a mammoth bone! Thank you, Ms Russ, for visiting us.

Locomotion virtual visit

Also, at the end of half term, Miss Foster arranged for an interactive tour of the Head of Steam – Darlington Railway Museum. The children were able to ask questions, see artefacts and see the different engines and carriages.

Photography Competition

I was delighted to have received many email entries to my 'Take Notice' Photography Challenge over half term. The photographs taken by our children are superb and it was very tricky to pick winners. At least one photograph from each entrant will be displayed in the School Hall.

The class winners were:-

Nursery – William

Reception – Jack

Year 1 – Amelia

Year 2 – Archie

Year 3 – Eve

Year 4 – Jack

Year 5 – Grace

Year 6 – William

Overall winner – Chloe (Y6)

All children who entered received some sweets! Well done to you all and thank you for sharing. Thank you to Mrs Bowron and Mrs Daniels – the display in the hall is stunning! A selection of the photographs can be found here: [Take Notice Photography Competition](#)

Nursery Care, Wraparound Care and Club Payments

Please could parents ensure wherever possible that charges are paid before use to ensure debts do not accrue. Thank you.

World Book Day – Vocabulary Parade

It was fantastic to see the children dressed in their Vocabulary Parade costumes for World Book Day on Thursday. From amazing ideas like ‘Nocturnal’ and ‘Archaeologist’ to ‘Sparkly’ and ‘Cosy’. Everyone loved watching the parade and dancing to the MC Grammar rap! There were lots of activities taking place across the school including: performance plays, book scavenger hunts and author quizzes. You can see some great photos of children in their costumes here: [World Book Day](#)

Reading at home is a fantastic way to teach your child new vocabulary and share a love of learning. You can listen to the official World Book Day 10 Minute Story Shares here: [10 Minute Story Shares](#)

Parents’ Evenings

We have scheduled Parents’ Evenings for March 23rd and 24th and will be able to have these in school. Appointments can be booked via the Parents Evening tab on Weduc in due course.

School Meal Price Increase from April 4th 2022

School has been informed that the price will increase to £2.20 per meal from 4th April 2022. If you have had a change in circumstances or would like to enquire if your child is eligible for Free School Meals, please contact the office for further information and the application forms.

Red Nose Day March 18th 2022

Red Noses are available now from the School Office in support of this charity at a cost of £1.50 each. Please send any money into school to purchase the noses in a sealed envelope with your child’s name clearly marked.

Holi Festival Weekend

If you would like to take part in the Colour Run on the Holi Festival Weekend, you will need to book tickets through the TCR Hub website. You can book a 10 minute interval time slot and find more information here: [TCR Hub Upcoming Events](#)

Clubs

There are places available in Gardening club for Year 3 & Year 4 on Tuesday’s 3:00 – 4:00 pm, Football for Year 5 and Year 6 also on Tuesdays 3:00-4:00 pm and Reception class Arts & Crafts on Thursdays 3:30-4:30pm. Places to be booked via Weduc and payment made via Parent Pay.

Dates for the Diary

March 18 th	Red Nose Day
March 23 rd and 24 th	Parents Evenings
April 11 th – 22 nd	Easter Holidays

Mr. C Minikin
Head Teacher