



July 19th 2024

Well done Team Monty!

One thing about teaching is that it is never dull and this year has been another busy, successful one! There are moments that bring us real joy and pride and this week has definitely been one of those weeks. As I write this final newsletter of 2023-2024, it is always a time for reflection, looking back on the academic year.

I have tried to create a framework in school with different events occurring regularly which are becoming traditions, that children and families can look forward to, punctuated with new or one-off events to keep things fresh and inspire us all. The following is just a flavour of the main events from the year.

In the Autumn term we had the Year 1 Farm trip, tractor visits, Carol Service at St Marys for KS2, the Christmas Fayre, Nursery Singalong, Reception Nativity, Year 1 and 2 Bethlehem Bake Off, Light Up Barney Parade, Christmas Tree Festival including our lovely choir, parties and FOMS Bingo night. In the Spring term we enjoyed mini medics and family gardening sessions with parents, tree planting with Oases, COP 24 conference, visit to Cow Green Reservoir, FOMS disco, School 2041 World Book Day event, Mother's Day, Reception visit to the Quad Station, Earth Day, Local History Club visit and visitor, Y5 to Jorvik and Y3 to the Oriental Museum and had an amazing Meet Parade entry! In the Summer, we moved classrooms, Year 4 went to Binchester Fort, Y6 activities and sleepover, Y2 went to Hamsterley Forest, Reception went to Hall Hill Farm, Father's Day, we created some amazing community artwork, held two Sports Days, Heavy Beat Brass Band Visit, Brightwoods for each class, a Music Concert and had two Monty does the Movies performances! In each term we went to many sporting festivals and competitions, enjoying some good success. We have had six different coaches in school this year, teaching curriculum and after school sports. We have 3 different music tutors delivering woodwind, brass, piano and singing lessons and it is pleasing to see the impact all of this is having.

As well as the enriched curriculum above, our standards in each statutory assessment taken throughout school, are above national averages. This is testament to the amazing teaching team we have here at Montalbo, the work of the Governors to challenge and support us, the high expectations we have and the drive that we all have to be the best that we can be. Well done Team Monty!

Monty does the Movies

Tuesday and Wednesday evening performances of Monty does the Movies delivered by our children in Key Stage 2 were truly spectacular! The children showcased their amazing talents, attitude and application to perform superb dance routines to some of our favourite films from over the years. The children in Year 5 and 6 knitted the shows together with such confidence as they told us more about the movies and local ghost stories!

The rehearsals begin in June and we only have one day to practise in The Witham so to produce shows of this quality is phenomenal. The whole of Team Monty teaching team attend on the nights and are often squirrelled away back stage or in a holding room. A huge thank you to Mrs Miller for the backdrops, special effects and music and even coping with a laptop that decided to shut itself down towards the end of Tuesday night's performance! Thank you also to Mrs Wood and parents/carers for help with the fantastic costumes - I am sure you will agree that the children looked amazing! Thank you to the Key Stage 2 teaching team for their work with their classes - I

know how much effort and extra work this takes to think about costume changes, transitions, dances and narration. Well done Team Monty!

Music Concert

On Tuesday afternoon parents/carers joined us for a Music Concert featuring our pianists, brass and woodwind players. The performances were superb. From the pianists playing alone, to the brass band playing with real skill and enthusiasm to our recorder players playing beautifully, well done to you all!

Year 6 Leavers

On Tuesday we will say goodbye to our Year 6 children as they move onto their new schools, Teesdale and Barnard Castle School. Each cohort that comes through school is unique, and this group is one of the last two classes who began their time here as a cohort of 15. The number in the class increased each year and each new arrival has added something to the group. There are many strong friendships which I hope will last a lifetime. This group in particular have wide and varied interests, and I look forward to seeing how these develop. I am confident that each and every one of our Year 6s can look forward to further success and a really bright future. Well done Year 6s and good luck!

I look forward to seeing the families of Year 6 children on Tuesday for the Leavers' Assembly.

Copper Trail

FOMS have suggested a fundraising idea which will be fun to do involving copper coins. If you are able to, please send in any copper coins you can collect and are happy to donate on Monday July 22nd and we will create an enormous copper trail around school.

FOMS Disco and a Big Thank You!

FOMS are hosting a Summer Family Night at Glaxo Club from 6pm-9pm with an entry fee of £1 per person. There will be cash only stalls selling sweets (50p a bag), an 'Adopt a Teddy' stall, hot dogs, balloons and a small toy stall too!

Thank you very much to FOMS for all they do for us! We really appreciate their support with events, fundraising and agreeing to help fund many things, such as the Brightwood days, for our children.

Brightwoods

This week our Year 1s visited Brightwoods and enjoyed a great time toasting marshmallows, looking for pollinators in the meadow, making butterflies out of natural materials and playing in the water!

Multiskills

On Tuesday, Year 4 children all went to Staindrop for a Multiskills festival, taking part in a number of athletic events. They had a great time and behaved wonderfully – well done Year 4!

ParentPay Arears

As we approach the end of term, please ensure that your ParentPay balances are paid. We will lift the 2.30pm booking time cut off on ParentPay so rather than ringing after this time, please book online. This way debts cannot accrue. Thank you.

Holidays

Although our last day of term is July 23rd, I will not be writing another newsletter this academic year. I hope that we all can enjoy at least some settled weather after the summer to date, and that all of our families enjoy some lovely time together. We look forward to seeing the children on Thursday, September 5th.

Attendance

Please find below this week's attendance and the overall attendance for the year.

Class	Attendance (%)
Reception	96.6
Year 1	96.4
Year 2	98.7
Year 3	93.8
Year 4	98
Year 5	91.9
Year 6	97.7
Whole School	96.2%
Yearly Attendance	94.6%

Dates for the Diary

July 23rd

Leavers' Assembly 9am

July 24th

Summer holidays begin

September 5th

Children return to school

Mr. C Minikin

Head Teacher

Please see the QR code for the School Lottery. The more players we have, the more we raise for the school and the bigger the prize fund.

