



**May 9th 2025**

### **Key Stage 2 SATs**

Next week sees the statutory assessments take place for our Year 6 pupils. The children have worked very hard all year and are well prepared. They have made amazing progress from their starting points and many children have joined this year group in the past two years. I hope that the children are feeling unphased and we look forward to some really nice activities in their remaining time at Montalbo, including the trip to Babuls on Friday. Good luck Year 6!

### **VE Day**

The children looked great in their red, white and blue clothing to mark the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE Day. In assembly, the children looked at the importance of VE Day and sang the National Anthem. They enjoyed the VE Day lunch too!

### **WOW Travel Initiative**

A few years ago we took part in an initiative to encourage more children and families to walk, cycle or scooter to school for environmental and health benefits. We ended up moving away from the scheme as the incentives were not too eco friendly however now the badges and packaging have better eco credentials we are keen to start again! If children live too far away to walk, consider parking a little way from school and walk the rest.

### **Tractor Visit**

As part of their History topic on how farming has changed, an old and new tractor arrived in school on Thursday. Thank you to Mr and Mrs Kearton for bringing their tractors in – they were a big hit with our Year 1s!

### **Babuls Visit**

Hopefully you will recognise the value we place on all subjects, not just English and Maths! Our Design and Technology (DT) curriculum is very ambitious covering a range of topics from structures to textiles. As part of their food topic in DT, children will visit Babuls to look at and taste their delicious curries before making one each later in the year. I am so pleased to have been asked to help on this visit!

### **The Water Safety Code (RoSPA)**

With the warmer weather and the increased frequency of visits to rivers, lakes and beaches, it is important to remember the hazards and dangers water can pose, especially to children. Tragically there are fatalities every year, so I have taken this from a recent Health and Safety bulletin sent to school.

Spot the dangers! Water may look safe, but it can be dangerous. Learn to spot and keep away from dangers. You may swim well in a warm indoor pool, but that does not mean that you will be able to swim in cold water.

The dangers of water include:

- it is very cold
- there may be hidden currents
- it can be difficult to get out (steep slimy banks)
- it can be deep
- there may be hidden rubbish, e.g. shopping trolleys, broken glass

- there are no lifeguards
- it is difficult to estimate depth
- it may be polluted and may make you ill

Please keep children close to you and supervised at all times when in the local area or on holiday when around water over the coming weeks and months.

### **Year 6 at the Hub**

Mrs Channell has arranged for two days fun, outdoor and adventurous activities for our Year 6 children to look forward to after SATs. We recognise the expense of residentials for our families so try to stay local to minimise costs to parents/carers. All school budgets are under increasing pressures and we need parental contributions to ensure that these experiences can take place. Details can be found on ParentPay – thank you.

### **Attendance**

This week's attendance figures are below. Well done Year 2!

<b>Class</b>	<b>Attendance this week (%)</b>
Reception	97.9
Year 1	98.7
Year 2	99.2
Year 3	96.3
Year 4	95
Year 5	88.8
Year 6	98.8
Whole School	96.3%

### **Dates for the Diary**

May 12th - 15th	Year 6 SATs
May 16 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 trip to Babuls
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	Year 3 Golf Festival at Barnard Castle Golf Club
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Orienteering Festival
May 20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 Brightwoods
May 21 <sup>st</sup>	Year 4 Cricket at Raby Cricket Club
May 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Year 1 Multi skills at Staindrop
May 26 <sup>th</sup>	Meet Procession
May 26 <sup>th</sup> – 30 <sup>th</sup>	Whit Half Term
June 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Children return to school
June 2 <sup>nd</sup> – 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Bikeability
June 2 <sup>nd</sup> – 13 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 Multiplication Check
June 6 <sup>th</sup>	Yr5/Yr6 Athletics at Bishop Barrington
June 5 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery Buttercups to Brightwoods
June 9th – 13th	Year 1 Phonics Screening
June 12 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery Daisies trip to Brightwoods
June 17 <sup>th</sup>	Reception trip to Brightwoods
June 19 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 to Brightwoods
June 20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 Assembly 9am - 9.30am
June 20 <sup>th</sup>	Yr4/5/6 Football at Staindrop
June 24 <sup>th</sup> -25 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Residential Trip
June 25 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 to Brightwoods
June 26 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 to Brightwoods
June 27 <sup>th</sup>	Reception Assembly 9am
June 30 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Rounders Festival
July 1 <sup>st</sup>	Nursery Sports Day and Picnic
July 1 <sup>st</sup>	Year 4 Brightwoods
July 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Whole School Sports Day (Rec – Y6)
July 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Year 3 Brightwoods

July 4 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 Assembly 9am
July 7 <sup>th</sup>	Key Stage 2 to Witham (Monty Does rehearsal)
July 8 <sup>th</sup> and 9 <sup>th</sup>	Monty Does Performances at the Witham 6pm start (Y3-6)
July 10 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup>	Teesdale Transition Day for year 6
July 18 <sup>th</sup>	Leavers' Assembly 9am
July 21 <sup>st</sup> – September 1 <sup>st</sup>	Summer Holiday
September 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Teacher training Day
September 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Children start/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.

