

# Myton Park Primary School

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## **Autumn Term 2 2016**

### **Christmas Performances**

Many thanks to all of you who came to enjoy the Christmas performances. The children and staff never fail to amaze me with the way they just seem to pull something even better out of the hat each year.

This time of year is such a treat in school. It's an opportunity to enjoy the practices, the singing and the sheer enjoyment of doing fun things together. I am sure you will agree that the performances from the nativity with the youngest children, to the Christmas celebrations from years 1, 2 and 3 to the hilarity and confidence of the oldest children in their pantomime were excellent. Thanks so much to all of the staff who worked so hard, to you all for supporting with costumes and outfits, and of course to our wonderful children who excelled themselves and made us so proud!

### **Christmas Fund Raising**

Thanks so much to all of our wonderful PTA and staff members who worked to put on our Christmas Fayre. With your fabulous support, we raised a whopping £1,094:02 which will make such a difference to school funds. In addition - the Christmas cards, mugs and tea towels raised a further £600:00. In a time of such restricted budgets - this really will help us to do some of the "extras" that the children enjoy so much.

As you will be aware, the PTA heavily subsidised the trip to the Arc this year - an annual event which sees us hire out the venue for Myton Park. The children love the atmosphere and the performance. I am sure you will join me in extending a great big thank you to all those involved in supporting school in this way. If you would like to get involved please do see Mrs Mather in the school office.

### **Sponsorship**

Myton Park continues to benefit hugely from outside support. B&Q in Stockton is a very generous supporter of our Gardening Club - with Mr Coles being a frequent visitor and organiser of resources. Dodd's Fencing has supplied some materials at cost price, which have been purchased from donations from Mr and Mrs Warren through their engineering firm and Mr and Mrs Rice have supplied school with 15 brand new sports kits (through sponsorship from their martial arts club) for the children to wear at the many competitions they attend.

We really do appreciate all of this additional help.

### **Volunteering at school**

We love to welcome people into school to volunteer within school. Mr Coles heads up a team of gardeners who make such a fabulous contribution. The children love this project and take such pride in what they grow. The chutney sold well at the fayre (made by Mrs Lazenby) and I gather the garlic went well too! The winners of the pumpkin growing competition in Year 1 were so proud of themselves and I know the children have all been working hard planting bulbs in the grounds. We are looking forward to seeing them in the spring.

If you would like to be involved in the gardening project (you do not need to be an expert by any means) then pop and see Mrs Mather - or chat with Keith Coles or Sarah West on the playground.

## **Attendance**

Attendance continues to be good with a year total to date of 97.2%

Thanks again for your continued support of the 48 hour rule. I do recognise, as a mother of three myself, that this can appear to be unnecessary in individual cases, but it really does make such a difference to the school community and reduce the spread of germs and bugs. (I have no doubt you will have seen the recent school closure and the need for a deep clean in the news)

I would though, like to take this opportunity to remind parents that we do encourage honesty - this is an essential part of our role modelling to children as adults. If you are on holiday - then please don't ring to say your children are ill. They do come back to school and tell us all about their trips. Their friends also tell us where they are as an automatic response to us calling their name out for the register - and this can cause difficulties. Behaviour such as this can cause some embarrassment - please don't put the children in that position.

## **School Council**

The school council have got off to a great start. Elections were held earlier this term - with some excellent speeches. The children have been working hard with Mrs. Roberts and I know have some wonderful plans.

They have organised an event for our wonderful volunteers, who have been invited to join us for tea, mince pies and a sing-a-long in the school hall. I for one am really looking forward to this.

The children have demonstrated such enthusiasm and I know they are looking forward to welcoming them into school

## **Sport at Myton Park**

This half term the school has been represented by many successful sports teams. The athletics team won the cluster competition and followed this up with another excellent performance against the other cluster teams.

The basketball team continued the sporting success by excelling at the basketball event, scoring the most points in the process.

All of Key Stage 2 took part in the cross country event and everybody gave 100% despite the cold weather with many of the children qualifying for the next round. Last but not least our football team participated in a football competition in Acklam and won the event without losing a game!!!

Every one of children who has taken part in these events has shown great sportsmanship and attitude and we are extremely proud of every one of them.



## **Class News**

### **Nursery**

This half term we have been talking about special times and how we celebrate them. We have spent time in key worker groups talking about our own experiences. We enjoyed our work on birthdays, making our own cards and writing invitations and wrapping presents, thinking about what would be the best fastening to use.

We visited the school library to look at non-fiction books and the children enjoyed finding out facts about space and the planets.

We are enjoying Christmas in nursery and worked hard with Reception to perform our Nativity Play. We wish all our children and families a very happy Christmas.

### **Reception**

This half term reception have been learning all about space. They have learnt about the planets and have enjoyed watching videos about space including the moon landing, the planets song and rockets blasting off. In the workshop the children have made rockets. In the outdoor area the children made a space ship. The children enjoyed finding out all about the moon and especially about the 'Super Moon'. In circle time the children have been learning all about making choices. We are learning about making the right choice and understanding about the consequences of our actions. We were very excited to find out that Santa had sent us an elf to watch us at school. He reports back to Santa about all the good things we have been doing in Reception. Whilst in our classroom he made a Numicon number line,

read books and painted a self-portrait. We hope he continues to make the right choices and be a good elf. Thank you for your continued support at home including homework, regular reading and action word practise.

#### **Year 1**

In Year 1 we have continued our topic on dinosaurs and focussed on our work in Geography. We have found out about the different parts of the United Kingdom and have named the countries it is made up of. We looked at a globe and world map to locate countries where dinosaur fossils have been found. The children enjoyed creating their own dinosaur maps and giving directions.

This half term Year 1 enjoyed performing their class assembly and learning the dinosaur songs. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. We have since been practising for our Christmas play and have found out about "The First Christmas". We are continuing to focus on our phonics work in order to improve our reading and spelling. I would just like to remind parents to read regularly with their child at home and write in their reading record. Independent reading books are not changed unless reading records have been signed to say they have been read at home. I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas.

#### **Year 2**

We've had a busy time preparing for our Christmas concert and making cards and calendars. Everyone enjoyed the sports festival and tried lots of new things like hula hooping. We loved Peter Pan even although it was a bit scary at times!! We have been working on our handwriting and spelling and will need to keep trying with this after the holidays.

#### **Year 3**

This term we have continued to learn about the rainforest. We visited Ingleby Barwick library and learned more about rainforest features including climate, tribes and deforestation.

In English we have worked hard to improve our descriptive writing, using adjectives, similes and personification. We also studied and wrote our own poems using onomatopoeia, alliteration and rhyme.

In Maths we have learned about new methods of division, as well as measuring angles, identifying angles and finding missing angles. We have also studied measures including centimetres, millimetres and metres.

In preparation for Christmas we have been making festive cards and calendars. We have also been working hard in anticipation of our Christmas Performance which we are looking forward to performing.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

#### **Year 4**

Year 4 have worked extremely hard this half term. They have really enjoyed practising for their "Rainforest Assembly" and Christmas Production.

The children have particularly enjoyed learning about the Anglo Saxons, visiting the library and making Anglo Saxon Jewellery.

Year 4 have been learning about writing reports and information texts in English and fractions and multiplication. In maths. They are now ready for their Christmas break and wish everyone a Merry Christmas.

#### **Year 5**

It has been another busy half term in Year 5. We have really enjoyed taking on the responsibility of being Biddies and have settled into our roles very well, helping the other children to play new games and develop stronger friendships. We have also been trying to develop a growth mind-set to help us with our learning. This helps us to find ways to overcome obstacles and embrace challenge.

In Maths we haven't taken part in the Times Table Challenge alongside our usual lessons. We have found that this has had a big impact on our confidence with mental maths, multiplication, division and fraction work.

In English we have been writing recounts and explanations and particularly enjoyed learning, discussing and performing classic poems. Our class performance of the Walrus and The Carpenter really showcased our acting skills! We have all enjoyed our dance unit in PE and created some wonderful group dances. We all did our best at the recent cross country event and some of us have also taken part in tag rugby, basketball, athletics and football competitions. The highlight of our year so far has been the Christmas Performance. We loved taking part and keep asking when we can do another one!!

Our topic next term will be Ancient Maya. If you have any books, artefacts or knowledge that you would like to share with us please get in touch.

Thank you for your continued support, it really is appreciated.

### **Year 6**

Year 6 have enjoyed an incredibly busy half term. In English, we have analysed different styles of performance poetry and had great fun performing our own poems. In Maths, alongside our regular lessons, we have begun to practise different papers in preparation for our SATs.

Early in November, we all took part in (and passed) our "Bikeability" test. We have participated in various sporting events including cross country, tag rugby, and athletics. We also enjoyed an extremely memorable trip to Billingham Forum where we watched a fantastic performance of "Seussical", a musical dedicated to the work of Dr Seuss. We have been working really hard on our Christmas Performance and hope you enjoyed it!!!! Many thanks for all your support with the costumes. We are looking forward to lots more hard work and fun activities in the New Year!!



### Future Dates

Tuesday 3 January 17

Wednesday 4 January 17

Monday 13 - Friday 17 Feb 17

Wednesday 22 March 17

Monday 10 - Friday 21 April 17

Professional Development Day

Children return after Christmas holidays

Half Term Week

Photograph Day

Easter holidays

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