

# Myton Park Primary School

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**Spring Term 1 2017**



## **Uniform**

Many thanks for your continued support with smart uniform. It is a really important part of establishing shared standards and a smart uniform and taking a pride in that goes a long way to supporting positive behaviour. Can we remind you that there should be no nail varnish or temporary tattoos whilst at school? Jewellery should be kept to a watch and very small, non-coloured ear-rings, hair adornments should be kept to a minimum, with no fashion items. Trainers should not be worn – as they are not part of the uniform.

We do appreciate that at times, shoes break, children grow out of them overnight or lose them; if such occasions do occur then please do let us know or encourage your children to have a quiet chat. This helps with a shared respect for rules and helps to maintain standards.

## **Attendance**

This continues to be strong and we do thank you for your continued support when children have been ill. Our policy really does reduce the spread of bugs.

There has been some increase in holiday requests. We are aware that this has been making headline news, but I must remind you that our policy remains that all holiday absence will be logged as unauthorised. Where possible, we do encourage you to make plans that disrupt your child's education as little as possible – it really does have an impact; especially for those children who miss time each year. I would also encourage you to be honest with us; children can be very embarrassed when parents ring in to say the children have been sick, but friends have seen photos of a break on Facebook. Encouraging children to be honest really is so important – you are their role models.

## **PE & Sport**

Children have represented the school in various sporting competitions and festivals, including swimming, cross country and football. All have been complimented on their attitudes and behaviour. Everyone has gone and given their best. A special mention to our cross country team, with Kacey Eyeington (Y6) and Will Passman (Y4) qualifying for the finals.

## **Leisure Centre**

As you will have seen in the news this has been passed by council and the work will begin. Initially this will entail cutting down bushes in the All Saints Car Park and library areas to ensure that birds do not nest in them. The landscaped area outside the library will first be converted to car parks for All Saints and the Leisure Centre prior to the main building works.

Our Car Park will remain as it is, but the service yard entrance road will be re-routed. We will aim to keep you up to date.

## **Service Yard access Road**

The site owners and managers, Robertson's, have been allowing parents to use the service yard road to help with car park congestion, but this has recently caused them a great deal of difficulty as it has impacted on deliveries to them. They have therefore been advised by health and safety that this practice must stop. They have therefore placed a barrier over the service yard and I must insist that you respect this and do not use this at all. We respect the fact that the car park can become very congested, but school car parks are never designed to be used as a drop off and pick up area. Our car park remains open to you as a good will gesture, but health and safety must take precedence.

## **Developing Teaching and Learning**

We continue to work hard to ensure our children get the very best learning opportunities. Over the last months we have been working to develop a growth mindset in school – building determination and resilience. We have been discussing ways and attitudes to being determined and encouraging children to support each other in all aspects of school life.

We have undertaken staff training in developing problem solving and have extended our approach to reading comprehension even further – with particular focus on inference and deduction.

We thank you for your continued support. Please do continue to encourage the children to read; this is essential, but also share stories with them and your favourite stories. This really makes such a difference and helps with their development of vocabulary immensely.



### **School Council/Tuck Shop**

The children in school council have decided they would like to raise funds to improve outdoor play. As part of this fundraising school council will be running a healthy tuck shop once a week on a Tuesday playtime. They will be selling items such as cereal bars, raisins and fruit snacks. All items will be sold at a cost of 50p. If your child would like to buy a healthy treat, they must bring in 50p which will be swapped for a token, which they can take and exchange at the tuck shop for their chosen snack. Please speak to your child about any allergies they may have and what they would be able to buy as the tuck shop will run by the children in school council.

The first tuck shop will begin on Tuesday 21st February 2017

Thank you for your support in advance



### **Class News**

#### **Nursery**

This half term we have enjoyed reading "We're going on a Bear Hunt" and going to the theatre to see it. We have explored grass, mud, water and snow and have made our own representations using different media.

We have been learning to write letters from our names on large paper, with shaving foam, with water and paintbrushes outside.

We enjoyed listening to and retelling the story of The Gingerbread Man and of course making and eating our own.

We tried different foods as part of Chinese New Year and talked about how people celebrate different festivals. We have been practising our counting using objects and Numicon and have enjoyed using this throughout the nursery areas.

We have welcomed some new friends over this half term and they are settling in really well. We look forward to the next half term when we will begin the term with our World Awareness Week. Nursery will be learning about England.

#### **Reception**

In Reception we have been all been working very hard. We have been learning all about the seasons and enjoyed our winter walk around the local area. We noticed that some of the trees had lost all of their leaves but that some evergreen trees still had theirs. We also learnt about our emergency services and enjoyed our ambulance role play area in the classroom. During this learning we had a visit from a fire engine and a police van. We wrote about our experiences and showed what we learnt during our role play. After half term we will be learning all about Italy during World Awareness Week. In literacy our teachers are helping us to use the sounds we know in our writing. When writing sentences we are now starting to use capital letters and full stops. In maths we are beginning to learn about adding and taking away. We use Numicon and cubes to help us. As the weather improves and we are able to access the outdoor area more regularly we hope to continue to develop our outdoor area including the mud kitchen! Thank you for your contributions to our Reception fund. This half term it has been used to buy audio books and headphones for in guided reading, ingredients for cooking (making pasta and meatballs, gingerbread and muffins), new role play garments and many more little extras.

## **Year 1**

In Year 1 this half term our topic has been "cottages and castles". The children have found out about different types of homes and have identified the type of home they live in. They have enjoyed their work on traditional and fairy tales (set in cottages and castles) and wrote an alternative version of the three little pigs. The children have worked hard using their knowledge of growth mind-set to improve their work and give feedback to others.

In PE they have been learning about creating movements to stories and music and have worked in groups to create their own dance sequence which they performed to the class.

In Art the children have been learning about drawing realistic pictures and working with a partner to improve them step by step. They then used different media to add colour. They have also been learning about printing and have experimented printing with a range of materials found across the classroom. They have designed their own printing block and have used foam to create it and make prints.

All of Year 1 thoroughly enjoyed watching the pantomime – Beauty and the Beast and have used the experience to help them write the ending of their own story set in a castle.

We are continuing to focus on developing our knowledge of letters and sounds, especially as we begin to learn more alternative phonemes. We would like to thank you for your support at home practising spellings and learning the new sounds. Remember to practise daily to help your child recall and apply to their writing.

## **Year 2**

We are working on our fly away cottages and trying really hard with cutting and measuring skills. We enjoyed Chinese New Year, finding out about our animal and making pendants. We have started to develop our skills on publisher, making posters. Building our own mazes and programming Roamer has also been a lot of fun.

## **Year 3**

This term we have begun to study the Vikings. We have looked at the early origin of the Viking invasions upon Britain and the impact it had on the British Isles. We studied numerous Viking topics, including Longships, weapons and shields.

When learning about longships, we researched them using the internet, gathered facts, and then wrote a factual report detailing their features.

When learning about Viking shields and weapons, we found out what they were made from, what they were used for, and then made our own versions of them using clay and paints.

We are looking forward to studying Vikings in more detail next half term!

In English we have again studied and practised using figurative language when writing descriptively – this took place when writing stories set in an imaginary world. We have also studied non-fiction genres including writing to explain and biographies.

In Maths, we have continued to practise our times tables. We have also made progress when studying fractions, perimeter of shapes, place value and rounding. We have also worked hard to develop problem solving skills and look forward to developing these skills further next half term.

Year 3 also enjoyed celebrating Chinese New Year, making traditional Chinese decorations and art work.

## **Year 4**

This half term Year 4 have been enjoying learning about the Vikings. They have made Viking pots from clay and Viking shields using MODROC. They have also researched Vikings, completed reading comprehensions about Viking kings and made posters about their favourite Viking king.

During maths, we have been focussing on perimeter, area and developing our problem solving skills with fun activities. Poetry is our current English topic and the children have really enjoyed listening to, discussing and writing poetry.

IN PE we are practising our throwing and catching skills and learning Kwik Cricket. We have also enjoyed our gardening sessions with our school helpers. Children are also developing their recorder playing skills.

All in all it has been a fantastic half term of fun learning. Thank you for your support.

## **Year 5**

Year 5 have had another very busy half term. We are really enjoying learning about the Maya civilisation and have written our own Maya myths, researched and presented reports in History and have designed and made death masks in art. We particularly enjoyed making up our own versions of Pok-to-Pok, a Maya ball game. In English, we have been learning about writing and performing our own poems – our rapping was fantastic!! We are becoming much more confident mathematicians and are loving our problem solving challenges.

We really enjoy our PE sessions but some children do not always have a full PE kit in school. Please ensure that your child has a clearly labelled indoor and outdoor kit in school at all times. Thank you for your continued support.

## **Year 6**

We are enjoying our new topic about the ancient civilization – The Maya. After learning about the masks they wore we created our own using MODROC. We have been developing our design and technology skills making a totem pole. Alongside our topic, we are continually working extremely hard with our English and Maths preparing for our SAT's.

## **Future Dates**

Monday 20 – Friday 24 February 17

Wednesday 22 February 17

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Thursday 9 March 17

Thursday 16 March 17

Tuesday 4 April 17

Monday 10 – Friday 21 April 17

World Awareness Week

Photograph Day

Nursery and Reception disco 4.45pm – 6.00pm

Y5 family assembly @ 2.45pm

Y1 family assembly @ 2.45pm

Film night 4.45pm – 6.30pm

Easter holidays

Myton Park  
Primary School