

Myton Park Primary School

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Summer Term 1 – 2018



Class News

Nursery

This half term we have been talking about our pets and how we care for them. We enjoyed the farm visit and are awaiting the arrival of our chicks. We have talked about weddings and really enjoyed our Royal Wedding celebrations.

We continue to work on our Read, Write Inc phonics each day – the children are really enjoying this and are making good progress.

The older children are looking forward to their visits to the Reception class and staying for their lunch.

Reception

This half term we have been learning about dinosaurs. We found some mystery bones in our classroom and we became archaeologists. We are all really good at using our Fred Fingers to help us write our words. We have been working really hard on our word building and sentence building and this has helped us to improve our writing. We have also been using our Read, Write Inc skills and applying this to our writing.

In Maths we have been using money to buy items and to give change. We really enjoyed using the money to pay for our snacks every day. We have also been working really hard on our number skills – reading, writing and ordering numbers to 20 and we know that teen numbers are made up of one ten and units.

We have been using our fund money to buy resources for our continuous provision areas to make them ever more exciting and fun.

Thank you for your continued support.

Year 1

This half term our topic is beaches. The children are particularly enjoying History in which we are learning about seaside holidays in the past. Linked to this, the children have produced some lovely seaside poems which will be going on display shortly.

In Art, we are learning all about the artist LS Lowry and attempting to recreate some of his paintings.

In Maths, we are focussing on measurement and multiplication. Whilst learning how to measure we have taken part in a lot of outdoor learning, measuring the length of the playground and using the foundation stage facilities to experiment with water and capacity.

In Music the children have been enjoying various songs from other cultures whilst learning about rhythm and pulse and in computing the children have been using Purple Mash to program characters.

In PE, we are practising for sports day and also learning about playing kindly and fairly.

Our topics in science have been animals including humans and Spring and Summer. Fortunately we can now observe and talk about the Summer weather.

Finally I would like to mention how hard the children have been working towards their up and coming Phonics Test. Practising phonics at home will really boost the children as we continue to support them in school.

Thank you for your continued support.

Year 2

We have had a fantastic half term and we are really enjoying our topic "At the Seaside". We have written our own stories based on "The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch" and are beginning to design our own lunch boxes. We have learnt all about lighthouses and created beautiful seaside collages. In Maths we have been focussing on improving and problem solving and reasoning skills. We are learning all about how plants and trees grow in Science and we have loved working in the wildlife area. We are looking forward to a great final half term and look forward to seeing you at our family assembly. Thank you for your continued support.

Year 3

This half term we have started our new topic Scrumdiddlyumptious, examining food and produce within the local area. We have used map skills to locate towns and cities within the north east of England, as well as studying the borough of Stockton. We have recently visited Preston Park Museum, spending time learning about the history of our local area. After half term, we will be comparing and contrasting our local area with a town in Ghana, as well as learning about their produce. In English, linked to our topic, the children have studied Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, carrying out a number of activities including descriptive writing, product design, persuasive writing and numerous reading activities. In Maths, the children have continued to use and apply reasoning and problem solving. We have applied these skills when focusing on fractions, time and measure. The children also enjoyed learning about coordinates, which they linked to map skills when studying the local area. The children have now completed their swimming unit. They have all achieved a great deal, gaining numerous awards throughout their six weeks. All of the children worked incredibly hard and displayed excellent behaviour and attitudes at all times. Finally, the children enjoyed taking part in celebrating the royal wedding, participating in games and various activities, again displaying excellent behaviour and attitudes throughout.

Year 4

The class continue to work on a variety of different projects. We are slowly getting fitter and fitter with the help of our weekly HIIT' (High Intensity Interval Training) sessions, which will put us in good stead for the athletics season (and sports day). We have had our first taste of competitive football with the Stockton Boys and Girls football tournaments. Both teams produced some great performances and goals, although I think the girls were a bit better! We have designed and created our own marble runs ensuring we tested and evaluated them all before finally revealing them to the whole class. In Design and Technology we have mastered the art of making bread rolls, which were delicious. The class are currently in the middle of a science investigation to show how different materials change their states over time (solids, liquids and gasses). In Music we are looking at different musicians through the decades. We started with the iconic Elvis Presley from the 1950's and are currently enjoying the glorious sounds of the beetles for the 1960's. If there is an artist you feel your child must know about please let me know and I will add it to the playlist. Looking forward, the children are super excited about our upcoming class trip to Preston Park Museum. Once again the year 4 team would like to thank you for all of your hard work and support.

Year 5

We have had a wonderful start to the Summer Term. We have been looking at Ancient Greece in our topic work and developed our knowledge of how historians find out about ancient times using historical sources. Our science work on forces has allowed us to carry out investigations to test gravity, air resistance and friction; no Lego men or women were harmed during our parachute investigation!! As this half term draws to a close we are concluding our work on decimals, fractions and percentages.

Year 6

We are extremely proud of all Year 6 children – they have all tried their best during SAT's week. Some of them are even saying that they enjoyed the challenge. Alongside preparing for SAT's they have continued to have a varied curriculum that has included learning about Ancient Greece, baking, athletics, Royal Wedding Fun and cricket. We are pleased that Myton Park won the heat in cricket yesterday and will now go on to represent the cluster in the Stockton Schools Festival. We have lots of enrichment planned for their final half term at Myton Park.

The Hub

The children in The Hub have enjoyed learning about farms and growing. They have enjoyed finding out about the different animals on the farm and matching mother and baby animals – learning the names of the offspring. They have experimented painting and collaging farm animals using a range of materials of their choice. During the farm bus visit the children enjoyed the chance to hold the various animals and learnt about how they are looked after. Following on from this the children have been learning about growing plants and what plants need. They have each sown a bean and are watching it grow and will be bringing it home at the end of the week.

RE

As part of our work on world religions and festivals, we have chosen one festival for each main religion which we will learn about and celebrate as a whole school. This half term we celebrated the Sikh festival of Vaisakhi. This celebrates the birth of the Khalsa and their harvest. Each class explored how the festival is celebrated and had a chance to learn some Bhangra dancing which often takes place during the festival. The PTA kindly paid for DanceFuzion to teach each class from Reception to Year 6 some traditional Bhangra dancing. The children all enjoyed the chance to learn new moves – why not have a go at home.

PE

Year 5 have had a busy term so far. They have attended competitions in dodgeball, cricket and athletics. 7 of the children represented the school at the Stockton finals for dodgeball and acquitted themselves very well. They finished 4th – winning 5 of their games. The whole class have attended a cricket competition, with everyone having lots of fun. Everyone performed extremely well with the boys team finishing 1st. They will now go on to represent the school at the finals at Norton.

Many of our Year 4 boys and girls attended competitions in football this term. They were all clearly excited as it was the first time for some of the children representing the school in a sporting event. Both teams performed really well in their competition with some children even finding a new love for football!!!

Year 6 attended the cluster cricket competition at Maltby. The boys team managed to finish 1st whilst the girls team finished 2nd. Both teams will go on to represent the school at the finals at Norton.

School Council

As you may have noticed we have had a new small play structure added to the timber trail. This has been paid for through the fund raising of the school council (tuck shop) and our PTA. A big thank you to everybody who has contributed. The play structure is not open as yet, as some works still need to be completed to check the foundations, post installation, but will hopefully be ready soon. Please remember that both play structures are not to be used before or after school as they require staff supervision. School will not be responsible for the safety of you children at these times.

The school council are in the process of deciding on what their next fund raising project will be.

Children, please remember to speak to your class representatives about your ideas and thank you for continuing to support us through our weekly tuck shop.

PTA

The PTA have begun to plan for the Summer Fayre. This will be held on Wednesday 20th of June at 3.00pm. We look forward to seeing you all there. Don't forget, your contributions go towards us being able to add enjoyment and enrichment to the learning experiences of the children. The PTA help out with school trips, the cost of baking and cooking in school and memorable experiences, such as the Royal Wedding celebrations. They have also recently footed the bill to have the lighting system on the hall repaired for productions. In these days of ever decreasing school budgets, the work of the PTA really does make such a difference. We hope to see you at the fair.

GDPR

As you will all be aware, the rules on data are changing. As a result, we have sent out renewals for photographic permission in line with these. We will be posting a new Privacy notice on the school website at the very beginning of next half term.

We have reviewed our internal procedures– the vast majority of which already meet with the regulations.

I would though, like to remind you that it is school policy to only use children's initials in emails, so please do not be offended if we use your child's initials in any correspondence.

Lunchtimes

As you know, we are constantly evaluating our practices and work to ensure that all children reach their full potential. As part of this work we will be making some slight changes to the school day so we can optimise learning opportunities.

As from Monday 4th June, lunchtime for Reception and Key Stage One classes will be from 12.00 noon (instead of 11.45) and 12.15 for Key Stage Two (instead of 12.00) Assembly will be shifted to the afternoon.

Reading, Spellings and Times Tables

Our children work hard in school in all their lessons and demonstrate a positive attitude to their learning. We do though, really need our children to practice their basic skills far more often at home. Increasingly, reading fluency is a very important aspect of high attainment, and this can only be achieved with regular practice. Please do work with your children to make sure that they are practising regularly. Reading really is the foundation of all learning and will make such a difference to their overall attainment, but far more importantly, their self-confidence and their self-esteem.

Spellings and tables also have a huge impact; so again, regular practice is essential.

Research demonstrates a very strong correlation between parental engagement and child success.

Your involvement in your child's learning will have a huge impact on how well they do.

Building Maintenance

We will be having some new office furniture delivered in the next few days to ensure that the school offices are GDPR compliant.

We had new blinds fitted to key stage 2 classrooms and the key stage one toilets refurbished over the Easter holidays.

During this coming half term, we will have new interactive whiteboards fitted to the year 1 and year 2 classrooms and some window film fitted to key stage one and EYFS classrooms, to reduce the glare from the sun on electronic boards. The dining hall tables will also be replaced.

The summer will see us having new carpets fitted to key stage one and key stage two classrooms and have the ICT suite upgraded to allow for even more effective teaching approaches.

Holidays in Term Time

There has recently been an increase in the number of holiday requests made by parents for their children to miss term time. Parents do need to be aware that if attendance reaches a certain level, then the Governing Body will need to review its policy on fining.

Good attendance is essential to good progress, and your child reaching their full potential, so please do consider very carefully your holiday plans. Children should attend school for a minimum of 95% for their progress to not be impacted. Any holiday taken is likely to take your child below this level, when combined with any time lost to illness.

Pick Up at Pick Up

This week sees the start of the community project with the "Ingleby Barwick Community Litter Project". We are excited to be part of this very worthwhile cause. Not only does it work to make Ingleby a nicer and safer place to be for all residents and pets, it is working to help embed positive skills and an appreciation of caring for the local community in our children, I really do hope that this builds into a very active part of school life and we look forward to seeing many of you participating.

Future Dates



28th May – 1st June 18

4th June 18

27th June 18

9th to 13th July 18

9th July 18

11th July 18

19th July 18

20th July 18

23rd July 18

May half term holiday

Children return to school

Grandparents afternoon at 1.30pm

Health and Fitness Week

Open Afternoon

Family picnic at 12 noon followed by sports day at 1.30pm 18th

(Reception to Y6 only)

Y6 leavers' assembly at 10.00am

Last day of academic year

PD Day

Future dates for academic year 18–19

3rd September 18

4th September 18

24th September 18

29th October – 2 November 18

24th December 18 – 4th January 19

18th February 19 – 22nd February 19

8th April 19 – 22nd April 19

6th May 19

27th May 19 – 31st May 19

Tuesday 23rd July 19

PD Day

Children return to school after summer holidays

PD Day

Half term holiday

Christmas holidays

February half term

Easter holidays

Bank holiday

May half term

Last day of term

Myton Park
Primary School