

Myton Park Primary School

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Web address: www.sbschools.org.uk/mytonpark

Autumn Term 2 2019

I must start this newsletter with a thank you to all the staff who have worked so hard to make this term, especially the end with Christmas, such a positive one.

Performances:

Staff and children have worked exceptionally hard and I am sure that you will all agree that the standard of performances achieved was once again exceptional. It is so wonderful to see the children enjoying the experience and thriving in school. The planning and time spent by staff in preparing the performances, the children's commitment to learning their parts, to singing the songs with such enthusiasm, accompanied by your wonderful support in creating the costumes is a great team performance to produce a wonderful show. It is one of the highlights of my school year.

Attendance

Thank you so much for your support this term. We are very aware it has been a difficult one for so many of you, with some really nasty bugs and viruses going around. Your continued commitment to our school community means that, although we have had poorer than average attendance of the year, the spread was not as bad as we had thought it would be and thankfully many children have managed to avoid the worst of it. I do hope this continues over the festive period and that you all manage a healthy and happy family time together.

Illness notifications

May I take this opportunity to remind you, we do have some children in school who are dealing with medical difficulties? It is therefore essential that you inform us of any illnesses your child may have, or has been exposed to. This should definitely include chicken pox and measles, but if you are in any doubt, please do pass information onto us so we can forward it to the relevant parties. Taking care of all the children in school as if they were our own must remain at the core of what we do.

Fund Raising

Thank you so much to all of you who have contributed to our fund raising. It really is very much appreciated and will help us to make such a difference to the children. With the combined efforts of the Christmas Fair, the cards and collections made at performances and the carols in the playground, our total for the last few weeks stands at £1846.27.

Thank you so much to our committed band of volunteers who put in a great deal of work to helping support school.

We will let you know in the spring term what we will be spending the monies raised on.

Leisure Centre

I met with the project manager a few weeks ago and he reported that the centre is on track to be completed on time. Drainage and internal fittings are progressing well. Now most of the work is internal, there are no foreseen difficulties.

Extension

The planning for our extension is in the final stages and we do hope that at some point next year the build will begin. Once the final legal issues have been resolved, we hope that the work will commence. This will include a classroom extension for our EMS for cognition and learning, a meeting room being built on the front of the school, a staffroom extension and re-development of our outdoor learning space for EYFS.

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Class News

The Hub

This half term the children have been learning about being a 'Street detective'. They have explored the local area around school and discussed their likes and dislikes about the area. They have interviewed a resident about how the area has changed over time and enjoyed looking at old photographs of the area. The children have found out about different types of houses and homes and used their DT skills to make their own property from a box, choosing appropriate resources.

In Maths, the children have been practising their addition and subtracting skills along with practising their recall of number fact families. They have also been using and naming money as well as practising making different amounts. Keep practising this at home with real money.

Our Science topic has been materials and the children have enjoyed finding out about different properties of materials and experimenting to find which material would be best to keep a tiger dry.

The children in The Hub took part in the Key stage 2 Christmas performance and worked hard learning the lyrics to the songs. I am proud of how well they joined in and hope you enjoyed the performance as much as we did.

Nursery

This half term we have been talking about Winter and exploring 'Where the snow goes'. The children have enjoyed exploring ice and talking about what happens when ice melts and how we keep it frozen. We have tried out gloves made of different materials, for example paper, wool, etc to see which keep our hands warm. We enjoyed going out onto the frosty playground and looking at water that had frozen overnight. We really enjoyed our trip to Wynyard hall to have breakfast with the elves – we were lucky that we had a sunny day for our walk through the woods.

We have been very busy preparing for Christmas – learning our Christmas songs, preparing for parties and are very much looking forward to our families joining us for Christmas crafts.

Reception

Reception have had a hard working, fun-filled first term. This half term our topic has been "Where Does the Snow Go?" We have carried out investigations with ice and filled the classroom with different types of fake snow. In Maths we have been learning our numbers to 20 and all about 2D shapes and their properties. Our class stories have all had a snow or Christmas theme and the activities in English have been based around these stories. In PE, we have been practising our throwing, catching and balancing. In the classroom we have enjoyed activities and fun games, learning to work as a team, play together, take turns and listen to others. We hope you all enjoyed the Christmas performance and crafts. The children had a lovely time having breakfast with the elves.

Thank you for your support. Merry Christmas from Reception.

Year 1

The children have had a busy half term in Year 1. They have all enjoyed our topic – Moon Zoom. On our first day there was a crash landing in our playground. There was debris everywhere! We think it was an alien so did some investigating. We wrote a report to let people know what had happened after asking staff around the school what they saw and heard. Also in English we have been writing facts about planets and retelling the story of Astromouse. In Maths we have been continuing our work on problem solving and reasoning and answer lots of different types of questions. We have learnt about 2D and 3D shapes and are gaining a greater understanding on place value. We have been learning that teen numbers and 10 and some more. In P.E. we have been learning to move in different ways and thinking about how astronauts walk on the moon. We enjoyed making rockets and spaceships from junk materials. First we made a design then at the end evaluated our finished product. In R.E. we have learnt about what it means to belong to a community or group. We watched videos about different types of Baptism. Next half term our topic will be 'Bright Lights Big City' and we are looking forward to sharing lots of new opportunities for learning with the children. As always please do not hesitate to talk to a member of the Year 1 team for any information or support required to help your child with homework, spellings, reading or other learning from school. Thank you for your continued support.

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Year2

We have had a fantastic first term in Year 2. We have loved our topic 'Street Detectives' and have really improved our geography skills and knowledge, particularly around the use of maps. We have also learnt more about houses and family life in the last 100 years and beyond. Thank you to Mrs Lazenby for coming to talk to us and for bringing photographs and artifacts for us to investigate. Our topic next half term is called Towers, Tunnels and Turrets, where we will be improving our DT skills alongside our history knowledge.

We continue to practise our arithmetic and reasoning skills in maths. We are learning to use practical equipment and drawings to support our calculations and are becoming more confident with mental calculations. We also love using Numbots and Times Table Rock Stars to help to practise our skills with the four operations (addition, subtraction, multiplication, division). In English, we are focused on becoming confident, fluent readers and we are using our skills to improve our comprehension of increasingly complex texts independently. We are also writing a range of fiction and non-fiction text types. We love to use Spelling Shed to help us to use spelling rules confidently and Mrs Lawson can see a real difference in our written work. .

Thank you for your continued support with homework and reading challenges. We hope that you have a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

Year3

Our topic this half term has been Tribal Tales. We have learnt about significant periods dating from the Palaeolithic, through to the Bronze Age. In order to cover a wide variety of these periods, we have used art, RE and English lessons.

In art, we learned about cave art. We examined the different materials used to create wall paintings thousands of years ago before making our own using charcoal.

We also studied rituals carried out by tribes thousands of years ago. The children were particularly interested in the significance of Stonehenge and were keen to find out how it got there and what its purpose was thousands of years ago.

In English, we have been writing reports about woolly mammoths. First, we researched the ancient creature before writing a report as if the body of a woolly mammoth had been discovered. We also wrote informatively creating an information leaflet about the ancient Scottish settlement of Skara Brae.

This half term has also marked the occasion of year 3 children taking a great deal of responsibility for the Christmas performance. Having taken on the majority of the bigger parts, the children have been expected to learn their lines, follow stage directions, as well as learn 8 songs. Throughout rehearsals and the performances, the children have had a fantastic attitude and have been role models for the younger children – well done year 3! On behalf of the year 3 team, we would like to offer our best wishes to you all this festive season and wish you a relaxing, peaceful holiday.

Year4

We have had another action packed half term. The children have been transported back to 1066 and the infamous battle of Hastings. We have loved finding out about the four main protagonists and how William the Duke of Normandy fought his way to the English throne. The stand out event of the term came when we embarked on our Year 4 residential. A picturesque little woodland in the Yorkshire dales was our destination, our theme was survival (the children, not the staff). We tackled each and every task with vigour, determination and huge smiles on our faces, especially when the children had to set out their own sleeping bags. We couldn't have been more proud of each and every one of the class.

We have embraced Times Table Rock Stars, which has seen the whole class make huge improvements with their multiplication table facts and fluency, giving them more confidence in maths lessons. During the term, we have designed and created a number of engineering projects including a working drawbridge using a pivot and pulley system and a marble run, which the children have loved. We are all looking forward to becoming mountaineers during our next topic, Misty Mountain Sierra.

We hope you all have well deserved rest over the holidays

Thank you for all of your support

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Year5

What a busy Autumn Term we have had in Year 5. Our topic this half term has been "Stargazers" and everyone has really enjoyed finding out lots of facts about our amazing Solar System. We started the half term by creating a scaled Solar System and writing mnemonics to help us remember the order of the planets. In English we read lots of myths about the creation of the moon from other cultures. These helped us to write our own myth about how the moon might have been created. In Art we printed the phases of the moon over a lunar month. In History, we looked at significant people from the past who have developed our current scientific ideas about gravity and the Solar System such as Galileo and Aristotle. This has linked to our Science topic on forces and gravity.

Year6

Year 6 have had another fantastic half term. Our topic, Darwin's Delight, has seen us learn about evolution and adaptation. Taking part in Stockton's Road Safety Quiz, we learnt how to keep ourselves safe. We've thoroughly enjoyed our last Christmas at Myton Park attending Stockton Riverside College's, Annie and Conyer's production of Joseph. We hope you enjoyed our Christmas performance Panto Pandemonium; we certainly enjoyed performing it!

Merry Christmas from Year 6

Sporting events

This term we competed at the Stockton finals for the Indoor Athletics. All the children performed extremely well and showed an excellent sporting attitude. We just missed out on the top three places but the children should be very proud of their performances.

A team of Y5's went to All Saints to compete in the cluster basketball competition. Again they performed really well and thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon competing against the other schools that were there.

We have many events to look forward to after Christmas, with the swimming and football competitions starting as soon as we return to school.

On behalf of the whole school community, I would like to extend our warmest wishes for a very Happy Christmas and a festive New Year. Enjoy precious family time and treasure the memories of those no longer with us.

We look forward to seeing you back on 6th January 2020!



Future Dates

20th December 19

23rd December 19 – 5th January 20

6th January 20

17th – 21st February 20

Last day of this term

Christmas Holidays

Children return to school

February half term holidays