

Myton Park Primary School

Tel Number: 01642 754658 Fax number: 01642 750717 email: mytonpark@sbscholls.org.uk

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

Spring Term 1 2020

Playground

The children have been enjoying fun and games with the sports crew over the last few weeks. The children have really enjoyed this and their attitudes have been amazing. They have embraced the opportunities with enthusiasm and the year 6 children have done an amazing job supporting and encouraging their younger friends.

The children have worked well together, supported each other and together they have created a wonderful atmosphere on the playground.

Sports crew are working hard to make sure that they provide interesting games for the other children to engage in and I am so proud of what they have all achieved, with some wonderful help and support from Mr Busby.

Parent Support

Support from parents and grandparents continues to make a difference to school, but we would really like to explore how much more we can do as a community, to make the Myton Park family even stronger. We have our reliable and wonderful team who support our gardening project (they are always on the lookout for new recruits) and a small team who come into school to listen to readers, but we are always on the look out for help to ensure that your children get the best possible deal with their education.

Recently one of our parents has come into school for each Wednesday of February to help out with some odd jobs and has painted the interior of the Buddy shed (makes a huge difference) and another parent has offered some invaluable support, offering the services of a colleague from work to come into school to chat with the children about waste and what happens to resources after recycling. This will make such a difference to the work of the eco committee.

If any of you feel that you can support with anything, then please do be in touch. One off contributions or actions can make such a difference to what we can offer the children, and they really do deserve the best.

This could range from any form of sponsorship through business to help build our resources (science, DT, ICT resources) and learning opportunities, artistic skills that could help to develop our learning environment and resources for subjects such as history and geography.

If you feel you can offer any type of support, or would like to explore how you may help, then do be in touch.

Curriculum

Staff continue to work hard on developing a curriculum under the new framework to make sure the children learn to the best of their abilities and are enthused and interested in their learning.

The homework that is being produced across school, with amazing models, pictures of experiments being carried out at home, baking being brought in and research to find out amazing facts to name but a few, really is wonderful to see.

Alongside this we do a great deal of work around values and attitudes. We are working hard to instil intrinsic motivation and to help the children develop a positive "I can" mindset alongside resilience.

Recently in assemblies, we have been working to understand the impact of mistakes and the importance of seeing them as a positive in the learning process. The children have really responded in such a mature way and we would encourage you to talk about this at home.

It helps to instil the values of the Myton Park family strapline that "Together we Nurture, Inspire, Achieve."

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The children have explored and shared some amazing phrases that we can use in our everyday learning. Marvellous mathematicians make mistakes; You make mistakes, mistakes don't make you; FAIL means First Attempt in Learning; You're not meant to do what's easy, you're meant to challenge yourself; Genius is one percent INSPIRATION and 99 percent INSPIRATION . We encourage the children to see that they can't do something *yet*, rather than they can't do it if they are struggling with something new. They are responding to this really well, but embedding this at home and encouraging independence will really help to build their confidence and resilience; essential skills for modern society.

It is also important that you continue to encourage and work with the children to develop their basic, but essential skills of reading and number. Regular practice and work really does make such a difference. Your support makes a significant difference.

Uniform

The children all looked wonderfully smart in their uniforms ready for their photographs on Wednesday. Uniform and being smart plays a really important part in positive attitudes to school. It is important that we continue to work hard to attain high standards.

Thank you for your support in this, but please do remember that we do not allow any nail varnish. Ear rings must be small and only gold or silver, tights should be grey and not black and the children should wear a coat, not a hoodie please. Coats should not be fashionable, but sensible outdoor coat please. Simple things like this really do impact on behaviour.

Could we also remind you that hair should be tied up and any bobble and headbands should be very small and understated and not fashion items.

Leisure Centre

The work is progressing well and the centre is on track to be completed on time. Please do make sure that you have seen the information, sent out on the APP about the proposed changes to the public footpaths, especially for those older children who walk to school on their own.

This will also be uploaded onto the website.

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Class News

The Hub

This half term the children in The Hub have been learning about 'Towers, tunnels and turrets.' They are really enjoying this topic and have demonstrated enthusiasm when asking questions and sharing knowledge. They have been exploring and finding out facts about towers around the world such as the CN Tower, in Toronto (Canada); Big Ben and the Shard, in London (England); the Leaning Tower of Pisa, in Pisa (Italy); the Eiffel Tower, in Paris (France); and the Tokyo Skytree, in Japan. Why not see if your child can tell you a fact about one of them?

As part of their science work, the children built a castle wall out of wooden blocks and then explored how the weight of a projectile thrown effects the damage done. They had great fun working out what caused the most damage. They have also been exploring how to build bridges and make them stronger. They enjoyed working as teams to make bridges out of spaghetti and marshmallows (although all they really wanted was to eat the marshmallows!)

As part of the children work in English, the children have been thinking about the story 'The tunnel' by Anthony Browne. They children have been working on changing the ending to the story to make up their own new version from when Rose entered the tunnel. Where will she end up? What will happen and how will she save her brother? See if your child and retell their story to you at home. Our maths work this half term has focussed on understanding multiplication as sets of and division and sharing

Nursery

This half term we have been learning about what happens when we fall asleep. We have talked about bedtime routines and those people who work at night. We have set up a role play police station and the children have enjoyed working in the creative area making walkie talkies to support their play.

We have used non-fiction books to find out about nocturnal animals and sorted a set of animals according to whether they came out in the day or night. We read the story "Whatever Next" and talked about what it would be like to land on the moon. We will finish our topic with a pyjama party where the children will be able to come to nursery wearing pyjamas. We will drink hot chocolate and have bedtime stories.

Reception

This half-term, the children's topic has been 'What Happens When I Sleep?'

They have learned about day and night, star constellations, the moon, the sun and planets. They enjoyed sitting in a box with a torch whilst investigating light and dark. Mrs Mather enjoyed it too! The children also know about people who help us at night and bedtime routines.

All the class books have had a night time theme and the children have been using their imagination in their writing and whilst acting out our stories.

In Maths, we have studied and worked practically with length, weight, capacity and are currently practising our number bonds to ten with various concrete apparatus.

In PE, the children have been practising their gymnastic skills, throwing, catching and team games and they have thoroughly enjoyed working with our PE expert. We are also becoming more competent using the iPads and computers, focusing on games, art and PicCollage.

We spent a week learning about the origins of the Chinese New Year and how it is celebrated in China and other countries. We made colourful dragon masks and Chinese lanterns.

Thank you for your continued support. We are looking forward to our next topic.

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Year 1

This half term Year 1's topic has been 'Bright Lights, Big City'. A lot of our learning has been about the Great Fire of London. The children really enjoyed learning facts about the fire. They used their knowledge to write a recount about what happened during the fire. We talked about how the fire was extinguished and looked at the equipment used by people to help put the fire out. We have all learnt a lot about London. The children researched the vehicles which are used to transport people around a city. They made their own information text to share the facts they found out using a picture plan to remember the facts independently. The children have also started to learn about our Royal Family and have found out some information about the Queen. In computing we have used a search engine to find images related to London and to have a virtual tour of Buckingham Palace. Recently we have continued our learning in Science about seasons and have been talking about the changes we have noticed since winter has begun. The children are excited about us bringing a speaking and listening activity in to our school time with the chance to 'show and tell' with their friends. They will all have time to talk, listen and ask questions. We would like to introduce Mr Richardson to our Year 1 team. He is a student teacher which will be working in our school alongside Mrs Roberts and Mrs Hargrave for his teaching placement.

Year2

We have had a fantastic start to 2020 and have really enjoyed our new topic, 'Towers, Tunnels and Turrets'. In English, we have written non-chronological reports, stories, a newspaper article and poems. We continue to practise our reading skills every day and are focusing on our understanding of the text. In History, we have been learning more about who lived and worked in castles and also found out about the life and work of Isambard Kingdom Brunel. In Geography, we have been using maps, atlases and Google Earth to find famous landmarks throughout the world. We are also learning to identify the continents and oceans of the world. Our Maths work has been focused on multiplication and division, where we have used practical equipment, drawings and our times tables to help our learning. Thank you for your continued support with homework. The children have produced some wonderful projects and enjoyed sharing their home learning with the class. Our next topic is Land Ahoy, where we will be learning about pirates and explorers, making boats and discovering more about Grace Darling.

Year3

Our topic this half term is Tremors. The children have thoroughly enjoyed this topic and been very enthusiastic to learn about volcanoes, earthquakes and Tsunamis. We have learned all about the cross section of volcanoes, the tectonic plates across the world, as well as the ring of fire. Based on our topic, the children have written newspaper reports about the recent earthquake in Teesside. The children researched the event, as well as discussed their own experiences of the day before writing their report. In English, the children have written biographies about well-known people. We carried out research about Rosa Parks and her impact on challenging racial stereotypes, her promotion of equal rights and standing up for what she believed in. The children, again, were very enthusiastic to learn about Parks' life, and have written some lovely biographies based on her life, focusing on the famous bus incident. We have also studied Kennings, creating poems about volcanoes and earthquakes. In Science, the children have been learning about rocks. We have learnt about metamorphic, sedimentary and igneous rocks. We also learned about how they were formed, as well as classifying them based on similarities and differences. Currently, we are studying fossils. In Maths, the children have learned lots about multiplication and division. They have practised using the inverse operation, as well as using related facts. The children have also enjoyed competing in numerous Times Table Rock star battles against other year groups, including year 4 and 6. Currently, the children are top of the leader board and have made huge strides of improvement in their knowledge and understanding of multiplication. The children are coming towards the end of block two of swimming. They have represented the school very well throughout the fortnight and have tried their best each lesson.

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Year4

Another great half term in Year 4, where all of the children have excelled!

The children have thoroughly enjoyed our current topic (Misty Mountain Sierra). The children enjoyed researching and writing their non-chronological reports about mountain ranges, which they then presented as a vlog! We have also continued to improve our story writing skills this half term, with our stories of *The Girl and The Yeti*. In Science, we have been finding out about the water cycle. The children have conducted their own experiments to see the water cycle in action and to identify the variables that can affect the process. We have focused on multiplication and division in maths, looking at procedural and conceptual variation helping the children to deepen their understanding of key concepts. In Art, we designed and constructed our own mountains, using clay and mod-roc and then completing our design with paint for added detail. We are looking forward to our next topic, "Raiders and Traders".

Thank you for your continued support.

Year5

Year 5 came back to school in January 2020, only to travel back in time to 3,000 BC and learn all about the mighty Pharaohs who ruled over Ancient Egypt! Our topic has seen us write a chronological report about the discovery of Tutankhamun's tomb by the English archeologist Howard Carter. After writing our report, we created an IMovie to show off our reports to a real audience. We were really interested to read about the 'curse' of the mummy's tomb, which newspapers of the day claimed to have existed, but we came to the conclusion that all of the strange events following the discovery of the tomb could be explained rationally... couldn't they?! We have also written our own fictional mystery story in which we discover a cursed tomb. Some of the stories were so spooky and suspenseful that Mrs Jones and I were worried that we might not be able to go to sleep that night! Our Maths work this half term has focused on area and perimeter of rectilinear shapes and multiplication and division. We have all worked hard to understand the long multiplication method and this is a skill that we know we will need as we move into secondary school; what an achievement to have mastered this in Year 5! As part of our DT work, we made and tasted our own Egyptian bread. In Art, we developed our own sketched design of a wedjat eye and created a very colourful Scarab beetle sketch. In History, we developed our understanding of timelines and placing significant events of the Ancient Egyptian time period on a timeline. In RE we asked 'what are religious rules for?' with a focus on food and drink; we had some very thought-provoking discussions! We have all thoroughly enjoyed this fascinating topic and we are really pleased that our learning is not over quite yet. We are all excited to be going on a trip to the Oriental Museum in Durham after half term to take part in a whole day of Egyptian themed workshops, which will involve handling real Ancient Egyptian artefacts and taking a trip into the afterlife.

Year6

Year 6 have been enjoying our topic, *Hola Mexico*. We've created and enjoyed Mexican music, food and art. Studying the ancient civilisation, *The Maya*, we have learnt about the way of life, but weren't too keen on the game *Pok-a-tok* where the defeated team sacrificed their captain to death. After enjoying *Maya* myths, we've used the features to create our own.

We are continuing to work hard in preparation for our SATs in May.

School Council

School council have been working hard on our preparations for Sports Relief. Currently, they are also planning their legacy activities, which will enhance school life for all. As always, school council have organised and ran tuck shop, which remains popular throughout school.

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Sporting events

The Y6 football team participated in a football competition at All Saints. They thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon sowing a great sporting attitude throughout. They are already asking when the next football tournament is happening.

We are looking forward to the swimming gala with many children putting their name down to represent the school.

Next term we have many events and competitions planned for all year groups so keep your eyes open!!



Future Dates

17th to 21st February 20

24th February 20

10th March 20

2nd April 20

6th to 17th April 20

February half term

Children return to school

Year 1 workshop at 2.50pm

Year 5 family assembly @ 2.45pm

Easter holidays

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