

The Beacon

Academic Year 2018/19

Issue No: 21

Date 1st March 2019

Hello from Mr West

In an age where we never stop, where each minute is accounted for, the pressure on all of us to be the best version of ourselves is consistently being pushed to the limit. Wellbeing is often discussed, but the question I ask is, what impact will this discussion have? For me personally the wellbeing of our children and the school team is of paramount importance. Everyone needs time to think, breathe, re-centre and be mindful. At Montpelier this conversation is one that is never far from our thoughts as we continue to embark on our journey of shaping individuals for the life that they have ahead of them. One consideration that has recently been discussed is the importance of sleep. We will be exploring the question how much do we need? Alongside other factors such as the Impact of diet on the quality of it and the importance of an established routine. Your thoughts and contributions here would be greatly appreciated. I do hope your weekend is a restful one. See you on Monday.

Governor of the month - February

Welcome back after the first break of 2019! As local governors of the ISP, we regularly spend time in the school to understand how each of our year groups are developing, and also to experience some of the fun and exciting opportunities children receive from the fantastic teaching across the school. Very rewarding!

However, for governors, it's not just about experiencing the classroom and nodding heads at our meetings. We have a duty to ensure the school provides a good quality education for all pupils, but also working as a team, helping focus on a plan for the strategic direction of the school. This week I spent time with our Senior Leaders reviewing progress against this plan.

It really is an exciting time for Montpelier as we start to see this plan take shape and see it being used as a working document. Positive actions are evolving. As a snippet, weekly learning walks from senior leaders are providing a consistent monitoring tool for each of our classes. The purpose is certainly not to catch our teachers out, but to drive consistent teaching practices and give an opportunity for feedback where necessary. The school has also been encouraging staff to develop their professional expertise by sharing working practices and learning of pupils to aid personal development. Finally a clear and consistent approach to phonics teaching in early years and KS1 is evident and gaining positive outcomes when assessments are made.

Lots of work still to do, but certainly encouraging how the leadership of the school is having impact upon the education of the children at Montpelier. Enjoy your weekend!

Neil Demuth (Governor of the month – February)

School Term Dates for 2018/2019

Fri 8th March - PTFA meeting

Wed 13th March – Foundation & Year 6 Vista Class Photos

1st April to 5th April - The Big Pedal

Fri 5th April – Last Day of Spring Term 2019.

Mon 8th to Mon 22nd April – Easter Holiday 2019.

Tues 23rd April – Non-Pupil Day.

Wed 24th April – Summer Term 2019 begins.

Thurs 2nd May – PTFA Quiz Night

Mon 6th May – Bank Holiday.

Mon 27th to Fri 31st May – Summer Half Term Break 2019.

Wed 12th June – Tempest Class photos & Year 6 individuals

Mon 1st July – KS1 (Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2) Sports Day starts at 10am

Tues 2nd July – 9:30am Years 3 and 4 / 1:15pm Years 5 and 6

Wed 24th July – 2:30pm end of term finish (**Yr6 finish at 1.30pm**)

Thurs 25th July 2019 – Non-Pupil Day.

Tues 3rd Sept – First day of term

Year 6

Year 6 have started studying suspense writing. We learnt that authors often use the technique of playing with the senses. Here we are on our Wow day having our senses played with!



PTFA Meeting

The next ptfa meeting will be on Friday 8th March at 7pm. It is being held at one of the members houses so please email ptfa@mpsplymouth.net for the address if you would like to attend.

Railway Beacon YFC

Railway Beacon YFC family oriented FA Charter Standard Club require players for a NEW U9 TEAM to play 7 V 7 Mini Soccer Games as part of The Devon Junior Minor League football next season 2019/20.

Age qualification must be school year 4, starting September 2019

Please contact Chairman Larry Reed on No. 07899 893715 for training details.

Exciting Easter Activity Camps!

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Typical day

AM	PM
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Easter Egg HuntsActivity ChallengeMulti SportsArts & CraftsSwim TimeThemed Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Outdoor AdventuresHealthy ZoneFun FactoryParachute GamesChildren's ChoiceTeam Games

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Montpelier Primary School

School Term Dates 2019/20

	September-19					October-19					November-19					December-19				
Monday	2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28		4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30
Tuesday	3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29		5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31
Wednesday	4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	
Thursday	5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26	
Friday	6	13	20	27		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	

	January-20					February-20					March-20					April-20				
Monday		6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24		2	9	16	23	30		6	13	20	27
Tuesday		7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25		3	10	17	24	31		7	14	21	28
Wednesday	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26		4	11	18	25		1	8	15	22	29
Thursday	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27		5	12	19	26		2	9	16	23	30
Friday	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28		6	13	20	27		3	10	17	24	

	May-20					June-20					July-20					August-20				
Monday		4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29		6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31
Tuesday		5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30		7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	
Wednesday		6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24		1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	
Thursday		7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25		2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	
Friday	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26		3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	

The school year comprises:

Teaching Days (statutory)	190
Professional Development Days ¹	5
Occasional Days ²	5
sub-total	200
School Holidays	53
Bank Holidays	8
Saturdays & Sundays	105
Total	366

School Terms:

term	start	end	days
1	2 nd Sep 2019	18 th Oct 2019	35
2	28 th Oct 2019	20 th Dec 2019	40
3	6 th Jan 2020	14 th Feb 2020	30
4	19 th Feb 2020	27 th Mar 2020	28
5	14 th Apr 2020	22 nd May 2020	28
6	1 st Jun 2020	23 rd Jul 2020	39
Total			200

Notes:

1. Professional Development Days to be allocated by each school from within the specified term dates.
2. Occasional Days to be allocated by each school from within the specified term dates: an allocation as suggested would support the equal distribution of term lengths.