

The Beacon

Academic Year 2019/20

Issue No: 15

Date 17th Jan 2020

Hello from Mrs Hunter

We are in the midst of our Aladdin rehearsals ready for our performances next week. Headteachers are sometimes asked why they think these sorts of opportunities are so important and why we are not using the time in the school week for maths and English, academic learning. During the audition and rehearsal stages I have seen children step out of their comfort zone in a way they wouldn't do in a standard lesson. I have seen them cheer on their peers, help them to learn lines (then glow with pride when their friend has mastered it) and seen them master a new skill. I have seen children thrive as they feel the adrenalin of performing, develop the skill of patience as they wait for their turn and I have seen them problem solve and use their initiative. As a school we strive to develop Curious, Creative and Confident learners. Putting on a production such as Aladdin is just one way that we enable this to happen. Our cast is nearly two hundred strong and their length of time on stage might vary, but each of them are flourishing in so many ways. For those of you who are coming to watch next week - enjoy!

In the same way I am excited to be joining Miss JR and the team as we set off to take part in Young Voices in Birmingham, returning tomorrow. I am incredibly proud to be the Headteacher of a school where the staff goes above and beyond to make sure that we provide more than just academic learning for our children!

Have a great weekend and see you next week.

Mrs Hunter :-)

Staff Car Park

May we remind parents that the car park in North Down Road is for STAFF ONLY. As such the gate will be locked at 8:30am each morning. Parents should not use the car park at the end of the day either when collecting from clubs or Monty's Den. We would also like to remind parents that they should keep to the pedestrian areas around the carpark and not walk across the carpark itself.

Music News

Due to the Aladdin performance, there is no choir on Thursday 23rd January and advance notice that there will be no Y2/3 choir on Tues 3rd March and no Thursday Choir on Thursday 5th March.

Good luck to 21 Year 5 pupils singing tonight in Birmingham as part of a choir of 6500 at Young Voices. We hope you have a brilliant time!

School Term Dates for 2019/2020

Wed 22nd Jan – School Panto - Aladdin
Thurs 23rd Jan - School Panto - Aladdin
Fri 24th Jan - School Panto - Aladdin
Mon 17th – Fri 21st Feb Inc. - Half term
Mon 30th March – Mon 13th April Inc. – Easter holidays
Tues 14th April – Non-Pupil Day
Fri 8th May – Bank Holiday
Mon 11th May - Yr6 SATs
Sun 17th – 22nd May – Yr 6 Bude
Mon 25th – Fri 29th May - Half term
Fri 26th June – Non-Pupil Day
Wed 22nd July – end of term
Thurs 23rd July – First day of summer holidays

Railway Beacon YFC

Railway Beacon YFC require players for an U9 TEAM to play 7 V 7 Mini Soccer Games in February as part of The Devon Junior Minor League season 2019/20.

Age qualification must be school year 3 or 4, starting September 2019. Please contact Manager Jim Lucas on mobile: 07948 722926 for training details.

Chalk Paint Needed

Any colour, any make, any amount!

We would appreciate unwanted pots of chalk paint to use to upcycle furniture in the new nurture room (The Den).

The tubs of paint do not need to be full!

Please send in any donations to Sarah Green or Jane Gilbert.



School Timings – a polite reminder

A reminder of the start times for children at Montpelier. Being on time is vital. Arriving late at school can be very disruptive for your child, the teacher, and the other children in the class. Children arriving in their classroom after the close of registration (after 8:50am for Foundation and KS1, and 8:45am for KS2) will be marked as late.

After 30 minutes children will be marked as 'late after registration' – this is an unauthorised absence on your child's records. Children are welcome to come onto the school playgrounds from 8.30am onwards, doors will open at 8:35 for KS2 and 8:40am for Foundation and KS1.

Please note the 5-minute difference in the opening/closing times between the two keystages.

Foundation	KS1	KS2
8:40 – 8:50am Doors open & registration	8:40 – 8:50am Doors open & registration	8:35 – 8:45am Doors open & registration
9:20 – 9:50am Break	10:30 – 10:45 am Break	10:30 – 10:45 am Break
11:50am – 12:50pm Lunch	12:10 – 1:10pm Lunch	12:15 – 1:15pm Lunch
3:10pm Finish	3:10pm Finish	3:15pm Finish

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Hi Parents and Carers,

My message this week is for all of our school families that have PlayStations.

Our local 'South West Grid for Learning' has just published advice about how to make sure families can enjoy a safe gaming experience on PlayStations. The advice is designed to be quick to read and quick to implement. It is called '5 in 5' and gives five tips that can be read in five minutes and be implemented just as quickly!

SWGFL will be uploading an Xbox guide in the next few weeks with advice specific to that console, so I will let you know when it is available.



The full '5 in 5' PlayStation advice is available to read at

<https://swgfl.org.uk/magazine/staying-safe-on-playstation-5-in-5/>

Enjoy some safe online gaming,

Monty

OUR FOREST AREA UPDATE

Our forest area improvements are almost complete! Thank you so much to all the staff and parents that have made this happen by either by volunteering their time, materials or both! It really has been a fantastic team effort. Here are some before and after pictures of the impressive transformation!



No entry

STRICTLY NO ENTRY AFTER SCHOOL

It is now more important than ever to stress that there is strictly no access after school. This is to ensure the area is ready to be used as an outside classroom when classes go out there and also for children's own safety.



No entry

Thank you for your support with this.

Forest Sign Competition

To help with this I would love the children to help design a no entry sign!

The prize will be session cooking either marshmallows or popcorn over the fire as a thank you for their work!

The sign needs to be **bold and bright** and include a phrase such as – 'No Entry, Please do not come in our forest after school' etc. Whatever they think to make sure the forest is left for class time use only.

If children would like to participate, please see myself, Miss Nicholls for an entry form.

The deadline will be the 24th January so we can get a sign up ASAP!