

Milton Abbot Primary School



Newsletter 6th - 10th May 2019 Issue 4

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May I begin by saying a delighted congratulations to Mr. and Mrs Walkerdine, who are expecting their second child in September. This is excellent planning because it leaves plenty of time for Mr. Walkerdine to lead the SATs revision! Speaking of which...

It's time to sit the SATs! We wish good luck to all our Year 6 pupils, as they make final preparations to sit their SATs next week. We are already proud of all their hard work and dedication this year and all we now ask is that they keep as calm as they can and just give each test their best shot! Year 2 SATs take place week commencing 20th May and Year 1 phonics screening check is after half-term (w/c 10th June); again, we have been so pleased by every child's efforts - better never stops!

Safeguarding and personal wellbeing: Please be aware that all visitors are asked to hand in their mobile phones when they sign in at the office. If your child brings a mobile phone to school for out of school use, they should also hand these into the office for safe-keeping. Thank you for some super feedback on the new fence surrounding the sports field, we will soon be complimenting this with a matching fence to separate the MUGA entrance from the car park, as part of our efforts to keep children's space as safe as can be. Finally, please be aware that there is strict guidance on responding to negative comments made about teachers on social media - please do come and talk to us if you have feedback or concerns, we are always here to listen and improve. As ever, all your positive feedback spurs us on in whatever format you choose!

Hoot (PTFA): As Julie and Tim Jillians decide to step down from 'Hoot PTFA', we thank them for leading so admirably over the past few terms, organising many exciting events, which really put the children at the centre and of course we all enjoyed 'Homemade Milton'. We thank them for their time. Mr. Luxford will take the lead of HOOT for the time being, calling upon staff and parent volunteers to lend a hand when they can, as we continue to raise money through memorable events for the children. A committee is currently being drawn together, like The Avengers in Endgame, to represent parents from across the age-groups with a key focus on PTFA spending, continuing to seek new, creative and engaging opportunities for the children.

Sports Day and Vintage Summer Fair on 4th July: roll up, roll up, step right this way! We will be enjoying our annual Sports Day for all year groups on 4th July, with the reserve date being 11th July. This event will begin with an opening ceremony, with an awesome dance learnt during Miss. Squires' dance lessons. Sports Day will be followed by our annual Summer Fair, which will have a 'vintage' theme this year, including coconut shy, hoky-poky ice-creams, Pimm's, cream teas, candy floss and other old-fashioned games. We hope families will stay to enjoy the fun, as we seek to raise money to go towards new playground apparatus for the children, something they have asked for.

Year 5 camping: there will be a letter coming home very soon to our Year 5 parents with details of our camping adventure, which is one night away when Year 6 go to Heatree. It was great fun last year, which included horse-riding and fishing, and we will be looking to be just as adventurous this year!

Snowy Owls News

This week the children have persevered to improve their skills with listening, balancing and teamwork through sports with Mr Wickett, he was very impressed! In class we have enjoyed learning about Australia. The children particularly enjoyed comparing the United Kingdom with Australia. We have been comparing the weather and seasons along with how Christmas is celebrated! The children have created some wonderful pictures during art using aboriginal style dot painting skills. They loved using dot painting to decorate and make their own rain sticks and digeridoo instruments!

Reminders: Chris Holland will be in school next Friday to lead our Outdoor-Australian Workshop with Little Owls and Snowy Owls. Please could all consent forms be returned by Monday.

Tawny Owls News

A very focused week in Tawny Owls class; we have been investigating different ways to collect and present data in Maths and Tawny Owls continue to become skilled at inferring information and coming to clear mathematical conclusions, through the collection of data. In English, the class are about to write up their own versions of the Paper Bag Princess, they have been adapted and several Princesses have to wear bin bags or banana skins!

In our 'Magnificent Mountain' topic, the class has created very detailed and informative leaflets about the animals that live on mountains. Please have a look at them on our writing display board. Next week we will be focusing on mountain explorers and how to survive a perilous mountain journey.

Eagle Owls New

All the children have worked so hard again this week in preparation for their Key Stage 2 SATs. We have been recapping and reinforcing learnt Mathematical concepts as well as going through grammatical features and reading comprehension activities. During the afternoons, we have been carrying on with our topic of 'Titanic' including art and dance as well as learning about when, where and how this tragic event happened.

Reminders: SATs week next week. Year 5 will be set different activities by Mr. Walkerdine and will be working in groups away from the Year 6 testing areas.

Talent Show: Thank you to all the contestants and audience members who entered into the fun at our talent show in March - it was a truly special evening with dancing, singing, magic, jokes, dog-training and much much more! Congratulations to Holly Wilson who was voted as the overall winner, with a beautiful song dedicated to the teaching skills of Mr. Walkerdine and the Eagle Owls! We raised nearly 100 and each contestant took home a yummy prize - thank you to Hoot once again. There will be more entertainment later in the term when Eagle Owls treat us to their annual summer performance. A date for this and the Year 6 graduation will follow.

The Big Activity Club: Next week we will be sending home a letter about 'The Big Activity Club', which will replace Busy Bees. The letter will explain how we are trialing a combination of our exciting range of clubs with our after-school care. It will cost just £1 for a session (15:30 - 16:30), and is open to all age-groups.

And finally... We will be supporting the England Women's football team as they attempt to win the World Cup in France (7th June to 7th July) and hope this inspires all our young sports stars. There might even be some opportunities to watch matches together in the hall after school, but we will need to confirm this nearer the time. **A Quote to inspire or bring a smile:** "The only way to win is as a team." Pele, 1970.