



January 19<sup>th</sup> 2018 Issue 17

### **Snowy Thursday!**

Early on Thursday, Mr Hunt and I inspected the area in and around school and felt that the conditions were too bad on the access roads and around the site to open the school safely. It is the first time we have done this in the four years since I have been here and it is not a decision that is taken lightly.

Thank you to Mr Hunt for his work with me on Thursday and Friday to ensure paths and areas in school were cleared and gritted. I hope our children had the chance to enjoy the snow but for me, roll on Spring!

Please send your child with wellies on days like today so they can enjoy going on the field to play. Thank you.

### **OurSchoolsApp**

We have used this app for about a year and I have received some very positive feedback about it. If you have not got OurSchoolsApp and would like to be kept up to date with news from the school, go to the relevant marketplace for your device (Apple Store or Google Play). Search OurSchoolsApp and download the app. Once downloaded, use the search bar and enter Montalbo. Hit the search button. Once you see the school name, click it and confirm your choice by pressing OK. Then you will be able to receive notifications on your phone or tablet.

### **Artist in school**

This week Dr Greenwell's and Miss Richardson's Class were lucky enough to work with an artist in school, Emma Long, who is interested in pursuing a career illustrating Science books for children. The children produced some superb drawings which they've used to illustrate an amazing display in the hall, combining the work with some high quality poetry from Miss Richardson's Class. Well done all!

### **Butterwick Assembly**

For a number of years, our school has supported the Butterwick Hospice with sales of Flumpets at Christmas time. I wanted to give the children an insight into the wonderful work the hospice does and on Wednesday we were visited by Beatrice the Bee and Millie who told us about how they support children and families in difficult times.

### **Trainers**

A reminder that trainers should be worn for PE only. We several children who are wearing trainers as school shoes then are keeping them on for PE which is not very hygienic. The majority of our children wear the correct footwear and we appreciate that. Please could all parents ensure that their child has the appropriate uniform. Thank you.

### **School Nurses in School**

Next week the school nursing team will be in school to do their annual checks of the height and weight of children in Reception and Year 6.

### **Online Safety**

The BBC has launched a new internet safety website aimed at nine to twelve year olds. It aims to help children develop confidence and resilience in the digital space and to become 'happy, healthy and creative digital citizens'. It offers a range of empowering tips, insights, stories and advice. The BBC will be using this site to showcase the work of other trusted organisations with similar aims. Why not visit [www.bbc.co.uk/ownit](http://www.bbc.co.uk/ownit) ? I have learnt a lot on the [Kids Explain](#) page where it explains to parents some of the 'new' words children use to one another!

### **Dr Greenwell's Class Assembly**

The next Class Assembly will be performed by Dr Greenwell's Class.

This will take place on Friday, February 9th at 9.00am. Parents and relatives of the children in this class are welcome attend.

### **Valentine's Disco**

This will be a little earlier in the year than usual due to the half term holidays and will take place on Thursday, February 8th.

Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and 2 will be from 5.30pm to 6.30pm and Year 3-6 will be from 6.45pm – 7.45pm. Tickets will be available from 29<sup>th</sup> January costing £1.50 which includes a drink and a hot dog.

### **WOW competition**

It has been nice to see the children collecting their WOW badges for walking to school at least once a week for a month. Many of them are keen to enter the badge competition to design a badge related to one of the seasons. Please bring in any designs you have by the end of February so we can send them off. Thank you.

### **Changing from School Lunch to Packed Lunch**

If you would like to change your child from having a school lunch to packed lunch, please be aware that we need two weeks' notice. Thank you

### **Collecting Stamps**

We are collecting stamps to support the RSPB. We have had quite a lot of stamps already which is great. There is a collection box near the children's entrance at the back of school.

### **Collecting Batteries**

Dr Greenwell talked to the children in assembly this week about the importance of recycling batteries. The children learnt a great deal and judging by the large quantity in the collecting box have been asking friends and families to save their used batteries! The collection box is near the playground entrance at the back of school.

### **Attendance for w.b. 15.1.18**

Class	Present
Mrs Bartoli's Reception	100%
Miss Lauder's Class	92.1%
Miss Blackburn's Class	95%
Dr Greenwell's Class	96%
Miss Richardson's Class	91.1%
School Total	94.2%

### **Punctuality**

Please ensure that your child arrives at school no later than 8.55a.m. in order to make a prompt start for lessons. Remember Wake Up, Shake Up usually starts at 8.45a.m. 10 minutes of learning was lost to lateness this week.

### **Dates for the diary**

February 5th	Y5/6 Netball Competition at the Alun Armstrong Centre 9.30-11.30am
February 6th	Safer Internet Day – Online Safety Assembly for Parents 3pm
February 6th	Y2/3 Multiskills Festival at Staindrop School 9.30am-11.30
February 9 <sup>th</sup>	Dr Greenwell's Class Assembly 9.00am
February 12 <sup>th</sup> - 16 <sup>th</sup>	Half Term
February 19 <sup>th</sup>	School starts after half term
February 21 <sup>st</sup>	Y5/6 visiting Teesdale School for dress rehearsal of Teesdale's play
March 14 <sup>th</sup> and 15 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Evening

Mr Minikin