



September 27th 2019 Issue 4

MacMillan Coffee Afternoon

I hope that this afternoon was a success and that you enjoyed the refreshments created by the children, whilst helping to support MacMillan Cancer Research. I thought that the staff came up with some fabulous ideas, linking the treats to their topics. We are keen for children to access a full range of experiences and they have baked quite a lot over the last few years. I will let you know the amount school raised next week to send off to MacMillan.

Monty News

I have been keen for some time to give children a voice in the life of the school, expanding on the excellent work of the School Council. One group of children working with Dr Greenwell has decided to write a termly newspaper entitled 'Monty News.' This is totally driven by the children and they will research and write articles of interest.

North East Autism Trust Assembly

On Wednesday we were delighted to welcome the NE Autism Trust to educate the children on Autism. They continued their work with two Key Stage 2 classes and know that after their visit the children have a much better understanding of children and adults with autism. As part of our work on equalities, we hope to invite a range of speakers to school this year.

Year 6 Bikeability

Next week the Year 6s have the chance to improve their road safety knowledge through cycling training provided by the local authority. They must have a roadworthy bike and helmet to take part and parents need to have completed the relevant consents. Sensible footwear and a coat are also advisable.

Christmas Fair and FOMS

One of my favourite events since I started at Montalbo was last year's Christmas Fair. FOMS and I are keen to run another and a date of Tuesday 3rd December has been confirmed. I know it's early to start mentioning Christmas but stall holders like to plan these events in and I know several parents are keen to have a stall! If you or anyone you know would like a stall please contact FOMS via friendsofmontalbo@gmail.com. Thank you. The next FOMS meeting is on Thursday 10th October at 5pm in school – **ALL** welcome!

Meet Project

We have started to receive some Meet photographs from members of the public and one or two from families in school. Please have a look at your old photos and send them in! We would love to see them. Alternatively, you could email any digital or scanned prints to montalbo@durhamlearning.net

Nursery Visit to the Witham

On Wednesday Nursery had a lovely experience at the Witham where they listened to Opera of the North and acted out The Carnival of the Animals. They joined in brilliantly and were very well behaved on their first trip away from school! Thank you to all of our helpers – we hoped that you enjoyed it too.

Year 1 visit to Barnard Castle

On Thursday our Year 1 children visited Barnard Castle and were fortunate with the weather! They enjoyed a full day down there exploring the ruins, having a treasure hunt to find the features of the castle and doing some sketching too. They behaved very well on what was a tiring but rewarding day. Thank you to our helpers once again.

Parking

I know that many of the streets are narrow around the pick up/drop off areas. However, please can drivers not park on the pavements as it is making parents arriving/leaving with prams and pushchairs journey very difficult. This must be equally difficult for all children/parents so please park considerately.

Wet weather

As you will have noticed this week, it has been very wet, but some children still arrive without a coat. Please can you check that your child has a coat for the next few months at least. Thank you.

Author Visit

As part of their topic on the industries that were in the town in the 1800s, particularly the carpet mills, Dr Greenwell arranged for an author, Christopher Vine, to visit the class. He writes the Peter's Railways series but also has expertise on The Industrial Revolution.

Reception Places 2020!

If your child turns 5 between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021 then you need to apply, even if your child already attends our nursery. By visiting www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions you can access a useful guide, which will help with your application. Paper application forms are available for your request. The telephone number for school admissions is 03000265896.

Secondary School Applications

The application period for Secondary places has opened for children in Year 6. Online application forms can be found at www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions. Alternatively, paper copies can be requested by e-mailing schooladmissions@durham.gov.uk or telephoning 03000265896.

Attendance for w.b. 23.09.19

Class	Present
Reception	94.1%
Year 1	100%
Year 2	99%
Year 3	99%
Year 4	97.9%
Year 5	96.5%
Year 6	99.3%

School overall attendance is 97.8%

Dates for the diary

September 30 th	Year 6 Bikeability
September 30 th	Y3 visit to the Bowes Museum
October 1 st	Year 6 Bikeability
October 4 th	Year 2 visit to the Bowes Museum
October 9 th	Individual and siblings photographs
October 11 th	Year 6 Class Assembly
October 16 th	Year 6 to Bowes Lyon House (Memories of the Meet)
October 16 th	Year 3 visit to Darlington Gurdwara
October 18 th	Show Racism the Red Card (wear red this day)
October 21 st	Key Stage 2 Cross Country (selected children)
October 22 nd	Reception/Y1 Parent Workshop (details to follow)
October 23 rd	Year 3 Tag Rugby Festival
October 24 th	Year 5 Multiskills
October 24 th	Halloween Discos
October 28 th – November 1 st	Half Term
November 4 th	Children back to school

Mr Minikin
Head Teacher

Please ensure that your child arrives at school no later than 8.55a.m. in order to make a prompt start for lessons.

23 minutes of learning was lost to lateness this week.