



April 5th 2019 Issue 27

Zoom!

On Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday evening we were treated to two amazing performances by our children from Years 3 and 4. To take on a performance of that length and complexity was a tremendous achievement and to see how our 7, 8 and 9 year olds have grown in confidence was lovely to see. Some characters had over 100 lines and to learn all of those was some effort! All of the children sang, danced, acted, improvised and coped with one or two technical difficulties on the evening wonderfully and I was very proud of them! They will have made some great memories. Looking around the audience, I could see how much you enjoyed it too and these performances are becoming a big part of our yearly calendar. Being able to increase our ticket allocation meant more families could come to watch which is another benefit from our extension.

It is no easy undertaking to pull these plays together and my thanks go to Dr Greenwell, Miss Scott, Mrs Bowron and Mrs Dupuy for their efforts. The costumes and face paints added to the performances and took a lot of time to create. Thank you also to Mrs Daniels, Mrs McIntyre, Mrs Wood, Miss Earl and Mrs Thomas for their help with the face painting. Finally, thank you to Friends of Montalbo School who helped out with refreshments.

Miss Lauder's Class Assembly

Congratulations to our fabulous Year 1 children for their Class Assembly today. They have such an appetite for learning and it is clear that they have enjoyed learning all about Pocahontas. They spoke very clearly and sang beautifully. Whenever I visit the classroom, they are so engaged and inspired and this definitely came across today. It was lovely to see their journey through the year and all of the learning that has taken place. Thank you to Miss Lauder and Mrs Daniels for their work on this.

Attendance Awards

This week I was able to hand out more than forty 100% attendance certificates for the Spring Term. Our whole school attendance is slightly better than the national average and currently stands at 96.2%. It has improved since the bugs around Christmas time and it would be very positive if this trend continued.

This afternoon we took these children plus those who had 100% attendance in the Autumn term to the park for a little treat. Well done!

Parent Pay Part 1

I believe that over time Parent Pay will be a good solution for busy parents. It has taken a lot of work to get this up and running and I thank Mrs Hauxwell for her work on this. Each school operates the system slightly differently and we have been working with Parent Pay on some start up issues. I will leave some space on this newsletter for Mrs Hauxwell to explain some frequently asked questions!

Mrs Bartoli's Class Assembly

The next Class Assembly will be Mrs Bartoli's reception children. This is at 9am on Friday 24th May and families of these children are welcome to attend.

Easter Flumpets

Thank you for supporting the Butterwick Hospice by purchasing the Easter Flumpets. You raised a magnificent £210 which will be gratefully received by the charity.

Year 3 Pedestrian Training

Our Year 3 children have all passed their pedestrian training and I hope that they remember and follow the Green Cross Code. Well done Year 3!

Parent Pay Part 2

The set up of the system has some initial anomalies which Parent Pay will be correcting shortly. These include pupils who are entitled to free school meals being charged, uniform charge of £1 on the details to pay page which should be ignored. If you have paid this please contact school to arrange a refund.

Credit or debit balances from school meals have been transferred to your account as have balances from care and clubs.

It was not possible to separate the balances for individual pupils transferred from care/clubs into separate amounts/accounts, therefore please ignore the item name the balance is held against e.g. monies owed for breakfast or afterschool care and activity clubs may have been allocated to parent Pay only as Activity Club or After School Care

Montalbo Extra final statements were issued this week so you should be able to reconcile the balance transferred to Parent Pay.

For families it has not been possible to attribute individual care/club balances, therefore one child has been nominated.

We expect the system to be correct from the start of the summer term and appreciate your understanding in the meantime.

If you have any queries please contact the school office.

Local History Books

The teachers have been busy compiling the history work and organising it into a book, ready to go off to the printers. This has been another excellent project and I thank our historians (children) and our teachings. I can't wait to see their work turned into real books!

Easter Holiday

It has been a very busy but enjoyable term and I think the children have worked very hard. Despite the footprint of the building growing, it still feels very much like Montalbo and now we are used to our surroundings, we can see the benefits.

I hope that all of our families have a lovely break and that the weather is fine. We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 23rd April.

Attendance for w.b. 1.4.19

Class	Present
Reception	93.7%
Year 1	93.7%
Year 2	96.1%
Year 3	99.3%
Year 4	97%
Year 5	97.8%
Year 6	96.5%
School overall attendance	96.5%

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

1 hour and 20 minutes of learning was lost to lateness this week.

Dates for the diary

April 8 th – 22 nd	Easter holiday
April 23 rd	Start of Summer Term – children return to school
April 24 th	Key Stage 2 Football tournament
May 1 st	Key Stage 2 Football tournament
May 13 th – 16 th	Year 6 SATs
May 20 th – 24 th	Year 2 SATs
May 22 nd -24 th	Year 6 Residential to Ford Castle
May 24 th	Reception Class Assembly
June 4 th	Year 3 and Year 4 to the Hancock Museum
June 5 th	Key Stage 2 Football tournament
June 6 th	Cricket Competition (Y6 selected children)
June 11 th	Band Workshop 1-2.30pm at Teesdale School followed by concert for parents 6pm-8pm at Teesdale School.
June 21-23 rd	1940s weekend
June 21 st	Year 4 Class Assembly

Mr Minikin

Head Teacher