



March 12th 2021

Welcome back

It was so lovely to see and chat to many children and parents on Monday morning on arrival to school. There was a mixture of genuine excitement from children and maybe a touch of relief from parents! On Monday after school, the staff reported how lovely the day had been. The buzz of children learning and seeing them play with their friends gives us all a great deal of pleasure. I think there are a lot of tired children (and staff!) and I thank them all for their efforts.

COVID 19 reminders

Please can **all** children and parents/carers remember to use the one-way system around school. This includes Nursery parents too. From the main entrance, the one-way system runs around the back of nursery and follows the school building around, exiting via the car park.

Also, unless parents/carers are exempt we ask that masks are worn by adults on the school site at pick up and drop off. Thank you.

Earlier this week I sent a message out around home testing kits, which are available free to parents of school age children and their support bubbles. This is to help reduce the asymptomatic spread of Covid-19. You can find more about how to order the tests [here](#).

Finally, please can parents not drive into the school car park. Thank you.

PE and Outdoor Learning Timetable

On PE days, children should come to school in their PE kits with a tracksuit/sportswear suitable for the weather – much of the PE will be outdoors when possible. The children are continuing to have outdoor learning lessons so should bring separate footwear for this – they may be on the field which can be boggy at this time so wellies/old boots etc.

Year group	PE	Outdoor Learning
Year 1	Thursday and Friday	Monday
Year 2	Monday and Tuesday	Tuesday
Year 3	Monday and Thursday	Friday
Year 4	Monday and Tuesday	Monday
Year 5	Thursday	Thursday
Year 6	Friday	Friday

Reception PE is on Wednesday but as in the Autumn term, we would like these children to get changed at school to aid their independence.

Acts of Kindness

Thank you to the children and parents/carers who have sent in their child's Acts of Kindness to montalbo@durhamlearning.net. The total is gradually rising and if you have not submitted an act yet, talk to your child about how they could help/be kind to you, family, neighbours or the community. Please see the end of the newsletter for the list (the highlighted ones are this week's good deeds)

British Science Week

I am very grateful to Dr Greenwell for her work in British Science Week, which took place this week. The children were able to watch and interact with scientists online.

Dr Greenwell is also running a poster competition entitled: 'How does science help us?' so get creating!

Weduc

It is pleasing to note that many of you have downloaded the Weduc app and have started to use it. This will help us move to reducing the number of letters and forms that we send out, as well as helping you keep up to date with what is going on in school and in the community.

As a result, we will not be using OurSchoolsApp from 22.3.21 as messages we be sent out via Weduc from then on.

Red Noses

If your child would like a Comic Relief Red Nose, please bring your donation in a sealed envelope. Please note that Red Noses are **one per child** and are £1.50 each.

On Friday next week, we will also have a non-uniform day and children may bring in a donation to support Comic Relief. Please ensure their clothing is suitable and appropriate for school.

Parent Pay

Please can you ensure outstanding balances are paid promptly and to use the booking system to access breakfast or afterschool care provision for children in Reception to Class 6.

Mother's Day

All staff wish you a wonderful Mother's Day and hopefully next year we will be able to celebrate this special event as we have in the past.

Attendance for w.b. 8.3.20

Reception	100%	Class 3	99.2%
Class 1	99.7%	Class 4	100%
Class 2	99.5%	Class 5	98.7%
		Class 6	98.8%

School overall attendance is: 99.4%

Dates for the diary

March 19 th	Red Nose Day
March 29 th – April 9 th	Easter Holidays
April 12 th	Children return to school for the Summer Term

Mr C Minikin, Head Teacher

Don't forget to scroll down to see 100 Acts of Kindness from Montalbo and send in any kind acts you have noted!



100 Acts of Kindness from Montalbo A tribute to Captain Sir Tom Moore



1. Amelia and Isla in Year 3 and Year 4 cleared snow for elderly neighbours.
2. Georgie in Year 4 baked cakes for his classmates and teachers.
3. Ethan in Nursery donated Easter Eggs to a foodbank for other children to enjoy.
4. Phoebe in Year 5 made her Mum and Dad scrambled eggs on toast and tidied her bedroom.
5. Katie-Marie in Year 5 cleared a snowy path for her neighbours.
6. Jack in Year 3 has been keeping the house tidy and tidying up his little brother's toys away.
7. Archie in Year 1 has written 11 letters to relatives to let them know how is getting on during lockdown.
8. Stella in Year 4 cleared the snow to create a clear path for her elderly neighbours.
9. Amelia in Year 3 used her pocket money to buy some little Easter treats for her cousins and made little baskets to put them in. She has cleared snow at several locations! Finally, she washed up the breakfast pots for mummy and dried them and put them away with Isla in Year 4.
10. Ruby in Year 1 has been helping to fold laundry and match socks!
11. Phoebe in Year 4 let her sister borrow a special hairband that she got for Christmas for Chinese New Year celebrations.
12. Grace in Year 4 has been a big help to Mum carrying shopping and helping to put it away. She is always helping her Grandma too.
- 13 Year 5 children who have created lovely cards to send to teachers, friends and family
- 14 Ethan in Nursery dropped off some fish and chips to his Great Grandma's house (her favourite treat!)
15. Chloe in Year 5 used her hard-earned pocket money and gave it to the person at the counter at Costa Coffee. She asked her to use it to buy a coffee for the next customer who came in!
16. Justin in Year 6 made his Mum's breakfast, helped with tea and helped take dumpy bags of hay through the snow to feed the horses.
17. Liam in Year 6 dropped a bag of shopping off at a Food Bank collection point.
18. Adam in Year 5 and Byron in Year 3 brought in buckets of coal for the fire to help their parents.
19. Byron in Year 3 helped to look after a friend's pony
20. Phoebe in Year 4 has written a letter and posted it to one of her elderly neighbours.
21. Ruby in Year 1 helped to move a load of old blocks into the front loader bucket of Grandad's tractor!
22. William in Year 3 made his Mum a cup of coffee when he knew she was going outside in the cold with their puppy.
23. Lucy in Nursery has been picking up litter from her neighbourhood, taking it home and putting it in the bin.

24. Isla in Year 1 has been super helpful: she has helped groom her dog, Max, regularly especially after the snow and wet weather. Isla made peanut flapjack to share with her Grandma and Granda. Isla has also helped her new classmate Rose, settle in to the area on a socially distanced walk.
25. Grace in Year 4 wrote a lovely letter to a Care Home who cared for her Great Grandmother, thanking them for looking after her.
26. Matthew in Year 4 won a competition and donated his £20 prize to The Hub's Care Package Scheme.
27. Maxwell in Year 3 and Rosalie in Year 1 have been looking after their Mum who had a recent injury.
28. In between lessons Thomas in Year 3 has been going outside feeding his goats, going to the fields on his bike and caking the tups. This week he has been very busy checking the lambing sheds for sheep lambing and feeding milk to the new lambs!
29. Joseph in Year 1 has been helping Mum look after his little sister. He has also been pairing socks up. He also gets the sticks and coal for the fire. Joseph has also been checking the sheds for sheep lambing with Thomas.
30. Ethan in Year 4 has been helping his Grandad wash the car and make tea for Grandma.
31. Callum in Year 3 has been helping to tidy the nursery at his home over half term to help Mum.
32. Phoebe in Year 5 completed a litter pick collecting two bags of rubbish from Montalbo Road, Woodside and the Cricket Club Lane.
33. Charlie D in Nursery has been very helpful over the weekend, helping his mum with household chores. Charlie helped with the washing, polishing, vacuuming, mopping and loading the dishwasher. He also did a brilliant job helping to tidy up the garden ready for spring!
34. Alfie L in Nursery picked up Mrs Patterson's things that she dropped by accident and swept up too!
35. Harvie in Year 6 picked up litter from the school grounds and put it in the bin.
36. Olivia P in Year 6 for bringing Miss Richardson some lovely cakes!
37. Daniel P in Year 2 for sending Mrs Newton a lovely card.
38. Hollie in Year 6 has been helping to make the tea at home
39. Caoimhe in Reception has helped make breakfast for Mummy.
40. Georgia in Year 3 and Darcey in Reception have written letters to their Gran in Scotland who is shielding
41. Seren in Year 6 gave flowers to all of her neighbours to cheer them up with a random act of kindness!
42. Erin in Nursery brought in chocolates for all of her Nursery friends.