



October 8th 2021

Year 6 visits to Babuls and Flatts Wood

To celebrate National Curry Week, the Year 6 children visited Babuls in town to find out more about Indian cuisine. Unfortunately, I was unable to accompany them and I am sure the staff must have told me 100 times how good the visit was! The visit also tied in with a future cookery topic whereby Zak from Babuls will be the judge. As with the visit from the Fire Service the previous week, we received a lovely email complimenting the behaviour and knowledge of our children. Well done Year 6!

As part of their work on biomes in Geography, Year 6 also visited Flatts Wood, investigating the different types of trees and animals that can be found. They collected evidence and made some great field sketches.

Educational Visits next week

On Wednesday October 13th next week the Year 6 are out once more as they head to the excellent Eden Camp. The History of World War II always captures children's imagination and this site definitely brings the visit to life. It is quite a long journey so perhaps parents/carers of children who can be travel sick may want to consider giving their children some medicine before they come to school.

On Friday October 15th Year 5 are visiting the Bowes Museum and Locomotion to learn about automation. You may have seen on the local news that the iconic Silver Swan is being restored and children will learn more about how things work in preparation for their Design and Technology topic.

Consents for completion for both visits are in the Forms Section of Weduc. Payment for the Eden Camp visit should be made via your Parent Pay account.

Halloween Discos

This year we will have phase Halloween Discos in school time on the afternoons of the last week of half term. The children can come to school in their costumes and I am sure it will be a great day – please try and think about the practicalities of the costume for the rest of the school day e.g. toileting, eating etc and things like face coverings/accessories will need to be put to one side for morning sessions.

Nursery and Reception – Tuesday October 19th

Year 1 and Year 2 – Wednesday October 20th

Year 3 and Year 4 – Thursday October 21st

Year 5 and 6 – Friday October 22nd

Eco Smart Conference

In November 2021, the UK will host COP26 in Glasgow. COP26 will be the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference with 197 countries involved. Over 4000 pupils from 130 schools in 13 countries are taking part in the ECO2 Smart Schools Climate Conference to learn about COP and how other schools from around the world are experiencing and adapting to climate change. Next Thursday, Montalbo has the opportunity to represent our country at the ECO2 Smart Schools Virtual Climate Conference. During the event, the Years 3 to 6 will be challenged to think about the issue of climate change and explore each other's experiences of it. As part of this project we have been twinned with schools in France and the USA, allowing the children an opportunity to understand how climate issues vary around the world. These classes have completed lessons that have helped them to reflect on what we can do as a school and community to help our world.

Reception School Places September 2022

The window for applying for Reception places has opened and runs until January 15th 2022. If you would like to visit school, please contact the School Office who will arrange this with you. Parent/Carers of all children eligible to start Reception must submit an application. Further details on the process can be found [here](#).

Covid 19

It is really important that parents/carers do not send their child to school with any of the following symptoms. If you have COVID-19, you should not be bringing your child to school yourself and should arrange for others to bring and collect your child.

Please take a cautious approach at this time: -

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

The basic principles are if your child has COVID 19 or any of the COVID 19 symptoms they should not be attending school. A link for ordering PCR tests is [here](#) or you can also telephone 119. It is advisable to have the test as quickly as possible and report the outcome to school as soon as possible.

School Meals Menu

New Autumn Term menus have been issued for meals which start after half term holiday. Please indicate on the form your choice of main course for each day and return as soon as possible.

If any child currently on packed lunches wishes to have a school meal please contact the office for a menu, alternatively, if your child no longer wishes to have a school meal 2 weeks' notice is required by the school meals provider. If you have had a change in circumstances and believe you may be eligible for Free School Meals please contact the school office for an application form. This applies to all pupils including those in Reception, Year 1 & 2 who are in receipt of Universal Free School meals.

Morrisons It's Good to Grow

We have registered with the Morrisons It's Good to Grow Scheme. From September, for every £10 spent in store or online, you'll get one Grow Token that your local school can then redeem for a wide range of gardening and growing equipment. Download the MyMorrisons app to donate tokens to our school, you can see how we are doing by visiting [here](#). Thank you to the families who have donated to date.

Diary dates

October 13 th	Year 6 to Eden Camp
October 13 th	Year 5 Swimming
October 14 th	Key Stage 2 Eco Smart Schools Conference
October 15 th	Year 5 to Bowes Museum and the Locomotion
October 18 th	Year 2 to the Bowes Museum (details to follow)
October 19 th	Nursery and Reception Halloween Disco
October 19 th	Year 5 to Captain Cook's Birthplace Museum
October 20 th	Year 1 and Year 2 Halloween Disco
October 20 th	Year 4 Sports Festival at Staindrop Academy
October 21 st	Year 3 and Year 4 Halloween Disco
October 21 st	Year 5 Sports Festival at Staindrop Academy
October 22 nd	Year 5 and Year 6 Halloween Disco
October 25 th -October 29 th	Half term
November 1 st	Teacher Training Day
November 2 nd	Children return to school
November 23 rd	Individual and sibling photographs

Mr C Minikin, Head Teacher