



March 31st 2023

Spring and Summer Terms

It has been a very busy term in school and as always, we reflect on this and make preparations for a jam-packed Summer term! This term began with our Ofsted visit which seems a lifetime ago, as so much happens each day. We have been pleased to welcome parents/carers and family members into school for the World Book Day gallery, Mother's Day, Parents' Evenings, as well as information sessions for parents/carers on statutory assessments and Connections through Coffee and Crafts. Our children have worked hard and continue to impress staff, coaches and visitors with their ability, behaviour and attitude. Just last week, Josh Radner from the Energy Team commented on these characteristics which I was delighted with as sustainability is such an important issue.

Next term there are many wonderful events to look forward to. The children in Year 3/4 will perform to their parents in a school play followed by all of Key Stage 2 preparing for another musical extravaganza at the Witham. The younger year groups will present to parents in class assemblies. We have Sports Days, the Coronation, Father's Day, Wellbeing Activities, Sporting Fixtures and the Leavers' Assembly to fit in and hopefully many of these events will be remembered by you and your children for many years.

FOMS Easter Eggs

Thank you very much to Friends of Montalbo School for providing an Easter Egg for all of our children.

Let's Connect

As part of our Year 6 PE curriculum, I saw some lovely examples of Year 6 connecting with Year 1. The Year 6s have been learning some sports leadership skills with coach Lewis Marr, and have been planning and piloting games to teach Year 1 during their PE sessions. I saw this in action and the Year 6 were brilliant at explaining the games to Year 1, who followed the instructions superbly. Well done to you all!

Bright Woods Forest School Days

As part of the Teesdale Action Partnership funded wellbeing project, all children in school will be visiting Bright Woods Forest School at Deepdale Woods. Children will need waterproof coats and waterproof trousers as well as wellington boots or hiking boots. Separate letters will be sent out for each class outlining their activities and the date of their visit. Year 1 and Year 2 will visit first, with other classes later in the summer term.

Sports this week

Children in Key Stage 2 enjoyed energetic Taekwondo sessions in the hall as part of our wellbeing work, promoting physical activity.

Some of the Year 4 children attended an orienteering session this week and really enjoyed it.

Eight girls from Key Stage 2 are competing today against 25 other girls' teams in a Girls Football World Cup. I will report on this after Easter. Good luck girls!

Having taught Year 6 Science this week, it was interesting that the NHS recommends 60 minutes moderate to vigorous exercise per day for children in primary schools. I will challenge the children to stay active during the Easter holidays!

Small World

A reminder that there are lots of events in town on Saturday as part of the Small World Festival including musical performances in the Witham. Artwork has been created by our children in Nursery and Year 5 which will be displayed at TCR Hub on April 1st. Shuttle buses are running from town between 10am - 3pm (from the car park near the back entrance to the Witham). Children may like the chance to win a prize by completing a passport sent home with each child and getting it stamped from different venues around town including TCR Hub on April 1st.

Key Stage 1 SATs Information

Thank you to Mrs Newton for sharing information for parents this week on the end of Year 2 SATs.

Connections through Coffee and Chat

The next Connections through Coffee and Chat is on April 20th. We hope that some of you are able to make it.

Easter and Keep Active Challenge

As mentioned earlier, I am hoping that our children manage at least 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous exercise per day, regardless of whether they are in school or not. I would love you to send in pictures of children taking part in exercise over the holidays and will have some prizes for each entrant. It could be walking, scooting, biking or any other exercise your children take part in to make a display in the hall. Please send these to photographs to montalbo@durhamlearning.net

I hope that our children and families have a wonderful Easter break. We look forward to seeing the children on Monday 17th April.

Below is a summary of attendance for this week.

Class	Attendance (%)
Reception	95.6
Year 1	99.3
Year 2	97.2
Year 3	98.0
Year 4	94.5
Year 5	81.7
Year 6	92.9
Whole School %	94.6%

Dates for the Diary

April 3 rd – 14 th	Easter Holiday
April 20 th	Coffee and Crafts Session for Parents 2.15-3.15pm
April 20 th	PSCO Singh visit to Y4-6
April 21 st	Year 1 to Bright Woods
April 24 th	All Stars Cricket Roadshow (All classes Y1-6)
April 25 th	FOMS meeting in school 5.15pm
April 28 th	Year 2 to Bright Woods
May 1 st and May 8 th	Bank Holidays
May 9 th -12 th	Key Stage 2 SATs
w.b. May 15 th	Key Stage 1 SATs
w.b. June 12 th	Year 1 Phonics Screening

Mr. C Minikin
Head Teacher

School Lottery Link Membership Link below:

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/montalbo-nursery-primary-school>

