



Dates for your Diary

THE PARK FEDERATION

To question, is to grow

MONTEM ACADEMY

Everyone to Excel through Pride and Ambition

Newsletter: 1st March 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

At school, we are aware that many of our children are accessing websites and social media platforms that are not age appropriate and as parents we have a responsibility to ensure that our children engage with the digital world in a safe way. We all have a responsibility to strike a balance between the time they spend on and offline. Below are 5 top tips to balance screen time and to keep your child safe whilst they immerse themselves in the digital world.

1. Create screen time rules together. To help them stick to digital boundaries get them involved in the process of setting simple rules on how they should use screens in and out of the home.
2. Take an active role in their digital life. Get engaged and stay engaged in their digital life as they grow. The more you get involved and understand the things your children do online, the easier it is to gain their respect and influence what they do in their digital world.
3. Equip them with know-how to manage risks online. As children become more active online, have regular conversations with them about ways to deal with a range of risks that they may be exposed to such as seeing inappropriate content or being cyberbullied.
4. Use tools to manage their screen time & access to media. Whatever device your child uses, be sure to make use of free and premium tools available to manage their access to age-appropriate content and review the time they spend on specific online activities.
5. Encourage them to be selective about what they do online. Help them avoid mindless scrolling and be more critical about the media they watch and the platforms they use. Encourage them to explore apps and websites that will compliment what they enjoy in the real world and develop their key skills.

Together we can keep our children safe.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Probert

Dates for your Diary

World Book Day: 7th March

Red Nose Day: 15th March

Attendance

The Year Group with the best attendance this week is:

1st place: Year 5: 95.5%

2nd place: Year 3: 95.1%

3rd place: Year 2: 95.0%

It will be a non-uniform day for classes that achieve 100% attendance





THE PARK FEDERATION

To question, is to grow

MONTEM ACADEMY

Everyone to Excel through Pride and Ambition

Nursery

Teaching children about life cycles is a perfect way to help them understand the world around them and to connect them with nature. This week, following our learning about dinosaurs, we used pictures and reading books about the animals that hatch. We learned to distinguish between fiction and non-fiction books and where to look for information about the animals. A life cycle unit would not be complete without some hands-on exploration! We talked about the life cycle of several creatures and our small world insects, reptiles and fish, as well as a water tray full of slippery spheres acting as frogs' eggs, played an exciting role in our learning.



Reception

This week in reception we have been learning about farm animals. The children have been learning about all the different animals that live in the farm. In Maths we have been learning about patterns and the children have demonstrated a range of different animals. The children have been continuing to work hard on their phonics and are making fantastic progress. The children have drawn lovely animals this week which we have displayed around our classrooms.



Year 1

On Wednesday, the Year 1 children had a very exciting day! To support with our Science unit about animals, the children had an opportunity to touch, cuddle and learn about some very rare animals. First was a tortoise. The children learned the difference between a turtle and a tortoise. Next was a big scary snake, which actually turned out to be very calm and kind and not so scary after all. Next was a "Little Owl" who hopped from one child's hand onto another child's hand. Then, out came a bearded dragon, which looked very spiky, but was actually quite soft to touch. The most exciting part for most of the children was seeing a very beautiful and fluffy meerkat called "Meeka". The children learned to be very calm, kind and quiet around the animals. Well done, Year 1, it is great to see you being respectful to the beautiful creatures of the world!





THE PARK FEDERATION

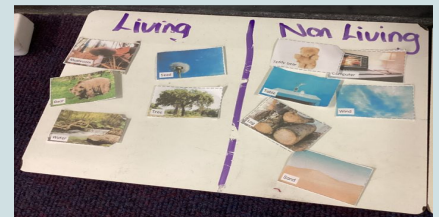
To question, is to grow

MONTEM ACADEMY

Everyone to Excel through Pride and Ambition

Year 2

It has yet been another busy week in Year 2 as the children have been learning about the skills that we will be using in our writing this term. They have revisited expanded noun phrases and have been learning to describe actions using adverbs as well as onomatopoeia to create vivid imagery. With this newfound knowledge, the children have been planning to write an enticing story based on Emma Jane's Aeroplane using the 5 stages of a narrative. There has been excitement in the atmosphere in our classrooms this week as the children have been learning about living and nonliving things in Science. After going out for a nature walk around the school and discussing what characteristics make an object living, dead or never been alive, the children have been using their scientific skill of enquiry by asking question to further deepen their understanding and quench their curiosity.



Year 3

Year 3 have worked extremely hard in all subjects this week. In Literacy, the children have been learning their three skills which they will use when they write their descriptive setting: descriptive devices, subordinating conjunctions and writing in the correct tense. The children have continued to read their Big Read book, Akimbo Adventures, this week; they have enjoyed learning more about African animals, and the threats they face, through reading the book. In Science, the children have been busy grouping and classifying flowers, and they have worked hard at explaining the seasonal changes that occur to trees and leaves. In Geography, the children used maps and atlases to locate deserts around the world.



Year 4

It has been an extremely busy week in Year 4 as the children are enjoying learning about our new topic of rainforests and how they are the 'Lungs of the Earth'. They have located rainforests throughout the world and discovered that they are found near the Equator between the Tropics of Capricorn and Cancer. The main change to our timetable has been the week of swimming lessons that the children have embarked upon - all pupils having swimming lessons in our temporary swimming pool. As swimming is an important life skill, Year 4 have been taking part in daily lessons which they have all enjoyed and benefited from. Another exciting event this week is 4 Redwood and 4 Sequoia's trip to Hampton Court Palace which took place today! 4 Cedar and 4 Oak will share a photo next week!





THE PARK FEDERATION

To question, is to grow

MONTEM ACADEMY

Everyone to Excel through Pride and Ambition

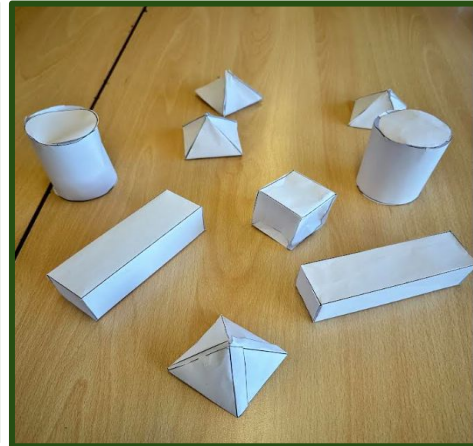
Year 5

This week, Year 5 have been working hard across the curriculum. In Literacy, the children have been learning the skills necessary to write a non-chronological report about rivers. This has helped them to understand what features are needed in order to support them with their writing. In Big Read, the children are reading The River Book and are acquiring lots of knowledge about rivers and their features. They have also learnt so many new interesting facts and key vocabulary to extend their knowledge further. In Science, the children are learning about gravity and why it is important. They also carried out an experiment to find out the difference between weight and mass and to see how they are related to each other. Overall, the Year 5's have had a fantastic week of learning and are excited about then terms topics. Well done for a great week!



Year 6

In an engaging hands-on activity, Year 6 pupils immersed themselves in creating 3D shapes. Through teamwork and creativity, they constructed various polyhedrons, from cubes to pyramids. As they assembled these shapes, they keenly observed and identified vertices, edges, and faces, developing a deeper understanding of geometric concepts. The tactile experience not only made learning enjoyable but also fortified their comprehension as they physically interacted with the shapes. This practical approach not only enhances spatial awareness but also fosters critical thinking skills, preparing pupils for more advanced mathematical concepts ahead.



Montem's Eco Motivators are raising money for a new environmental centre at our school! Our vision is to build a cluster of biodomes to promote healthy living, sustainability and celebrate the diversity of our school by growing plants and foods from different climates. We have a Just Giving Page where donations can be made https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/MontemBiodomes?utm_term=eegW4qbZk, a donation box at the main office where money can be donated.

Miss Samuel and Mrs Probert will also be doing a sponsored walk to school from their houses. That's walking over 10 miles to get to school!

