



Dates for your Diary

THE PARK FEDERATION

To question, is to grow

MONTEM ACADEMY

Everyone to Excel through Pride and Ambition

Newsletter: 26th April 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had another busy and positive week at school. Staff have been thinking about our future plans for Montem and how to raise more funding. Our planned centre of excellence for visually impaired children is one of our most exciting and ambitious projects - our dream is to open a purpose built centre, which will become a local visual impairment hub to facilitate training for staff across Slough. A group of staff are going to climb Mount Snowdon on 18th May and your donations for this would be greatly appreciated, and a link for our just giving page is here:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/montemacademyVI>

Fundraising for our Bio Domes project also continues and you can contribute here:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/MontemBiodomes>

We are so grateful for your support for our school and all the children.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Probert

Dates for your Diary

Bank Holiday Monday 6th May - school closed
Inset Day Friday 24th May - school closed to children
Half Term Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May inclusive

Attendance

The Year Group with the best attendance this week is:

1st place: Year 5 : 97.5%
2nd place: Year 2 : 96.3%
3rd place: Year 3 : 95.8%

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



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Montem's Eco Motivators are raising money for domes to promote sustainability and celebrate the ability of our children by growing plants from different climates.



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Nursery

This week the nursery children participated in our annual Mud Kitchen Master Chef competition. Mixing sand, soil, water and a range of other natural materials has a foundational role in early childhood which has deep importance and endless possibilities for well-being, development and learning across the seven different areas of the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework. They have been mixing, stirring and finding out how mud changes when they add water. There has been a lot of talking about what they are making and doing. The children had the opportunity to learn and consolidate their numeracy skills as they counted, estimated, shared and learned to measure volume using the different containers in the kitchen. They began to develop their own ideas and use their problem-solving skills to help achieve their goal. Well done everybody!



Reception

This week in reception we went to the farm. The children loved feeding the goats and the pigs. The children saw all the different animals and learnt about all the different breeds. The children loved playing on the outdoor equipment in the farm and went on a tractor ride. In maths we have been learning to count backwards and going over our number bonds. We have been reading snow white and the children have loved learning about the different characters in the story e.g. the seven dwarfs.



Year 1

This has been another busy week. We have been exploring the wildflowers and weeds for our Science lesson. We had to walk around the school recording where we saw the specific types of plants or weeds. The children had a great time hunting for the different types. In Big Book we acted out our stories. Here you can see Cedar acting out "Peace at last" Mr Bear is eventually fast asleep. Everyone had a chance to be Mr Bear so it was great fun and they were able to recite the story. In Phonics everyone has been working extra hard starting extra videos to help the children get ready for the screening test. Please help your children at home as well. Videos will be sent out. In Maths we have been learning how to count in tens and ones and how we can make it easier to count. We have also been looking at left and right this week, so talking about left and right at home can help. Maybe play a game giving directions around your home using left or right. In History we learnt about Queen Elizabeth growing up.





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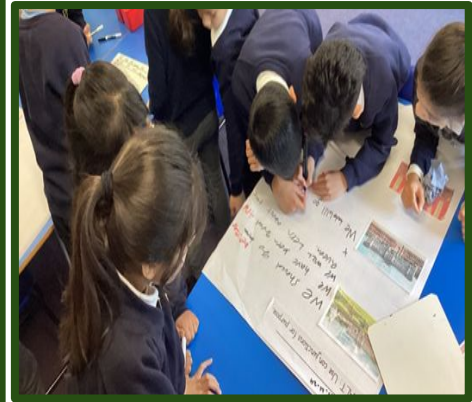
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Year 2

What a fantastic week year 2 Gardeners have had! Children were thrilled to find out that they will be planting their own seeds to find out if seeds need soil to grow. Working collaboratively, children discussed the basic needs of a plant and carried out a fair test. Using this information they then predicted which of the seeds will germinate and grow. We can't wait to find out in the next couple of days by observing closely! Year 2 Historians used secondary sources to research about Queen Victoria. They were very surprised to find out that she was the first monarch to live in Buckingham Palace! This news led them to want to write a persuasive letter to the principal to allow them to visit Buckingham Palace in Literacy. In Maths, children have started to share equally by dividing. They have been using the divide sign to create equations to represent a picture. What a great week the Year 2 children have had!



Year 3

Year 3 have been very busy this week with their learning. In literacy, the children have begun to look at instruction texts; as well as learning about the features of instructions, they have developed their own set of instructions on how a Norman knight dresses and prepares for battle. In history, the children have considered what the Battle of Hastings would have been like from a Norman's perspective and in science the children collected leaves from around the school grounds before sorting and classifying them based on their appearance. The children have continued to work hard on the final stages of their Arts Award project this week, painting and flashing their bowls.



Year 4

Year 4 have had an amazing week with their learning. They began the week with Earth Day where we looked at the effect of plastic pollution - Planet vs Plastic! We also looked at the importance of the Gurdwara to the Sikh faith and how Sikhs worship during our RE day. We also explored Primary and Secondary sources and their reliability during our History Day. The highlight of the week has been a captivating music session with The Agency of Sound. Children were part of a musical group and looked at how different musical instruments were played. In addition, they learnt how to sing in harmony, understand the science of sound waves and read music notes. What a wonderfully busy week we've had!





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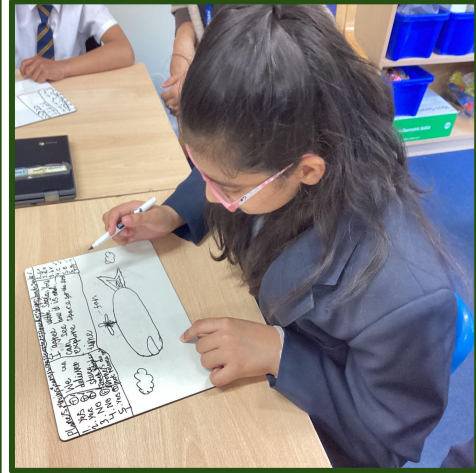
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Year 5

Since Monday was Earth Day, the Year 5 children started the week with a special Earth Day workshop, all about sustainable transport. They learnt about the technologies used to invent and improve sustainable forms of transport, and even had the chance to design their own futuristic form of transport. Year 5 prepared for their History topic of Queen Elizabeth I by learning the necessary skills involved in reading family trees and analysing the reliability of primary and secondary sources. In Science, we started our topic "Reproduction in Plants" by exploring the life cycle of plants. In Literacy, we recapped and practiced the 3 skills that we will be focussing on during this learning journey (writing a biography of Queen Elizabeth I). Great work this week, Year 5!



Year 6

This week, our Year 6 pupils embarked on a journey into the world of creative writing. They visited the library to explore a diverse range of books, seeking inspiration for their own unique pieces. The pupils delved into various genres, from mystery to fantasy, and took the opportunity to compare different writing styles. The library visit allowed them to stretch their imaginations and discover new techniques for storytelling. By engaging with a variety of texts, our young writers found fresh ways to express their ideas, taking their writing to a whole new level. We're excited to see the creativity that will emerge from this enriching experience!



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=eegW4gbZk, a donation box at the main office where money can be donated.



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