



THE PARK FEDERATION

To question, is to grow

MONTEM ACADEMY

Everyone to Excel through Pride and Ambition

Newsletter: 10th November 2023

Dear Parent & Carers

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you of three very exciting projects that are taking place at Montem.

As you are aware, this year, Montem Academy is focusing on developing Centres of Excellence in: The Arts, PE, Computing, Inclusion and Environmental Studies. We are in the process of planning our new Music and Digital Media Suite - a new purpose built centre where children will learn music, drama, filming, editing and production skills. This project will be funded by the school.

In addition to this, the school has a vision to build a new purpose built centre to support pupils with visual and hearing impairment. In order to fund this exciting and worthy project, the school will be undertaking some exciting fundraising activities. The first funding raising project involves, 'The Montem Mountaineers'. Staff from Montem, including myself, will be climbing Mount Snowdon in May 2024. The Montem Mountaineers have already started to train for this with staff members climbing hills and going on long walks at the weekend in preparation for the 4-6 hour climb to the summit.

We hope this ambitious activity will inspire the local community and even people and business from across the country to make a donation to our worthy cause. We have created a Just Giving donation page and we would be extremely grateful for any donations you feel you may be able to make. Visit the link below:

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

Yours sincerely
Mrs Probert

Dates for your Diary

15th November:
Parent Coffee Morning - Diwali Celebration

21st November:
Parents' Evening 3.30pm

23rd November:
Year 2 Roald Dahl Museum Trip

30th November 2023:
Jack and the Beanstalk
Pantomime

Attendance

The Year Group with the best attendance this week is:

1st place: Year 3: 96.2%
2nd place: Year 2 : 95.8%
3rd place: Year 4: 94.4%

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

Mrs Probert in training for the Mount Snowdon Challenge!





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Nursery

What a fantastic week it's been! This week in Nursery, we have been doing lots of counting. The children have been learning how to count a group of objects by assigning one number to each object and only counting each object once. They also had a go at matching corresponding numerals. It has been so exciting preparing for Diwali! The children have made divas and used glittery sequins to decorate them. While getting ready for our Diwali party, we decorated our class together with our fabulously painted pictures.



Reception

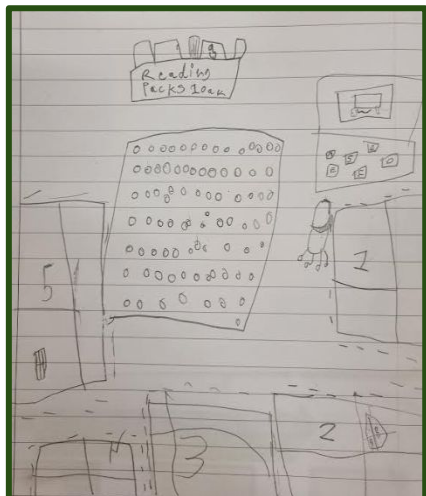
This week in Reception we have been reading Handa's surprise. The children have been learning all about different tropical fruits and have enjoyed drawing their own fruits. In maths we have been carrying on with our numbers from 1-5 but have extended our knowledge using one more or one less. The children are finding this challenging but are working really hard on this. We have been learning how to keep our teeth clean and how many times a day we need to brush our teeth.



Year 1

The children have now settled into their Autumn 2 phonics and maths groups. In maths the students are continuing to use concrete materials such as counters and number lines to support with addition and subtraction. The children have been using picture stories to investigate number sentences and find the answer.

In Geography we are learning about our local area. This week we have been focussing on our school. Last week, we discussed the features in our classroom and this week we have drawn our own maps from the perspective from a birds eye view. You can do this at home as well by drawing and talking about what you can see.





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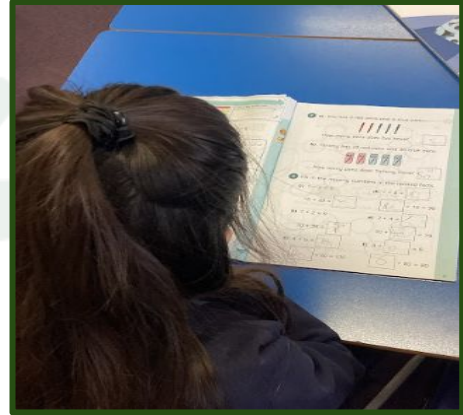
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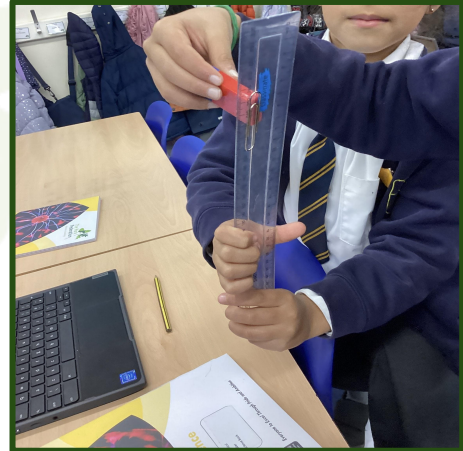
Year 2

What a busy, yet exciting week for year 2! Our writers have been learning three focused skills; time connectives, subordinating conjunctions and past tense. They will need to use these skills when they write a letter to Katie about their virtual experience in London. Year 2 mathematicians have been learning how to add numbers. They have practised number bonds to 10, recorded fact families (addition and subtraction bonds within 20) and finding bonds to 100. Year 2 readers continued to enjoy reading 'Katie in London' book. They have used different skills to clarify the meaning of the words, answer retrieval questions and summarise the events in the text. Well done for an amazing week, year 2!



Year 3

It has been another busy week in year 3! In geography, we have been using maps and globes to locate the five oceans. We have also been researching lots of facts about the oceans, including their size and temperature. This week in science, we planned and carried out an investigation into which objects prevent a paperclip from being attracted to a magnet and we enjoyed using chromebooks and cameras to record our findings. In literacy, we have studied the features of a fictional narrative, as well as practised using inverted commas for speech and apostrophes for contractions. In Big Read, we have continued to read This Morning I Met a Whale, and we have been developing our retrieval skills.



Year 4

What an exciting week it has been for year 4! Our Geography Day began with a rather chilly walk around the school, observing and noting physical and human geographical features. We then created a route map of the school which included the key features. We also used atlases and google maps to locate our local area. We also compared Slough to islands in Europe and East Asia. In our geography lessons, we described the process of organic farming and learnt why it can be beneficial to caring for our environment. Additionally, we learnt how chemicals and pesticides used in conventional farming can be harmful to us and our planet. Furthermore, we discussed how organic farmers use alternate methods to grow crops.. and why these methods yields less crops. Finally we debated if organic produce was a feasible solution to caring for our environment based on the cost, labour and yield of crops.





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Year 5

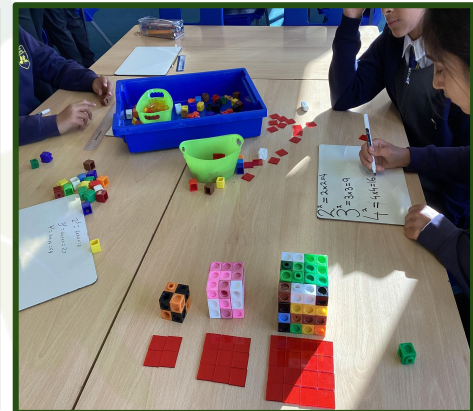
This week, year 5 learnt all about coastal erosion and how some coastal features are formed. We also thought about what might happen to the coasts if they continue to erode as they are now. In science, year 5 looked at the different materials that are used to make specific objects and why they are suitable. We also planned an investigation to test a variety of materials to see which would make the best black-out curtains. In Big Read, we made inferences about a character's feelings and compared a character from our current book with a character from our previous book. In literacy, year 5 explored the features of a descriptive text.

Year 5 have really been on a roll with winning the weekly attendance competition and this week, Sequoia got to enjoy a morning of fencing as their prize for having the highest attendance last week.



Year 6

This week in year 6, pupils were learning about squared numbers and cubed numbers. They learned by showing their answers through 3D models using squares and cubes. They were thrilled to learn that they are called 'square numbers' because they could be made into a 'square' shape. Through concrete representation, they were able to see clearly how a number needs to be multiplied by itself twice or thrice to make a square shape or a cube respectively. They also extended their learning by establishing a link between a squared number and the area of a square. Likewise, they made the link between a cubed number and the volume of a cube.



Inclusion - We need your votes for our Visual Impairment Centre and Sensory Room

Make sure you collect your blue token after shopping in Tesco. Find the Tesco Community Grant Stronger Start voting box and place your token in the box for Montem Academy. Encourage your friends and families to shop in Tesco so they can vote too!

Stores where you can vote for us:

- Tesco Extra, Brunel Way, Slough, SL1 1XW
- Tesco Express, 86 Windsor Road, Slough, SL1 2EE
- Tesco Express Esso, Uxbridge Road, Iver Heath, SL0 0LR
- Tesco Express, Wexham Road, Slough, SL2 5HZ
- Tesco Express, Capital House, The Broadway, Farnham Common, SL2 3PQ

