

Mount Pleasant Primary School Parent Newsletter – Issue 57 October 2025



Dear Parents / Carers,

As we come to the end of our first half term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and to reflect on what has been a busy and very productive few weeks here at school. The children have settled into the new academic year brilliantly and have shown great enthusiasm, curiosity, and commitment to their learning.

We are delighted to share that our school facilities have continued to be enhanced with the addition of AstroTurf on our Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA). This has been an exciting project for the whole school community, and it has been wonderful to see how much the children are enjoying playing on the new surface. The AstroTurf provides a much safer and more comfortable area than the previous tarmac, and it is already making a real difference to breaktimes and PE sessions alike.

Looking ahead to next half term, we are very excited to be welcoming a pop-up swimming pool to the school. This fantastic opportunity will enable our Year 6 pupils to take part in swimming lessons on site, helping them to develop this important life skill. In addition, the company providing the pool will be offering after-school swimming fun sessions for children in Years 3–6. Further details about how to register for these sessions can be found on School Ping.

This half term, we have also enjoyed coming together as a community to celebrate our whole-school festival assemblies. Year 5 shared their learning about Rosh Hashanah-Yom Kippur, the Jewish New Year festival, and Year 4 led a wonderful assembly on Diwali, the festival of lights. These events are a lovely way for the children to learn from one another and to appreciate the rich diversity of cultures and traditions within our school community.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended Parents' Evening last week. It was a pleasure to welcome so many families into school and to share the successes and progress of our pupils. Working in partnership with you is at the heart of what we do, and it makes a tremendous difference to the children's learning and wellbeing.

Next half term promises to be another exciting one, with a wide range of events and activities planned. Our younger pupils, in particular, can look forward to the festive build-up to Christmas, which is always a magical time in school.

I hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable half term break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back, refreshed and ready for another wonderful half term, on Monday 3rd November.

With warm regards,
Mrs Nazir
Headteacher

Nursery Memorable Experience



Nursery children have had an exciting half term settling in and getting used to our environment. We've been busy exploring the outdoors, making sandwiches and pizzas, and making new friends. We're looking forward to becoming more independent as the term moves forward.



Reception Memorable Experience



Reception have had an amazing start to their school journey. This half term we have made lots of new friends including Pete the Cat and the Everywhere Bear. The children have helped to teach Pete the Cat that our school is even more amazing than Pete the Cat's school and he has taught us that even when we are faced with something new and maybe a bit scary we can still rock it and it is all good!

The Everywhere Bear has been a cheeky character and kept getting lost around school but we worked hard and have found him, and he has started visiting the children's homes to have amazing weekend adventures with them.

Year 1 Memorable Experience

Year 1 had a fabulous memorable experience! We brought our favourite toys to school and shared them with our peers. We discussed why our toys are special to us and how and why our favourite toys may have changed as we got older.

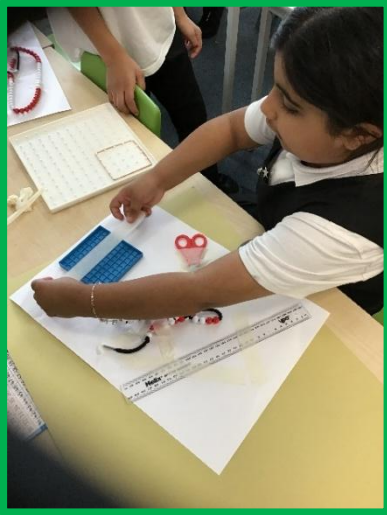


Year 2 Memorable Experience

Year 2 had a fantastic 'Space Day'. We made rockets to blast off; made and tested chocolate astronaut pudding; made astronaut masks for our mission to space, and completed an assault course, to make sure we were ready to go! The children loved it and worked super hard to become 'astronauts'!



Year 3 Memorable Experience



This half term, pupils have been exploring the range of marks that can be made through printing; they have worked in a similar style to contemporary artist and printmaker, Neil Bousfield. Pupils took marks from different textured surfaces which they taped onto paper before taking a print.



Following on, pupils made their own monoprints by drawing on an ink slab. After, they took an impression by laying paper on the surface and lifting it carefully.

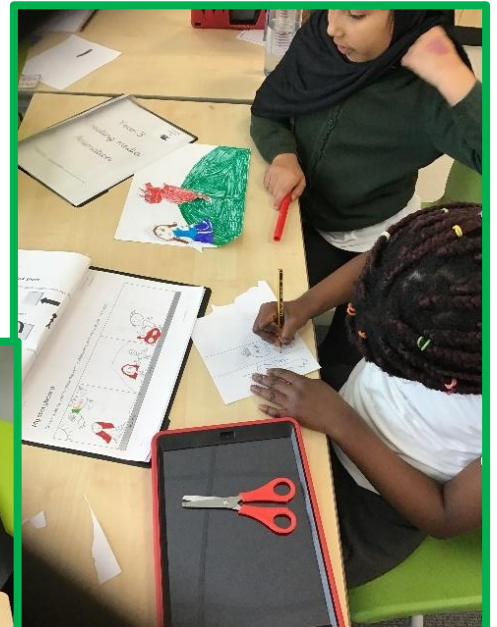


In another art lesson, pupils made impressed printing blocks and used these to create a series of printed patterns or organised marks. Some pupils decided to etch their own designs into the clay, using clay tools



Stop frame animation

During our Computing lessons, we have been learning about animation. Pupils planned out their own stop frame animations in a storyboard, then designed their background and characters. Following on, they used iMotion to carefully create a sequence of frames, paying attention to consistency using onion skinning. After editing and evaluating the quality of their animations, pupils learned how to add other media and effects, such as music and text.

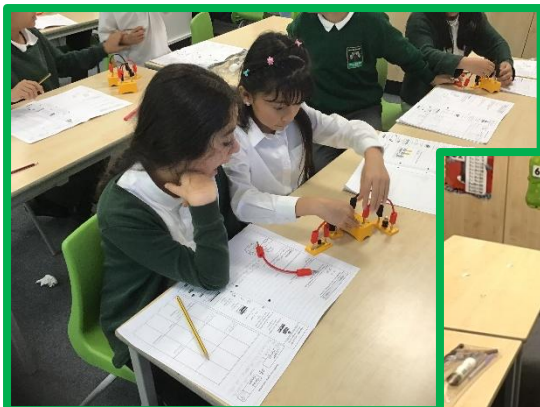


Limestone or Chalk?

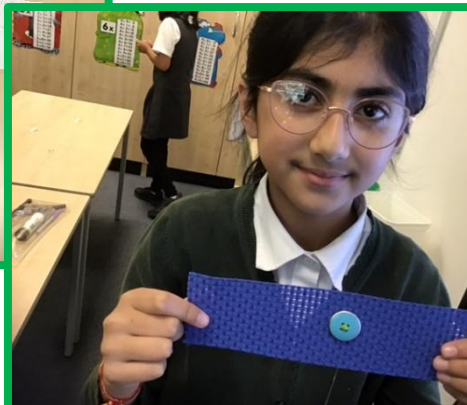
In Science, we have been learning about Rocks. We tested rocks to identify whether they were limestone or chalk by dropping some acid (vinegar) onto the rock. We observed whether there was any reaction between the acid and the rock; if there was, then carbon dioxide would be produced and the rock would fizz and froth - this reaction is between the calcium carbonate (that is only found in chalk and limestone). If there was no reaction, this indicated that the rock did not contain any calcium carbonate.



Year 4 Memorable Experience



Year 4 has been learning lots of practical skills this term, including creating electrical circuits; making gift boxes with working hinges; and even sewing buttons.



Year 5 Memorable Experience



Year 5 have been looking at States of Matter in science this half term. We conducted an experiment looking at which materials were soluble and which were insoluble. We found that salt and sugar were soluble as they dissolved in water. Sand, pebbles and flour were insoluble. We have also looked at how to separate these materials using sieves, filter paper and heat. We have discussed when changes are reversible and when they are irreversible (through mixing, burning and heating materials).

Achievements



We are delighted and very proud to share the achievement of two of our pupils. Out of a total of 1488 pupils taking the Heckmondwike Grammar School entrance exam, Menu Di Herath Mudiyansele in 6A came 1st. Xiangsheng Chen from 6B came 3rd. Well done to both pupils.



Term Dates

Can parents please take note of the term dates below and only book holidays in the school holiday periods. Following DfE guidance, we do not authorize any leave of absence in term time. The school is required to fine all parents taking children out of school. Currently the fine, set by the Government, is £80 for each parent for each child.

Autumn Half Term 1 (8 weeks)

- **Wednesday 3 September – Children return to school**
- Thursday 23 October - School closes for October half term

Autumn Half Term 2 (7 weeks)

- **Monday 3 November – Children return to school**
- Friday 19 December – School closes for Christmas holidays

Spring Half Term 1 (6 weeks)

- **Monday 5 January – Children return to school**
- Friday 13 February – School closes for February half term

Spring Half Term 2 (5 weeks)

- **Monday 23 February – Children return to school**
- **Friday 20th March (INSET DAY) possible Eid day**
- Friday 27 March – School closes for Easter holidays

Summer Half Term 1 (6 weeks)

- **Monday 13 April – Children return to school**
 - **Monday 4 May – Bank Holiday**
- Friday 22 May – School closes for May half term holidays

Summer Half Term 2 (7 weeks)

- **Monday 1 June – Children return to school**
- Friday 17 July – School closes for the Summer holidays

