Mount Pleasant Primary School Parent Newsletter – Issue 63 October 2026



Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to the very first parent newsletter of this year. We have had a positive and busy start, with many activities, improvements and events taking place across our school community. It has been lovely to see the children returning with enthusiasm and beginning to establish their new routines. The children have settled very well into their new classes. They have been getting to know their teachers and classmates, becoming familiar with classroom expectations and developing their independence throughout the school day. We would like to thank families for supporting this smooth start by helping children to arrive prepared and ready to learn.

Over the summer, we completed a number of exciting school projects, including the new EYFS playground. Parents and children were amazed at how different the area looks. The improved space provides our youngest children with more opportunities to explore, play imaginatively, develop their physical skills and learn through practical experiences. We have also added artwork linked to geography, including local maps, world maps and a map of the UK. These displays have helped to make our learning environment more engaging and have become valuable resources for children when discussing places, communities and the wider world.

Year 5 also took part in swimming lessons in our on-site pop-up pool. This gave the children an excellent opportunity to develop their water confidence, practise important swimming skills and learn more about staying safe in and around water within the familiar school environment.



We celebrated the end of this term through our **Show Racism the Red Card and Culture Day**. Children were invited to dress in something red or wear something from their cultural heritage. We are extremely fortunate to have families from a wide range of backgrounds, including Pakistani, Nigerian, Libyan, Palestinian, Indian, Syrian, Kurdish and Romanian communities, just to name a few.



In total, approximately 46 different home languages are spoken across our school. Our school is very diverse, and this is something we value and celebrate. During the day, children shared their cultural clothing and talked about what they particularly enjoyed about their culture. The favourite topic by far was **food**! Thank you to all our parents for helping to make this such an amazing day.





Together, we celebrated our cultural heritage and clearly showed that we say **no to racism** in our school and anywhere else.











Nursery Memorable Experience



We had a fabulous Autumn Stay and Play with our children and parents! We enjoyed lots of creative activities to help develop the children's hand strength, including pumpkin hole punching, painting, play dough and making beautiful leaf crowns. We also had fun with spider splatting, decorating delicious pumpkin biscuits and creating autumn crafts.



The children grew in confidence as they performed their favourite autumnal songs for their grown-ups. It was lovely to see some parents joining in too! We finished our morning with an autumn animal hunt and made an incredible discovery – the largest hedgehog we have ever seen at Mount Pleasant!







Year 1 Memorable Experience

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





Year 2 Memorable Experience

SPACE DAY! What an out-of-this-world day we had! The children have had a fantastic time exploring the wonders of space and taking part in lots of exciting, space-themed activities! We got creative making our very own astronaut pudding; designed and decorated our own astronaut helmets; and built some amazing rockets ready for blast-off! The excitement continued as we took on our very own astronaut training assault course, testing our balance, coordination, agility and physical skills as we prepared for our mission into space!













Year 3 Memorable Experience

For our memorable experience this half term we had lots of fun learning all about the Stone Age! After investigating flint tools and learning how these were used in everyday life, we hunted animals such as woolly mammoths, deer and hare just like the hunter-gatherers used to do.







We also explored what life was like for men, women and children, discovering more about their homes, clothing and how animal skins were used to provide clothing and shelter. Finally, we discovered that people in the Stone Age couldn't read or write, so they communicated through drawings and symbols. We explored how graphic symbols, such as logos, communicate messages to us today, before putting our own skills to the test by creating drawings that represented our favourite foods!



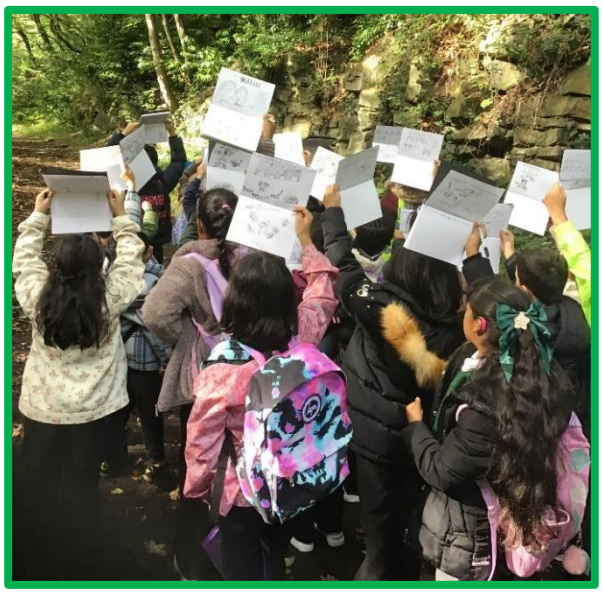




Kirklees Season of Culture

Nature Transformed: From the Edges of Town to Pathways Beyond

Pupils in Class 3A are broadening their horizons through a series of artist-led walks, exploring the diverse landscapes, heritage sites and cultural venues across Kirklees. Recently, the children visited Beaumont Park where they explored, sketched and engaged with the environment and nature through a creative lens. Their next visit to Folly Dolly Falls in Meltham, will encompass a short walk, before gathering in a local indoor venue to take part in a short art workshop.



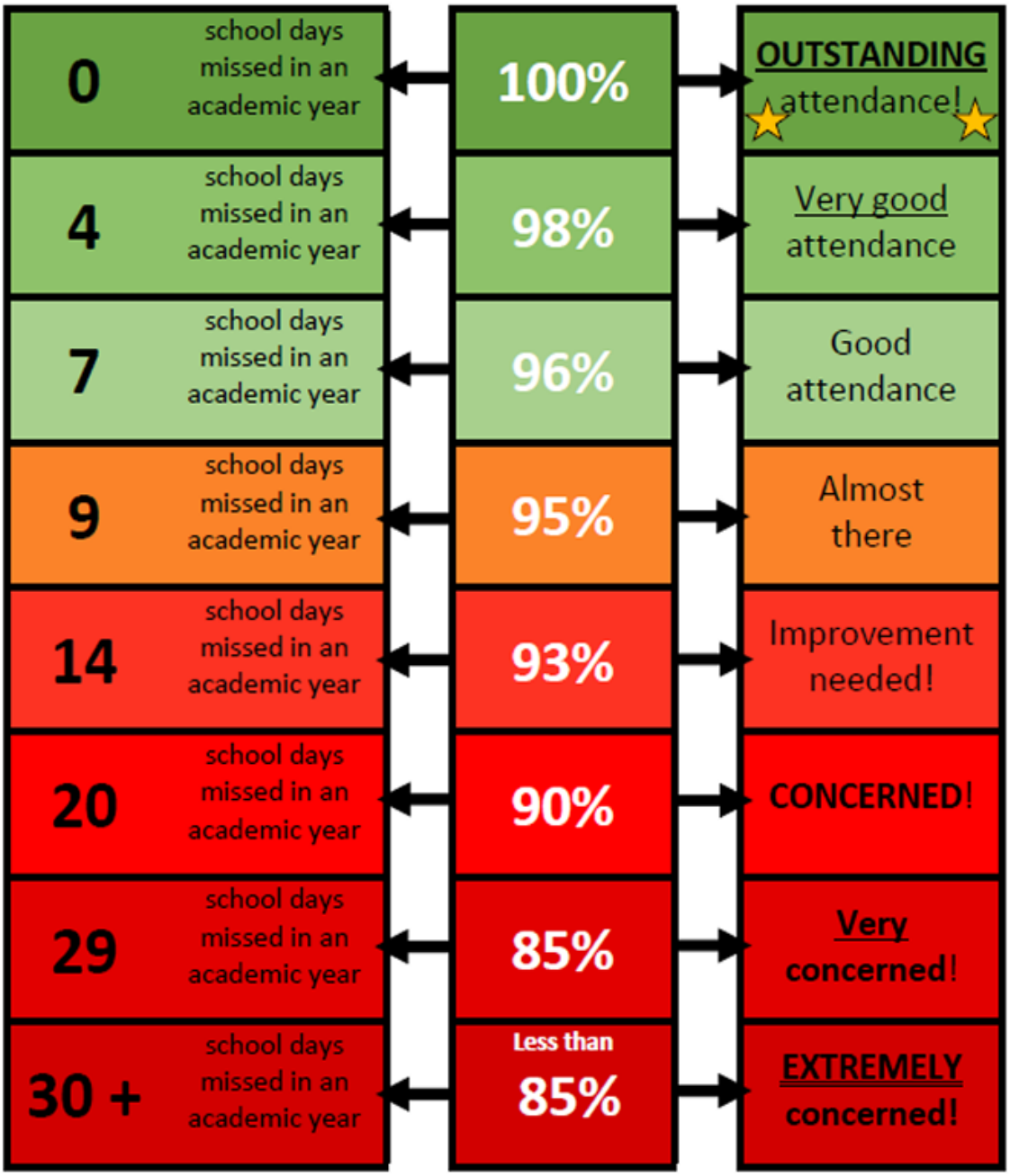




To complete the programme, the pupils will visit North of England Centre for Music and Arts in Marsden where they will enjoy a walk, take part in creative workshops and see their artwork from the project displayed in this beautiful venue. On Saturday 28th November, from 10am - 4pm, there will be an Art/Makers Fair open to the public at the North of England Centre for Music and Arts in Marsden. Pupil's artwork will be on display for families to come and admire. Families are welcome to attend this event and participate in the craft fair where local artists and makers will lead workshops.

Attendance Ladder

How close are you to reaching the top?



FACT: The more time your child spends in school, the better your child's attainment.

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)

- **Tuesday 1 September – (INSET Day 1)**
- **Wednesday 2 September (INSET Day 2)**
- **Thursday 3 September – Children return to school**
- Thursday 22 October - School closes for October half term
- **Friday 23 October – (INSET Day 3)**

Autumn Half Term 2 (7 weeks)

- **Monday 2 November – Children return to school**
- **Friday 4 December (INSET Day 4)**
- Friday 18 December – School closes for Christmas holidays

Spring Half Term 1 (6 weeks)

- **Monday 4 January – Children return to school**
- Friday 12 February – School closes for February half term

Spring Half Term 2 (5 weeks)

- **Monday 22 February – Children return to school**
- (Wednesday 10 March – possible Eid day)
- Thursday 25 March – School closes for Easter holidays

Summer Half Term 1 (7 weeks)

- **Monday 12 April – Children return to school**
- **Monday 3 May – Bank Holiday**
- **Monday 17 May (INSET Day 5) Eid**
- Friday 28 May – School closes for May half term holidays

Summer Half Term 2 (6 weeks 3 days)

- **Monday 7 June – Children return to school**
- Wednesday 21 July – School closes for the Summer holidays

Possible Eid days

- **Wednesday 10 March –possible Eid Day- Eid ul fitr**
- **Monday 17 May (INSET Day 4) Eid – ul Adha**

Notes from the Office

- **We have places available in our nursery: am - 8:30-11.30 pm - 12.20-3.20**

  If you have a child who is already 3, or you know someone with a child who is 3, they are eligible to start in January 2027. Please get in touch with the school office to arrange a visit or to register your interest.

- **During the week commencing Monday 2nd November, our School Council will be raising money in support of the Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal. Throughout the week, children will have the opportunity to purchase a range of Poppy Appeal items, including pencils, snap bands, reflectors and other small accessories. Suggested donations for these items will range from 50p to £1.00. All money raised will go towards supporting the Royal British Legion. Thank you for your continued support and generosity in helping our School Council raise money for this worthwhile cause.**

- As we approach winter, many families will be worried about rising energy costs and keeping their homes warm. No child or family should have to face the colder months in a home that is difficult to heat.
  LEAP (Local Energy Advice Partnership) is a free service that provides energy advice and support to eligible households, helping families reduce energy costs, improve energy efficiency, and access additional support that may be available to them.
  Following an energy advice appointment, households may also be assessed for further support through the **LEAP Boiler Scheme** and other energy-saving measures where eligible.

  More information about LEAP can be found here:

  LEAP Website: applyforleap.org.uk