

## Dear Parents

Where does time fly! It is hard to believe we have now reached half term after a super busy start to term 2. The children have been working really hard and have produced some excellent work and the progress they have made since September is really clear to see. Well done Mount Pleasant School.

To keep you all informed Mrs Summers will be absent from MPS from 17th February until the Easter break. We look forward to her return ready for the summer/winter term.

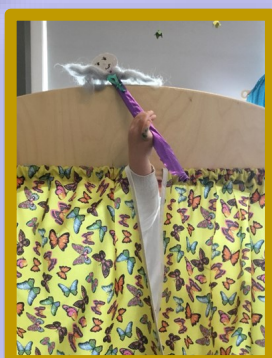
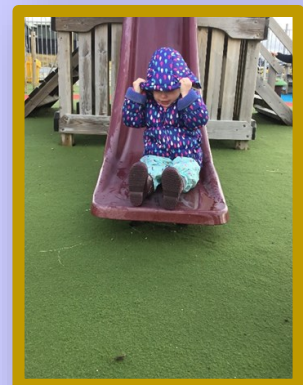
Our value for when we return will be **Respect** and we will be focusing on understanding and accepting each other.

## Plover Class:

This week in Nursery we looked at books about feelings and talked about kind hands and how to be a caring friend. We have made beautiful abstract photo collages and lovely Valentines Day art work to take home.

The highlight of our week has to be our stick puppets (some requested happy faces, others said they want a sad face) that we decorated and 'dressed'. It was fun playing with them and letting them 'have a go' singing songs to our friends in the puppet theatre.

We enjoyed outside play in rain suits and wellies - it would have been better if there was even more rain, so that we had puddles to jump in, but the slippery wet slide gave us plenty of entertainment!



## Albatross Class:

This week in Albatross class we have been reading a poetry book called 'Here Come the Superheroes'.

In literacy FS1 have been listening carefully to words that start with the same letter. FS2 have been describing the different characters in the book.

In maths, FS1 have been focusing on counting objects in a set. FS2 have been comparing lengths and heights.

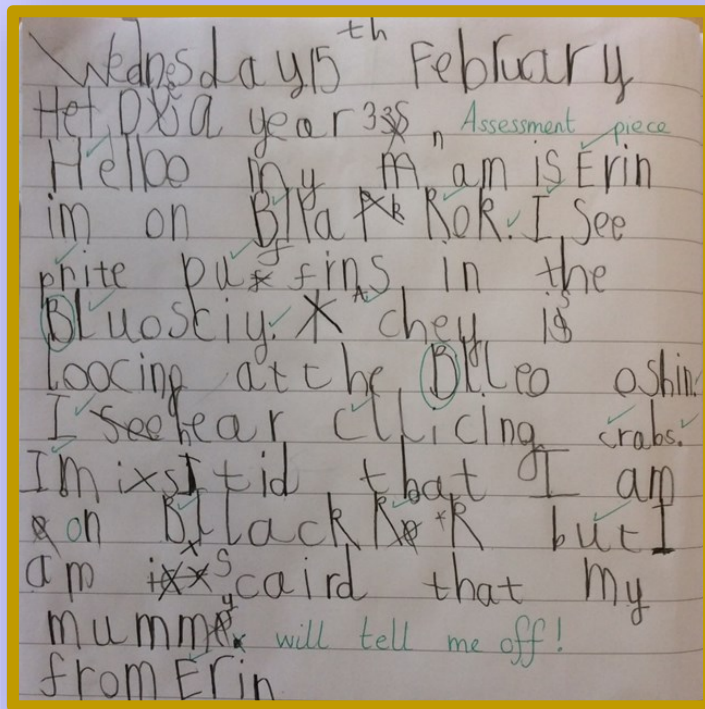
In expressive art and design, we have been making models for robots to link with the character 'Metal Man'.

We have had a range of magnets out this week to join together and create different items and we have also tested which items are magnetic and which are not.



## Caracara Class:

Caracara Class have been busy writing at length this week. The year 1s have independently and successfully written a postcard and the year 2s have produced a fact file about their imaginary island. We have come full circle with our learning about Grace Darling and rescues; we've designed our own bravery awards for R.N.L.I. members and learnt about how to call for help in the U.K.

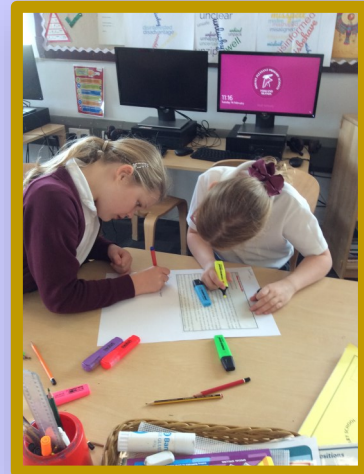


**Falcon Class:** What a busy week we have had! I think all of the falcons are ready for a restful half term. In maths year 4 have completed their work on perimeter and year 3 have been adding and subtracting lengths by first converting into the same units of measurement and then using the column method.

In English we have been looking at our new model text, a diary entry, and we are preparing to write our own when we get back after half term. We have completed our learning on the Egyptians in history and I think the children have surprised themselves about how much they now know, compared to when we started.

"I really enjoyed art this week because I liked learning all of the different patterns and colours that the Egyptians used. I also enjoyed English when we found all the features in our secret diary."

Beatrice



"I liked how we got to turn ourselves into pharaoh's with all the different colours and patterns in our outfits. Also, I have enjoyed practicing our puppet show for science."

Sophia

## Meadowlark Class:

The highlight of my term was our oil pastel space art because it was really exiting to do. The book that we are reading in class is Cosmic which is about a boy who takes a girl (who he is pretending is his daughter) into a rocket to space. In maths I have learnt about algebra, decimals, percentages and fractions. (If  $y = 6$  what is  $2y - 8$ ?) In cricket club I am learning to play cricket, and how to catch a ball better. This half term we have been learning about space. There are two mnemonics to learn the order of the planets: My Very Easy Method Just Speeds Up Nothing, and My Very Extraordinary Mother Just Served Us Nachos. Something challenging for me was algebra, but I managed to work it out.

Jemima – Y5

I enjoyed making our oil pastel rockets. I have improved on my spellings and handwriting. The most interesting thing that I have learnt is algebra. In English we have been writing letters [as characters of our class book FAR<sup>T</sup>HER] and writing a setting narrative. I struggled with possessive and plural noun apostrophes. In yarn club, we have been doing weaving and wrapping wool around cardboard letters. We decorated our letters with buttons and tattles. We are listening to "Cosmic," a really funny audiobook about going to space.

Eliza - Y6

I enjoyed learning about the fascinating topic of space. I liked sketching the ISS and labelling the different modules. We found out the distance of the planets from the sun. In maths I learnt about percentages and decimals. We also learnt algebra. (which are letters instead of numbers) I found some bits in algebra challenging and I overcame it by trying my hardest and not giving up. In English we wrote letters and setting descriptions. In art we learnt different techniques too, including how to use oil pastels. In science we designed our own planets and made a sun dial. In PE we played cricket.

Logan – Y5

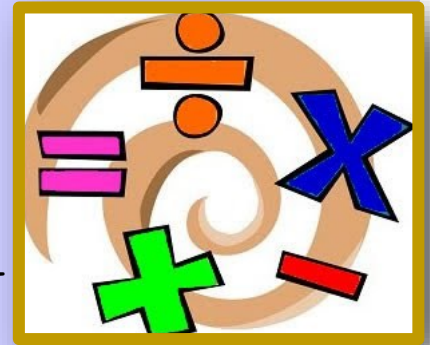
I really liked designing and creating my oil pastel rocket ship picture. I learnt lots of new techniques which helped to improve my artwork. I learnt a lot about algebra which I found quite challenging, but I found learning about decimals much easier. I can convert fractions into decimals. I enjoyed listening to our audiobook "Cosmic" which I thought was really funny. I enjoyed writing a narrative setting about the book "FAR<sup>T</sup>HER." I thought that our science task was fun because we went outside in the rain and made a mini solar system. I also liked creating my very own planet which I called "Positivitina." I loved playing cricket in PE, it was lots of fun.

Eleanor – Y5



## Maths Parent Workshop (Caracara, Falcon and Meadowlark Classes only)

If you have ever wanted to know how your child/ren are taught maths then please join us on Friday 3rd March at 0845-1000. Mr Blom will begin the session by explaining our calculation policy and then there will have the chance to join your child in class. These sessions are not suitable for swapping over half way through, therefore if you have children in more than one class it would be great if both parents can attend.



### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



## Volunteers Needed

We are looking for some volunteers to help us clean and tidy the outdoor playground/classroom areas. This would be afterschool on **Tuesday 14th March starting at 1530**. and will involve washing the Astro surface and brushing and wiping down furniture, emptying the old sand from the sand pit and filling with new.

Anyone with a hosepipe/pressure washer, wheelbarrow, spades MPS would love to borrow these for this session.

If you are able to help in anyway please contact the school office.

## Meadowlark Residential:

We are delighted to inform the parents of children in Meadowlark class about a one night camping residential at Fitzroy which we are holding jointly with IJS and their year 6 children. We will be leaving MPS on the morning of Monday 6th March and returning to school about 1600 hours on 7th March. Mr Blom will be leading this trip and he will be accompanied by Mrs Grindlay. Further details to follow immediately after half term break but we wanted you all to be able to add this important date to your diaries.





## Dates for your Diary

- Monday 20th February - Friday 24th February - Half Term
- Monday 20th February -Teacher inset Day - Teachers in school
- Thursday 2nd March - World Book Day - Details TBC
- Friday 3rd March 0845-1000 KS1 and KS2 Parents Maths Workshop instead of celebration of learning event
- Friday 3rd March - No Swimming
- Friday 10th March 0845-0930 Plover and Albatross classes Parents Maths Workshop instead of celebration of learning event
- Friday 24th March KS2 Cake sale event in corridor near 12FAC and Gym - No swimming. Further details to follow in aid of Turkey/Syria earthquake relief event
- Wednesday 29th March KS1 Penguin march in aid of Turkey/Syria earthquake relief event
- Wednesday 29th March - Parents Evening 1515-1715
- Thursday 30th March - Parents Evening - 1600-1800
- Thursday 6th April - School Finishes at 1300
- Tuesday 25th April - School Starts for children
- **Monday 8th May - Bank holiday - No school**
- Tuesday 9th May - Key Stage 2 SATs start
- **Thursday 1st June - Nursery and EYFS Sports afternoon 1415 in the school hall** ( For All children who attended Nursery, FS1 and FS2 and their families can come along to join us even if not booked in for a session that afternoon).
- Monday 5th June - Friday 9th June Half term
- Friday 23rd June - mid Winter Event-details to be confirmed
- Thursday 20th July - school finished for the year at 1300

\* Please note the key dates for 2023-24 can now be found on our website.

We wish you an enjoyable half term of exploring from all at MPS