

## Dear Parents

What a great week it has been at MPS. Meadowlark class had an amazing time at their residential with IJS and made many new friends, thank you to the RIC and the ATI's for leading sessions for us. A particular thank you must go to Mr Blom for organising and Mrs Hill for supporting.

It has also been **STEM** week in school with lots of challenges. It has been great to see the children working together to plan, make and test houses that are waterproof and can withstand floods. It was great to test these on Friday and to see which houses survived the storm.

## Plover Class:

The children in nursery had a fun-filled and busy week doing plenty of activities around the book called 'Rosie's walk'.

We enjoyed retelling the story utilising the props on the small world shelf and playing with the finger puppets as well as masks.

We incorporated lots of positional language into our play (more than we usually do) and ended it all on a high by doing a fun obstacle course.

To tie in with the rest of the school's STEM activities this week, sieves were added to the sensory tray for the children to play with.

It was fun to observe what remained and what passed through the sieve when held at a chosen height.



## Albatross Class:

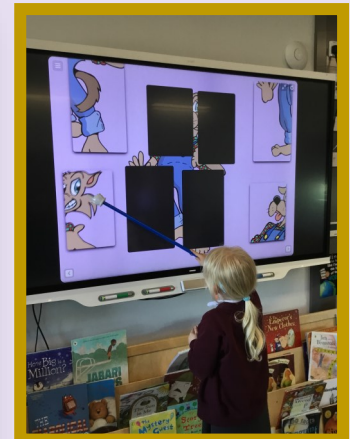
This week we have been using the text 'The Three Little Pigs' as a focus for learning in Albatross class. We have been reading the story and using small figures to retell the story. In Literacy for FS2, we have been able to use props to retell the story, wrote about the pig's houses and described the pigs.

This week in maths we have been naming 2d and 3d shapes. We have used 2d and 3d shapes to make pictures.

In Understanding the world, we have made a large house out of wooden blocks and played a board game all about The Three Little Pigs. We also used different materials to try and make wind to recreate the wolf's huffing and puffing. Then we sorted different types of materials and talked about how they look and feel.

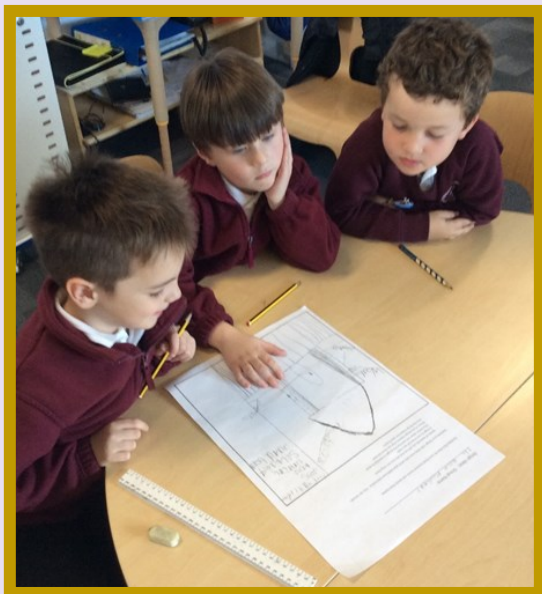
As part of our creative learning, we have mixed the colour pink using poster paint and made pink pictures and pigs.

We all worked together to build an impressive large wooden house out of blocks that could fit three people in.



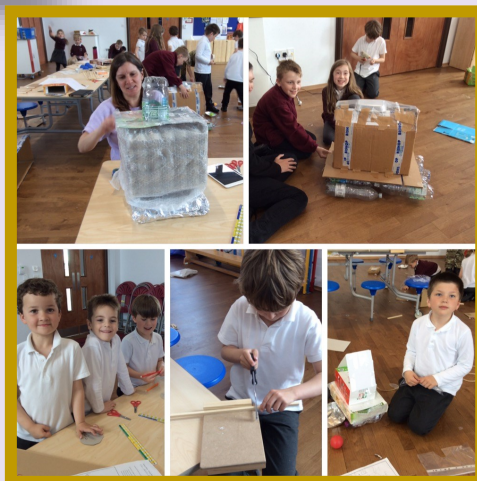
## Caracara Class

Caracara Class have been learning how to persuade. We are writing a letter to Jack (from Jack and the Beanstalk) to say whether he should, or shouldn't, climb the beanstalk to visit the giant. Many of us think he shouldn't! In maths, year 1s are continuing to learn about numbers to 50 by grouping or partitioning them into tens and ones; year 2s are developing their understanding about mass and reading scales. We've had great fun during STEM week, designing, building and testing our houses with the aim of withstanding a flood (or at least being waterproof!).



## Falcon Class:

What a busy week we have had! The children have had an exciting time taking part in a variety of STEM activities based around the topic of 'Water'. On Monday, the children planned their house designs in groups thinking about features that would protect their homes from flash floods and rising water levels and the recycled materials that they could use to create their models. On Wednesday, we were joined by our lovely STEM volunteers Nick Shipley, John Knagg and Vickie Bailey who helped the children build their models and challenged their designs by asking probing questions about material usage, stability and design features that were and were not necessary. The children loved building and have created some superb designs. On Thursday, the children visited the MPC water treatment facility where Michael Macpherson gave them a tour of the site and explained the process that is carried out to get the water from the stream to our taps. The children asked some superb questions and were very excited to meet the resident cats Poppy & Cocoa as well as dress in the PPE gear. On Friday, we all tested our houses by recreating the flood and testing to see if the houses could withstand a days heavy downpour. Results varied but it was exciting to discuss why some failed and why others were successful. A big thank you to all of the volunteers including Sqn Ldr Merino who gave (and survived) a lovely presentation to the children about how to conserve our water and reduce consumption. Look out for the photographs of testing in next weeks newsletter.





# Mount Pleasant Extra!

Newsletter  
17th March 2023

## Meadowlark Class:

"I enjoyed learning how to use a compass and the team building games. My highlight was sketching the Fitzroy memorial. I can't wait for my next residential."

*Eliza C – Year 6*

My favourite part of the trip was the RIC session because it was really fun to use the thermal vision to find the men hiding in the field.

*Jemima M – Year 5*

My favourite part of the trip was making new friends and building dens. It was my first-time camping! I enjoyed sketching the landscapes.

*Eleanor W – Year 5*

I enjoyed making new friends from IJS and doing amazing activities like setting up the boys' tents. My highlight of the trip was handling a rocket launcher which I have never done before. Even though it was my first-time camping, I enjoyed it.

*Logan K – Year 5*

## Meadowlark visits Fitzroy Farm: A school camping trip to remember!

Year 5 & 6 Meadowlark had the exciting opportunity to go on an overnight camping trip with IJS (Stanley Infant & Junior School) to Fitzroy Settlement from the 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> March.

The whole aim of the trip was to build resilience, independence and to make and have fun with new friends. Suddenly, we did not only have four students but forty!! Upon arrival, it was all hands-on-deck as we pitched our tents in the windy conditions of the Falklands. We then went for a long, relaxing walk to the Fitzroy memorial where we sketched the beautiful landscapes and the poignant, memorial sites at Fitzroy bay. Our students also had a delicious 'smoko', before making their way back to camp.

For our night-time event, Company Sergeant Major Mick Little and his men from the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Scots Guards turned up with 'guns, rifles and rocket-launchers, tactical gear, night vision scopes, camo lotion, rat packs' etc. - you name it, they brought and demonstrated how to use it for all the students! Everyone was so excited. The session ended with a 'spot the soldier in the darkness' game where students had to use two different types of night-time vision scopes to find three soldiers in different positions, located around the community hall.

After an eventful first day, we all went to bed, exhausted from a day of firsts and making new friends.



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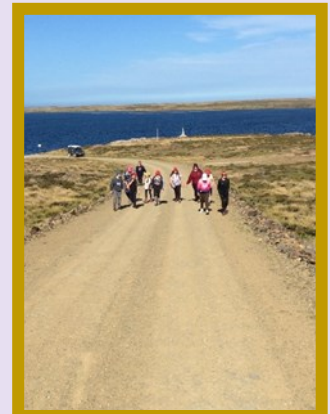
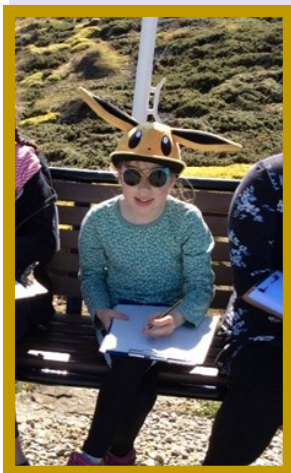
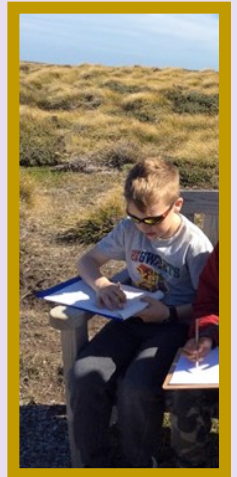
## Meadowlark Class continued...

The following morning, we had another exciting session with two RAF adventure training instructors Corporal Fraser Harris and Sergeant Stuart Edwards. Students had to complete a series of group-building activities, blindfolded with a piece a rope, whilst being led by two students who directed the rest of the group. Another activity everyone also had to complete was a map reading and orienteering session with a compass. It was great to see children learning new skills; communicating and working together as a team.

I would like to thank everyone who made this trip possible, from 'behind the scenes' to going on the actual trip: OC - EMS, OC - BSW, Mrs Stobart, the office staff at MPS, Major M Teasdale - RIC, IJS teachers who attended the trip.

A special thanks goes to: Mrs Hill for going on this trip and supporting our students from MPS, CSM Mick Little and his men from the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion Scots Guards & Corporal Harris and Sergeant Edwards for showing off the best of British military.

Like I said last year: Going to school should be about creating memorable learning experiences, those memories that you think back to fondly when you were at school! Listening to our children talk about their experience; they will hopefully look back to their time at Mount Pleasant Primary in years to come and still talk about their time at Fitzroy farm



## Meadowlark Class continued...



## Meadowlark Class Continued....



## COS PERS Townhall:

Air Vice-Marshall Maria Byford KHDS, COS Personnel, is visiting MPC from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March. We are delighted that, in their busy schedule, there will be a Townhall meeting taking place at Mount Pleasant School.

The Townhall, for all parents and families, will be held in our school hall on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> March between 14:30 and 15:03 hours.

Parents attending will be able to collect their children as usual at 15:05 pick-up time. Please confirm your attendance to the school office by Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March.

### Dates for your Diary

- 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 or Easter Bonnet walk 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
- **Friday 19th May 0845-1000 - Rearranged KS1 and KS2 Parents Maths Workshop**
- **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
- Wednesday 21st June- Mixed art day with IJS
- Thursday 20th July - school finished for the year at 1300