

## Dear Parents

It is great to be back at school, to see the fabulous learning that has been going on in my absence. Thank you Mrs Summers and staff for looking after MPS so well and ensuring it was a fun, calm and purposeful place. It is hard to believe that we break up for Christmas is just under three weeks. Christmas has certainly arrived in school with lots happening to get us all in the festive mood. Please check the diary page for event timings.

## In Plovers:

It's been another busy week in Plovers class. The children enjoyed our books and songs about spiders this week - it was lovely to see them joining in with the repetitive parts of the text. We've also done lots of painting and sticking, but the big hit this week was playing with moon sand, with Rowan and Alice serving ice cream and coffee!



## In Albatross:

We've had a week of all sorts in Albatross class. We enjoyed the visit from the fire service on Monday, finding out more about fire safety. The best part was getting to explore the fire engine - we thought the siren was very loud and the helmet was very heavy to wear! Back in the classroom, there was lots of busy fine motor work going on as we created many bracelets and necklaces. The threading was tricky at times but we persevered! Towards the end of the week, it was time to do a science experiment. Together we wrote a list of items that we needed and then set up our enquiry. We predicted what might happen when we added washing up liquid to the milk and food colouring combination. Predictions included 'it will change colour' or 'it will make little stripes'. We were very excited when we saw the washing up liquid caused a reaction and it looked like a little explosion as the colour spread out across the plate. Finally on Friday, we enjoyed exploring a robotic toy - we had to control it using an app to get it to move around. We tried creating an obstacle course for it and it was very tricky to navigate





## In Caracara Class:

This week, children have been learning to use 'Word' to insert and write about images. They had to demonstrate their knowledge of Falkland Island plants by typing their own plant identification pages. In geography, we continue to focus on Antarctica. This led us to an experiment in which we had to use our prior knowledge to help a Lego character escape the ice (we weren't allowed to chisel away at the ice!). We chose whether to compare temperature of water or amount of salt. We also had to measure the temperature of the water and how much ice had melted.



## Homework reminder for all year 1 and 2 children

Well done to those of you already in the homework routine!

If you're not, please can you make sure that the following homework is carried out daily:

- reading;
- 1-minute maths (at the level that is written in their reading record);
- 5-10 minutes EdShed spellings - if you prefer that your child carries out their spelling work by playing games *with you* instead of on the device, then please email me at [michelle.hill@modschoools.org](mailto:michelle.hill@modschoools.org) to request the weekly spelling list.

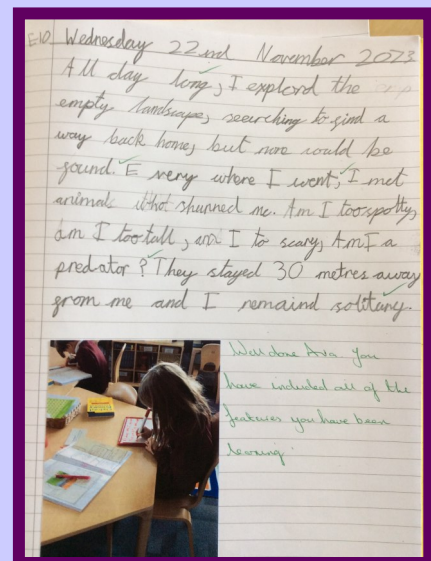
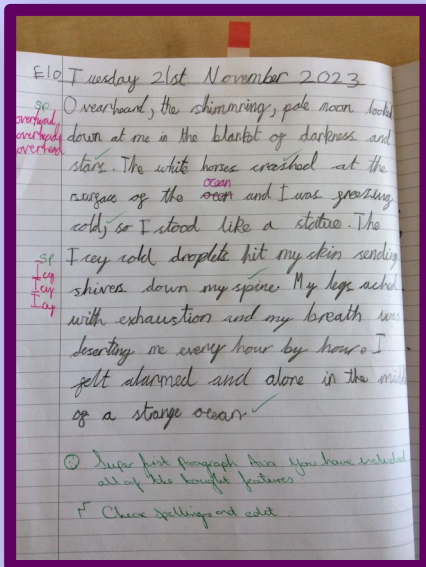
*If you require a copy of the homework explanation sheet that was given out during parents' evening then please let me know.*

## In Falcon Class:

What a busy week we have had! Time is flying by and it will be the Christmas holidays before we know it.

The children enjoyed a fantastic visit from Wing Commander Bethan Tocknell, the dentist, this week where she taught them all about cavities and the damage that can be done to our teeth by eating sugary and unhealthy food. She talked through the structure of the teeth and reminded them how to keep them clean using the three T's - two minutes, toothpaste, twice a day. The children were shocked at just how far the damage could go. Thank you Beth for the fantastic and informative talk.

As well as rehearsing the nativity, the class have started to write their outsider narratives in English and have completed the first two paragraphs, editing them as they write and using a thesaurus to find powerful synonyms of their original word choices. They are looking forward to completing them on Monday before going on to writing an information leaflet on polar bears. In maths, Year 4 have moved on to length and perimeter and finding equivalent distances and Year 3 have been revising multiples of 2, 5 and 10. In topic, the children have researched the main features of a rainforest and added the information they found to their previous learning.





## In Meadowlark Class:

Meadowlarks have been working hard! This week we have been learning about the previous migrant crisis in Greece, having a super discussion around the reasons why migrants decided to flee their own country and seek a new life, in another country; we related it to the current migrant crisis in the UK to gain further understanding. In addition, we have researched facts about the Mediterranean and asked ourselves 'why would tourists want to visit the Med'? Our answers were, the weather, the delicious seafood and beautiful coastlines as well as the historical landmarks. Maths has continued with consolidation of fractions, with assessments showing good learning and progress—fractions can be tricky! Science... Meadowlarks can now give you some interesting facts about fossils and how they are created as well as how natural life has adapted and evolved. We think that planet Earth is a wonderfully magical place and the more we learn about Charles Darwin's theory of evolution, the more we think so.

A visit from the fire service on Monday, proved extremely helpful in reminding the children how to take care of themselves in case of a fire and who to call - great demonstration from the Fire Service and a huge thank you to them.



## Volunteers needed:

MPS is looking for volunteers to help collect our school Christmas tree from our storage room at the back of the FCC, then help us to bring it to school and put up in the school hall, ready for our Christmas tree decorating event on Friday 1st December.

If you are able to assist with this please ring the school office and we can then arrange a date and time.

We look forward to welcoming parents to our annual Christmas tree decorating event on **Friday 1st December at 1430**. This is when the children show and display the decorations they have designed and made in DT lessons in school.



## Dates for your Diary

- Friday 1st December - Christmas Tree decoration Event at 1430
- Thursday 7th December - Christingle in the school hall at 1415
- Wednesday 13th December - School Production at 1400
- Thursday 14th December - School finishes at 1300
- Tuesday 9th January 2024 - School starts for children
- Friday 12th January - Join your child in Learning/Launchpad at 1415
- Friday 2nd February - Sports Afternoon for FS2 - Year 6 - 1330
- Monday 19th February - Friday 23rd February - Half Term
- Monday 26th February - 2nd Half term starts for children
- Thursday 7th March - World Book Day - details TBC
- Wednesday 27th March - Parents Evening 1515-1730
- Thursday 28th March - School finishes at 1300
- Tuesday 16th April - School starts for children
- Monday 6th May-May Bank Holiday-No School
- Monday 27th May- May Bank Holiday- No school
- Monday 3rd June- Friday 7th June- Half Term
- Wednesday 24th July- Last Day of Term- School Finishes at 1515

*Wishing you all a relaxing weekend, hopefully spring/summer will finally arrive,  
from all at MPS.*