

Newsletter 14th June 2024

#### **Dear Parents**

It was great to welcome the children back to school after the half term break on Monday, and to see everybody settle so quickly back into learning as we race towards the end of the school year. This week we saw our year one children complete their phonics screening and our year four children completing the multiplication test, all demonstrating how hard they have been working to improve these skills.

Yesterday after two years at MPS, we had to say a sad farewell to Jack and Alfie. Both boys shared excellent PowerPoints about the highlights of their time in the Falklands and what they are looking forward to back in the UK. We will no doubt hear about their future adventures and wish the boys and their family the very best.

#### Albatross Class:

A very busy first week back with lots of learning going on. FS2 have been working on 'sharing amounts equally' in maths while FS1 were focussed on some number recognition and matching. The most popular area of our classroom remains the blocks and every day, the children come up with all sorts of new creations showing off their creative and imaginative skills. We've enjoyed lots of silly stories this week as well written by Dr Seuss! They have been very funny to read and listen to. In PE, we were challenging ourselves with just a beanbag. We had different challenges to meet such as throwing and catching it, balancing it somewhere, walking sideways with it but we enjoyed the race against our friends most of all. We have started to think about our new topic for this half term too which is all things under the sea!



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#### Caracara Class:

This week has seen a few changes with Alfie leaving us and Caracaras moving classrooms. We've managed to maintain our focus though and the children continue to work hard. In English, they have written a Wanted poster for a wolf from a traditional tale of their choice. In science we are learning to categorise animals into different groups. We have thoroughly enjoyed being History Detectives this week, looking at clues that tell us about the Great Fire of London. If you walked into the classroom first thing in the morning, you would see every child reading a book about the event as they are hooked!





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#### Falcon Class:

It's been a busy week in Falcons Class as we have started our new topics (and have been getting used to a new teacher!)

Our new text for English is 'The Iron Man' by Ted Hughes, and the children have been busy describing the Iron Man's appearance and making predictions about what is going to happen. They've had some lovely ideas using similes and have also looked at the effect of repetition on the reader. They also created Kenning Poems about the Iron Man, thinking carefully about the effect on the reader.

In maths Year 3 have continued to work on problems involving time, and Year 4 have started work on position and direction.

The children have worked extra hard in science this week and have designed an experiment to investigate the effect of changing the conditions that plants need to grow. Some children are going to investigate the effect of sunlight on plant growth and others are going to look at changing temperature. The seeds that we planted just before half term are just peeping through the soil so we are looking forward to planting them out in the next week or two.

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#### Meadowlark Class:

As usual a busy week. We have started our new English topic, Hansel and Gretel, but not quite the 'fairy tale' like we all remember! This is a fascinating, retell of a Grimms' Fairy Tale, where the reader has to be brave and bold and hold their nerve! ③

See extracts of our poems from different perspectives and with good use of personification – they are dark but captivating!

In science we are learning more about global warming and the consequences of this which effect the weather, people, animals and the environment. 'We need to do more to help' and we will share our suggestions as we learn more. Our geography topic is learning about the Amazon Basin and the Amazon River. Did you know that it is the largest but not the longest river (that title goes to the River Nile) and runs through 10 countries? It is home to pink dolphins and the Amazon River Dolphin which has lived there for over 18 million years. The Black Caiman alligator, which is the largest member of the alligator family, enjoys around 4000 miles of the River Amazon to hunt, generally during the night when it becomes completely camouflaged and exceptionally dangerous!

We have waved a sad farewell to Jack today which we are all incredibly downhearted about! We will miss him and Alfie terribly and hope that all our paths will cross with the family in the future.

'The trees danced in the wind with a tumble of leaves'

'The war, the war, slowly walked towards my house'

'The thunder growled and shonted as it grew darker and darker'

'The rain slithered into my cottage as the war shrieks echoed around the forbidding woods'



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### Mount Pleasant School's Sponsored Walk:

On Monday the 17th June the children will be taking part in a sponsored walk up and down the main corridor. The intention is to walk from 12FAC to the Gull and Penguin and back , before returning to school. The children in KS1 and KS2 will do 11 "laps"

The children in EYFS will complete 5 "laps" with a little rest break on the way.

The children will be in school uniform with coats but can wear trainers to school and they will need their water bottle.

Monies raised will be used to put towards the cost of leaving penguins for the children.

Please can all sponsor money be returned to the school office by Friday 21st June 2024.

### Oasis & Friends of MPS Bingo Success:

We were delighted that on Thursday Jill Roberts the Oasis Manager was able to attend assembly to present the children with a cheque for £333, the monies raised during the fabulously well supported Bingo event on behalf of MPS. Thank you to Jill and the MPS Friends group for your hard work on this.



Dates for your Diary

- Friday 14th June-Liberation Day Assembly in school
- Monday 17th June- Whole School Sponsored walk at 1315
- Tuesday 25th June- Wear your Fixmas jumper to school day
- Wednesday 24th July Last Day of Term School Finishes at 1515

Wishing you all a fun packed wintery weekend from all at MPS

