

Dear Parents

Another busy week in school with the children enthusiastically tackling their learning. I have seen some great writing in all classes this week and it is impressive the progress the children have made since the start of the year.

Teachers continue to work on the curriculum for next academic year and we are looking forward to sharing more about this at our next parent meeting on **Thursday 9th May at 1430 in the school hall.**

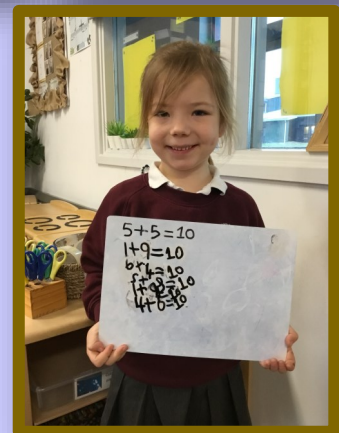
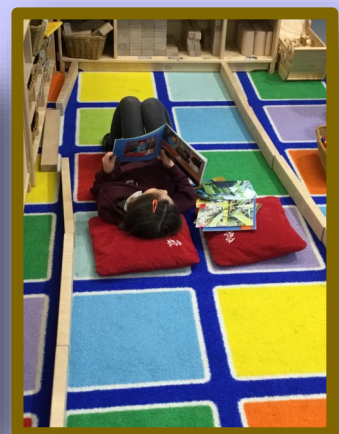
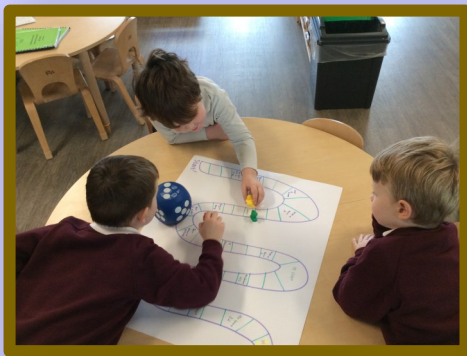
Plover Class:

The children have spent two busy mornings in Plovers this week. They've been doing lots of puzzles and working on their fine motor skills, singing nursery rhymes, and plenty of play outside (well, on Tuesday anyway). They also did lots of rainy day craft on Thursday and built a brilliant train track.



Albatross Class:

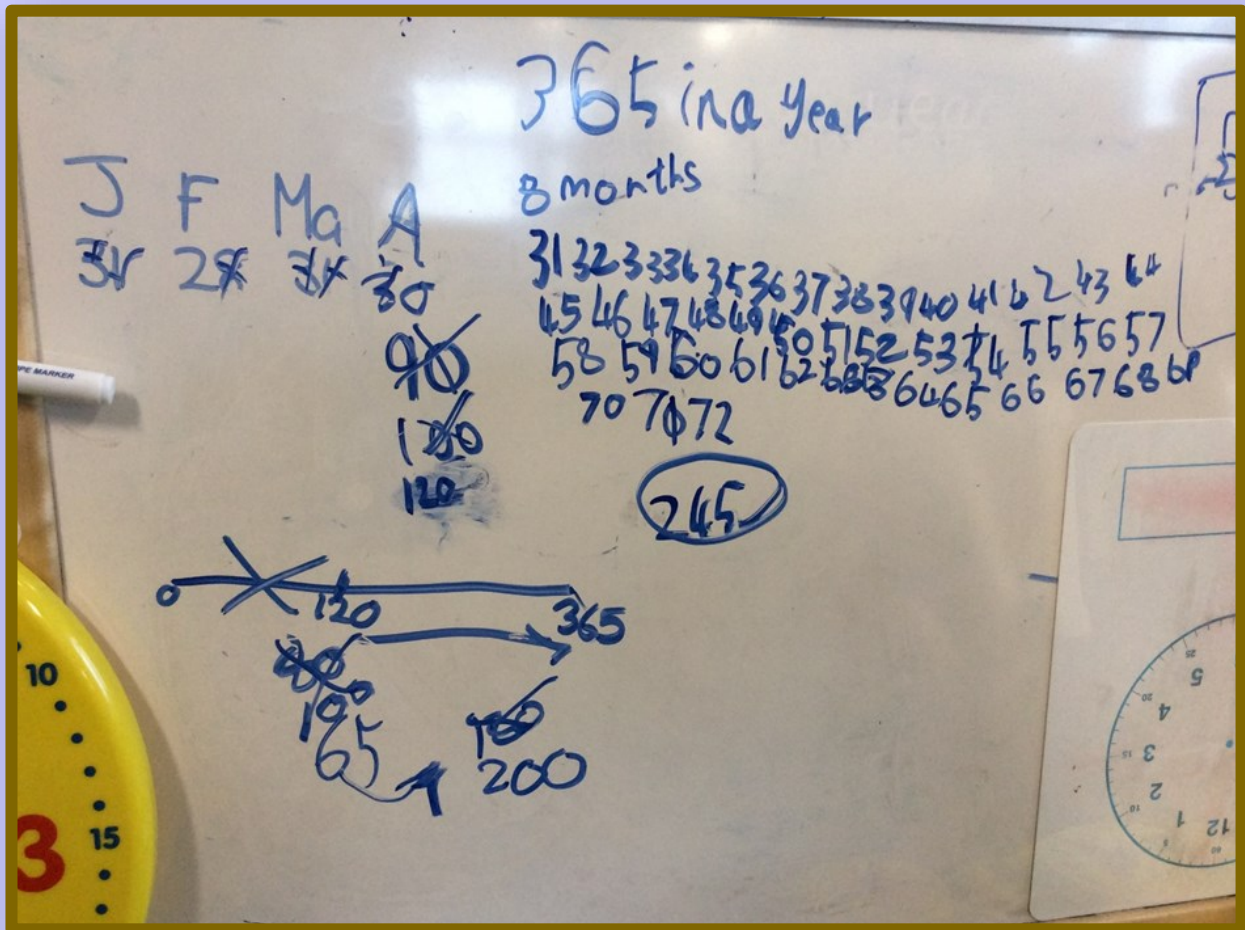
Our learning this week has continued to focus on plants and growing. We thought carefully about how plants can begin as tiny seeds and then grow into much bigger plants. We talked about the conditions they need to grow. We wrote instructions about how to grow plants as well as how to care for them. One idea was to put the plants in the shower but we said this might be a bit too much water! There has been lots of maths going on across Albatross class, from number recognition and counting games, to addition and writing down sums. Leftover from Lego club, we also enjoyed using the marble mazes which were great at encouraging us to think about how we control things with our hands as well as developing our hand/eye coordination. A couple of FS2 children made their own marble mazes out of Lego for their friends to try too! Great work everyone!



Caracara Class:

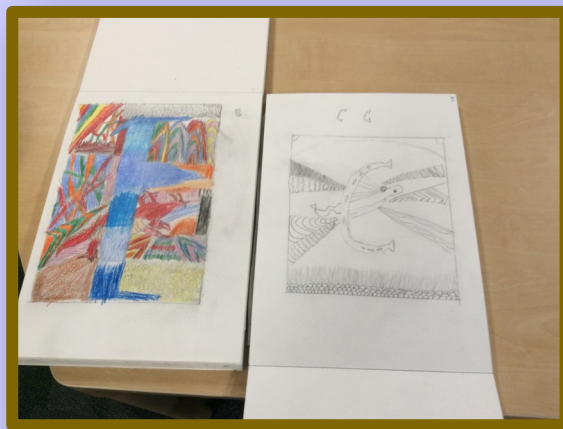
Every week, I am amazed by the children's enthusiasm, engagement and love of learning. They astound me with their questioning and drive to learn more. During their own time for learning the children decide on developing and exploring current topics or carry out creative activities. Recently, the children have had their heads in books learning more about the body, used computers to type their own stories or create their own images, used scales to weigh items and record in a table...the list goes on!

Below is one example of the excellent questioning which leads to finding out more. George asked how many days were left in the year! He began working it out independently as you can see with the list of numbers to the right. So, working together, George was guided to working out the answer with some fantastic mental maths skills including: adding 4, two-digit numbers by partitioning; working with 3 digit numbers and working out the difference.

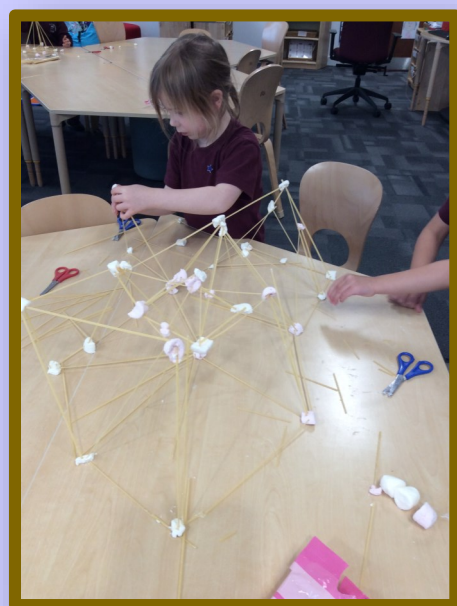
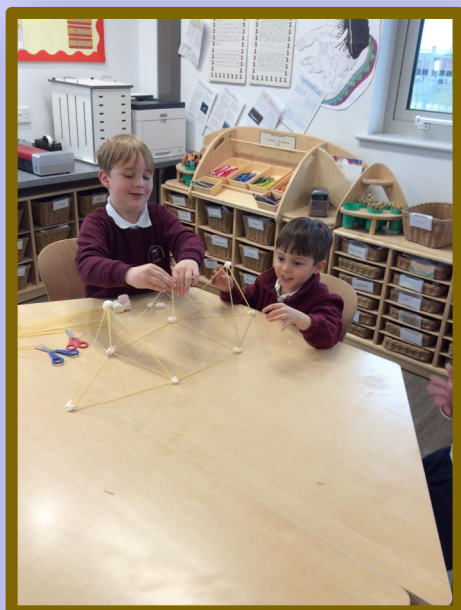


Falcon Class:

In Falcons this week, the children have discussed the Hindu belief in reincarnation. They explored the different possibilities of rebirth and drew a reincarnation ladder with the most sacred animals at the top and the lowest animals, representing people who had been bad in a past life, at the bottom. In history, the children had a debate with King Henry VIII (Mrs Kavanagh-Hogg) and his trusted advisor (Mrs Grindlay), giving him reasons why he should break with Rome and carry out the reformation. They had to listen to each other's point of view and counter any responses that went against their view. In art, the children have sketched out their image of an illuminated letter in preparation of starting their artwork next week.



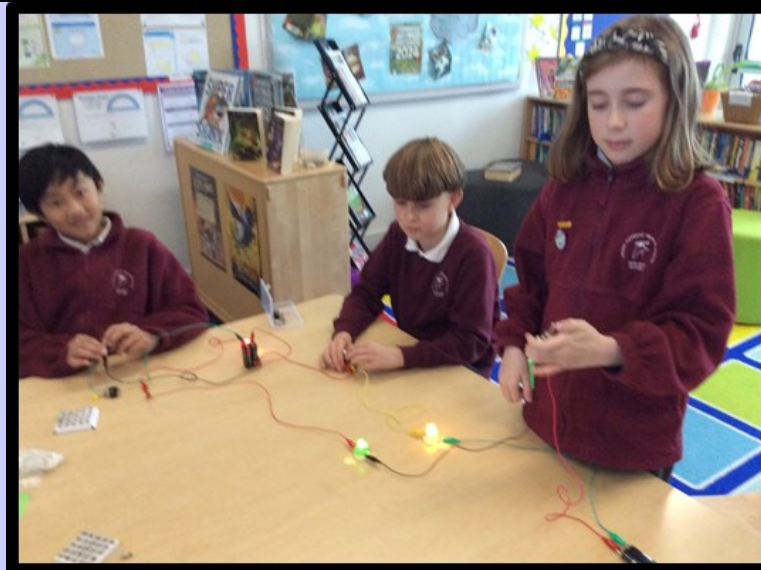
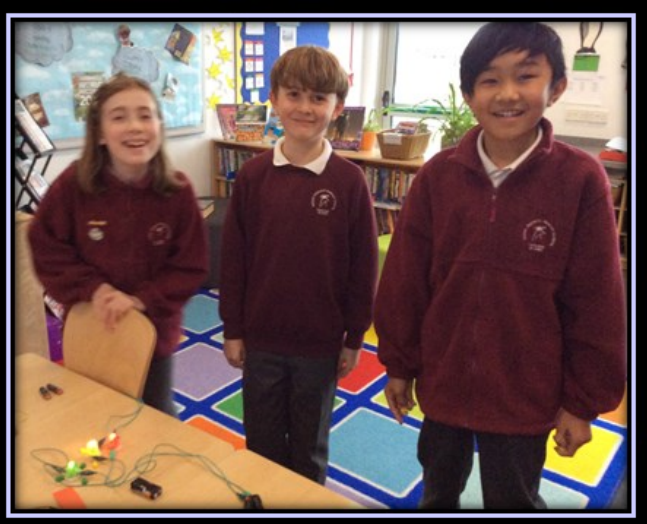
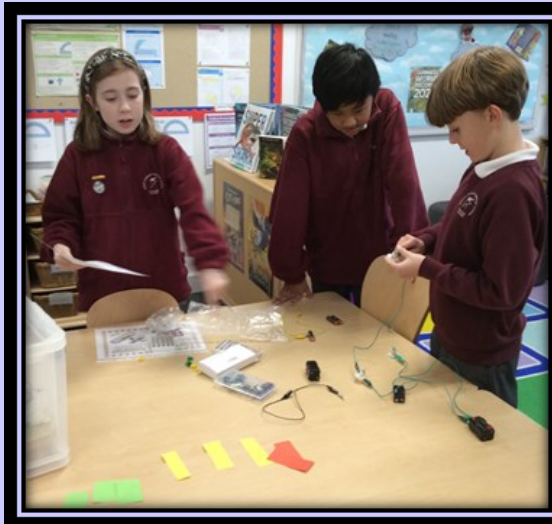
Science & STEM Club: This week we had great fun, building towers out of spaghetti and marshmallows and working together as a team to build a firm structure. Unfortunately, one of the towers fell down before I could get a picture! They even got to nibble the marshmallows at the end.



Meadowlark Class:

The highlight for Meadowlarks this week, is the completion (after much hard work) of their 'Ways of the Wolf' narratives - they are truly wonderful! I am very impressed with their literary skills, as was our visitor, Mrs Taylor the DCS advisor. The class have presented their work to each other, in the style of David Attenborough, adding super intonation and expression to engage the listener and bring the narrative to life.

In science we have been following instructions to build an electrical circuit with traffic lights! Eleanor led the way initially, suggesting various ways, which then 'sparked' the boy's imagination of further ideas to try and get the lights to synchronise. Our investigation provoked lots of thoughtful scientific questions and in addition, some super suggestions showed that Meadowlarks have the potential to become scientists in the future.





Mount Pleasant Extra!

Newsletter
03rd May 2024

Parent Governor Needed:

If you are interested in becoming a parent member of the School Governance Committee (SGC) please contact the chair of the SGC, Wg Cdr Andrea Dowds on the following email:

Andrea.Dowds569@mod.gov.uk

or arrange a meeting with the headteacher and chair to discuss this role further. A vote would be required if a number of parents wish to stand.

Further information on the School Governance Committee can be found below :

MOD School Governance Committees (SGCs) do not have the statutory responsibilities or full delegations held by a Governing Body in England. These responsibilities lie with HQ DCS (MOD Schools) acting as the Appropriate Authority.

The headteacher has operational and leadership responsibility for the school and should be first point of contact with matters regarding the school.

The school is supported by the SGC who assist:

- **In the provision of a strategic view.** E.g. the SGC contributes to the setting up and review of the School Improvement Plan (SIP) which is the school's operational framework focussing on raising standards of achievement, establishing high expectations and promoting effective teaching and learning
- **Acting as critical friend.** The SGC supports the head teacher and staff through provision of advice, guidance, information and constructive challenge;
- **Ensuring accountability.** The SGC holds the school to account on its performance and management. By asking questions at SGC meetings and by carrying out SGC visits supported by a member of school staff. These visits have agreed areas of focus linked to the SIP and will enable members of the SGC to ask further questions and to see an area from the SIP in action.

Many thanks in advance for your interest in this role.

Andrea Dowds & Verity Stobart



Mount Pleasant Extra!

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Friends of MPS:

The Friends of MPS Fundraising Group had an excellent meeting on Wednesday evening where they came up with many great fundraising ideas. The first event is the St Helenian Afternoon Tea in the Oasis on Sunday 12th May where the Friends of MPS will support with £5 per booking being given to The Friends of MPS to fund activities for the school such as coaches.



A Taste of St Helena

Afternoon Tea Sunday 12th May 2024

£15:00pp

(Part donation to Mount Pleasant School)

Sandwiches

Savoury Tomato Paste
Tuna Mayo
Cheese and Cucumber

Savouries

Sausage rolls
Cheese Straws
Curry Puffs

Sweets

Coconut Fingers
Chocolate Eggless Cake
Marshmallow

Tea or Coffee or Soft drink

Reserve a table at The Oasis Café– There are two sittings 12:30 and 15:30

We look forward to finding out further details about other great fundraising events. Thank you to all from the community who have offered your support to help with fundraising for MPS. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible at events that are organised.

- **Monday 6th May-May Bank Holiday - No school**
- **Tuesday 7th May 1515-1600 - 3rd Science and Lego/Computing Club (runs for 6 sessions)**
- **Wednesday 8th May 1515-1600-1st Multi skills club run by Flt Lt Ardern for FS2 and KS1**
- **Thursday 9th May 1430 Parents meeting Update**
- **Thursday 9th May 1515-1600 - 3rd Family Card Games Club(runs for 6 sessions)**
- **Thursday 23rd May Join your child in learning 1100-1200**
- **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**