

Dear Parents

Thank you all for attending the parents update meeting yesterday, your questions and support was really appreciated. It was good to share with everyone, an updated picture and greater detail about MPS for September 2024. Although our structure will be fragile, staff are confident that we can provide a provide an appropriately adapted, engaging, challenging and personalised curriculum, centred on our unique location for September 2024.

Volunteers are always welcome at MPS, so if you have any spare capacity for library support, hearing readers, offering a club or volunteering at lunchtimes, please make an appointment with the headteacher to discuss further.

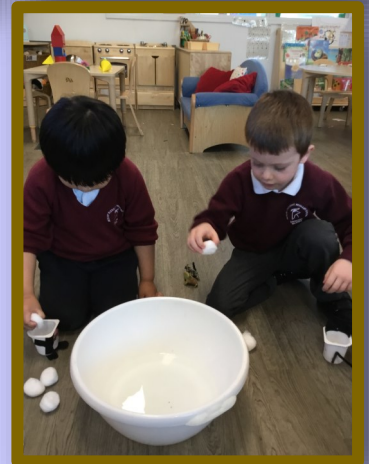
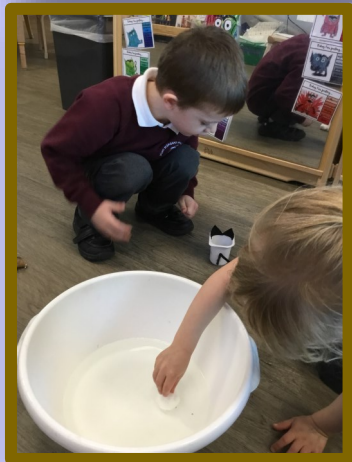
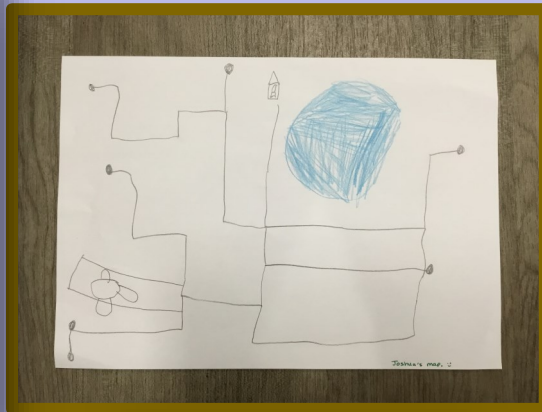
Plover Class:

This week in Plovers we have been working hard on our cutting and fine motor skills. The children have had fun playing in the sandpit, with the train track and have enjoyed doing big jigsaw puzzles. We've also been doing lots of music and singing nursery rhymes (The Wheels on the Bus seems to be the current favourite!).



Albatross Class:

We have been busy with a range of activities this week - we spent some time exploring maps, both of the world and of smaller places. Some of us then made our own maps and we had maps of the Falklands as well as treasure maps for pirates. In maths, we have been working on our shape knowledge and we really enjoyed going on a 3D shape hunt around the classroom. We had to remember to find things that were solid that could be picked up so that it qualified as a 3D shape. We found out that cylinders were easy to find but pyramids were the trickiest! We also made our own 'character pots' ranging from gorillas to unicorns. We are now going to see if we can grow their 'hair' and we planted our own cress seeds on damp cotton wool. Watch this space!



Caracara Class:

This week, the Caracaras have been working hard at improving their knowledge about fractions. We've realised that odd numbers cannot be halved (appropriate for our age) and are working out $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ of shapes and quantities. In English the children have been working hard at developing their descriptive writing and writing in the first person with some pleasing results.

Sunflowers

Looking out in front of me there was a ray of sunlight that made me gasp. There was a blanket of bright, yellow flowers. Their enormous petals waved in the wind.

By William

Oak tree

You have strong leaves that are beautiful and green. Whenever I see you I get so mesmerised by you. Whenever I see you I get a strong and powerful feeling. Your big strong trunk is harder than a rock.

By George

Oak tree

When I was looking in front of me I saw a massive, ancient oak tree. Its leaves were as green as emeralds. The beautiful, scattered brown branches in the summer would surround the magnificent bark in the middle of the trunk. I was looking at the hard pinecones on the side of the branches. There was a hole and inside the hole was a woodpecker.

By Alfie

Oak tree

Looking out in front of me I saw beautiful, light green leaves and acorns falling down. The old tree had delicate leaves and big branches that you can sit on. The fragile, thin branches hung from the trunk like statues.

By Jack

Orchids

Looking out in the wild in front of me are white, spiky flowers. They look like some positioned geese ready to fly. The smell is sweet like washed clothes from the laundry. I look at its petals because they look like wings.

By Siana

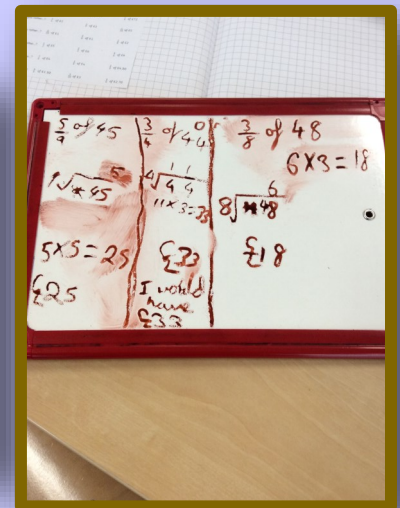
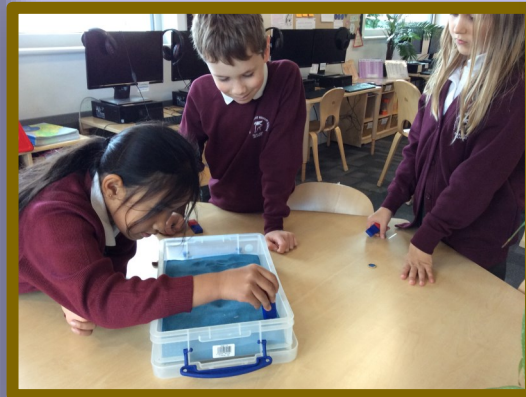
Orchids

Out in the wild there was a bunch of orchids. They were very special and precious treasures because they were delicate flowers. In the breeze the orchids waved as brilliant rays of sunlight reflected down.

By Fraser

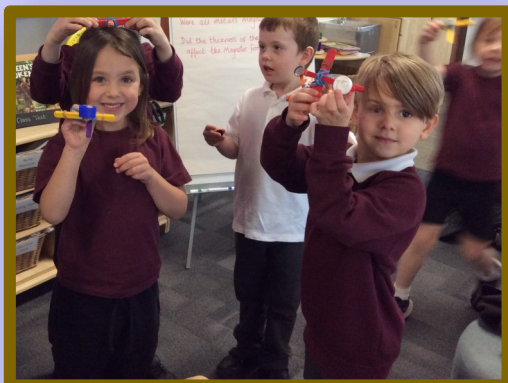
Falcon Class:

This week has flown by and I can't believe that we are already at the end of week 4. The children are thoroughly enjoying their learning and have produced some wonderful discussions and thoughts throughout their history and RE lessons this week. In maths, Year 3 have completed their unit on fractions where they have been solving reasoning problems by finding non-unit fractions. Year 4 have been looking at identifying different types of angles and measuring them with a protractor. In English, they have built up a wonderful bank of phrases to be used in their setting description writing next week. Science this week, saw the children experimenting with which materials are magnetic and then investigating whether the magnetic force can act through different materials. They also investigated if the thickness of different materials affect the strength of the magnet.



Science & STEM Club:

Science Club this week had great fun making catapults and then firing different objects. Some children measured the distances that their objects travelled using metre rulers. ***For next weeks science fun we will be making lava lamps so if possible, please bring a small empty water bottle with you.**



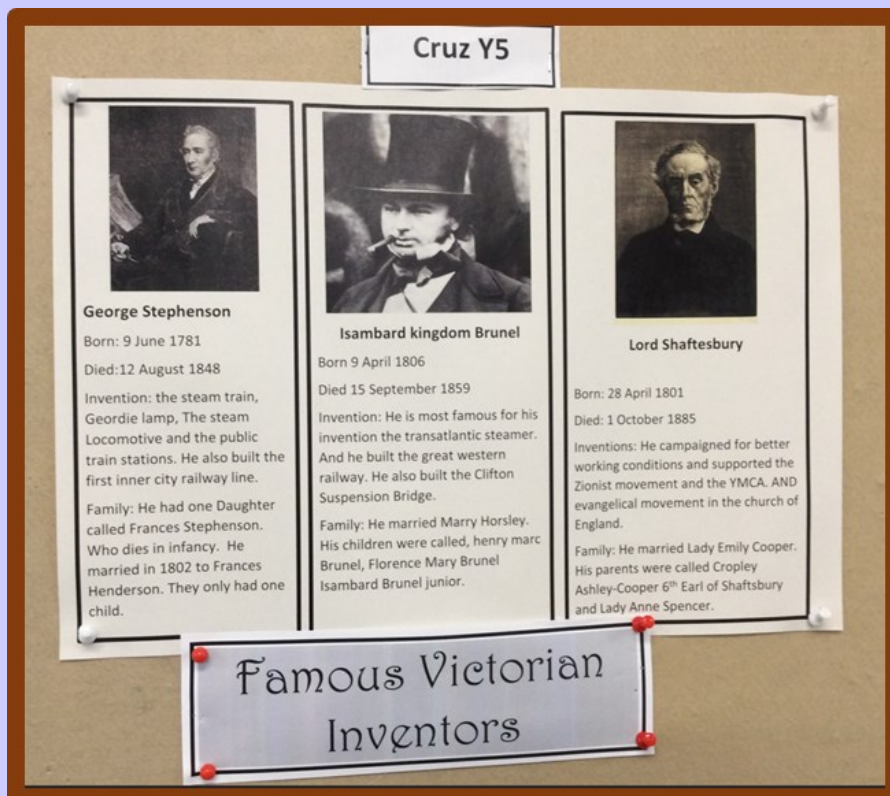
Meadowlark Class:

Despite the miserable weather, Meadowlarks have remained chipper, working hard in all subjects and earning lots of team points.

Our history topic is focussed on the Victorian period with learning concentrating on: the conditions in which children worked in the factories, how the Industrial Revolution changed the financial landscape due to machinery and many inventions (which we still have today) and how the situation increased the fortunes of the rich, while the poor people stayed the same. There were some very poignant moments followed by thoughtful questions from Meadowlarks.

'The Hound of the Baskervilles' is proving to be of great interest to us all. The children are recognising how the beautiful historical vocabulary and phrases impact on the reader and are becoming more inspired by the figurative language of the author Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, creating a poem to demonstrate this style of language.

Angles and coordinates have dominated our maths learning with some very good learning taking place - Meadowlarks are going at a pace - well done!





Mount Pleasant Extra!

Newsletter
10th May 2024

Parent Governor Needed: (Reminder)

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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Dates for your Diary

- Tuesday 14th May 1515-1600 - 4th Science and Lego/Computing Club (runs for 6 sessions)
- Wednesday 15th May 1515-1600-2nd Multi skills club run by Flt Lt Ardern for FS2 and KS1
- Thursday 16th May 1515-1600 - 4th 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
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Wishing you all a fun weekend with friends and family from all at MPS