

20th December 2023

Montrose School

Achieving, Caring, Aspiring

Merry Christmas and a Happy New year



Dear Families,

As we come to the end of a long and busy term, we would like to thank everyone for their hard work and effort. After Christmas we welcome back Miss Gillett and Mrs Bhogaita from maternity leave. They will both be teaching in 5G. Mrs Bhogaita will be teaching on a Monday and Tuesday and Miss Gillett will be teaching on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. This term we say farewell to Miss Doore (year 5), Mrs Maher (premises officer) and Mrs Darlow (TA). They will be missed. It leaves us to say on behalf of the staff and governors, thank you for your support, have a wonderful Christmas and peaceful New Year. We look forward to seeing you all at the beginning of the Spring Term on Monday 8th January 2024.

Mr Owens and Miss Jackson, Head teachers

St Andrews Church

Years 1 - 6 visited the church on Monday to learn why Christmas is an important time of year for our Christian families. Thank you to Reverend Rowena Bass for letting us visit and for speaking to the children.



Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 Productions

What a wonderful way to finish the term with the Foundation Stage and key stage 1 children performing 'A Christmas Story' and 'The Inn-spectors'. It is always a treat to see our youngest children performing with such enthusiasm and enjoyment, and especially to be able to invite families in to watch. Well done children, you were magnificent! A big thanks to our parents for all your help with learning lines and providing costumes, not to mention being a fantastic audience! Thank you to our PTA for providing the refreshments and finally, thank you to all of the staff that have spent hours rehearsing and making the props/scenery.



Music at Montrose

We have had a busy term in the Music Department. We are very proud of our year 4,5 and 6 choir for visiting Meadow's Court Care Home to spread some Christmas joy. They sang some lovely Christmas songs and carols and the residents really enjoyed it and were smiling, singing and clapping along! The choir have also been busily preparing for a Young Voices concert in Birmingham in January which they are looking forward to.

Many children have had the opportunity to perform in our Friday assemblies this term and have overcome any nervous feelings to do so. Well done to all of the children who have taken part.

Our years 1, 2, and 3 choir, Singing Stars, joined other schools at Avenue Primary School earlier this term in a Pirates and Mermaids production. They had a lovely day and the final performance was brilliant.

A group of children from both choirs entertained the crowd at the Montrose Christmas Fayre and finally, all of our musicians and both choirs entertained the whole school in a festive assembly!

A big thank you to all of our visiting music teachers and to Mrs Rupp and Mr Davies for all of the musical clubs and events that they work hard to provide.

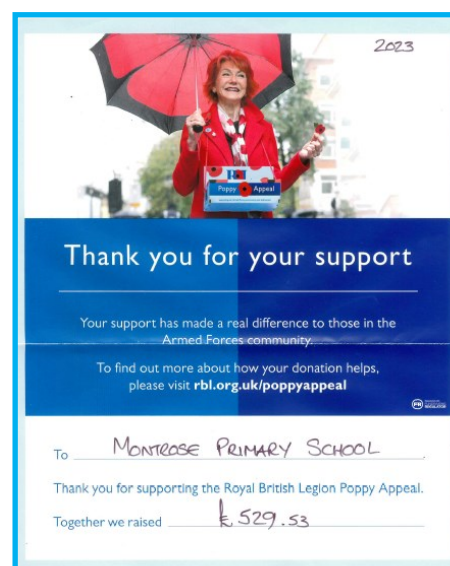


The children looked extremely festive this week with their Christmas jumpers, baubles, stars and tinsel. They have enjoyed their end of term parties and treats.



Eco Schools

The Eco Team have been busy planning out the key areas they would like to focus on for this year. We have discussed how we can reduce the amount of energy we use as a school, how we can increase the number of habitats we have and how we can reduce and recycle even more materials as a school. In the new year, we will be working alongside the Sustainable Schools Team from Leicester City Council to plant a hedgerow between the playground and the fence on Wigston Lane to provide important habitats and reduce air pollution. We will also be taking part in the government's flagship National Education Nature Park programme which is all about "greening" school sites and helping children to become more environmentally conscious.



Sport

We would like to say a big well done to all of the children who have taken part in a sporting event so far this year. We have seen some fantastic team work, sportsmanship and resilience. A small group of children competed in a Boccia event recently. They showed great team work skills and this helped them to win this event scoring an amazing 7 points in the final match! They will now compete in the final next term.

Please can we ask that you have a look at home for any sport kit that you may have so we have a full set ready for next year!



PTA

The PTA have had a very busy autumn term putting on Halloween discos, many toast days and a Christmas fete raising a grand total of £1733.75! Going forward, the PTA will be focusing on fundraising to renovate the school playground. We will be working alongside the school council and the wider staff to ensure that pupil and staff voice underpin the improvements we aim to make. If you would like to get involved in the PTA, you can sign up to our mailing list using the sign up form on Class Dojo or by emailing: PTA@montrose.leicester.sch.uk We will email out opportunities to help out at events as well as minutes from meetings so that you can stay in the loop about what the PTA are working on. A big thank you to everyone who has volunteered their time, attended events and donated items to help with our fundraising efforts.

Nursery

The Nursery children have been learning all about their senses this term. We have been exploring various celebrations such as Diwali and Christmas, alongside learning all about both autumn and winter. We went on an autumn walk to find lots of colourful leaves and hear them crunch under our feet. The children tasted some Indian foods when celebrating Diwali and we thought they were yummy! In maths we have explored colour, sorting, and the numbers 1 and 2 using lots of practical activities and songs. We were able to invite our families into the classroom to learn the importance of reading from a librarian, it was so much fun! To end the term we had a visit from Santa's elves, Starry and Tinsel!



Reception

The reception children have learnt about Diwali. They have made diva lamps, dressed up and done some Diwali cards and paintings. They have also explored different materials and how to stack and build, making houses, forts and barriers. They have loved their new Lego station and thinking about what to build and piecing it together!



Year 1

Year 1 have been busy practicing for the Christmas production the Inn - Spectors. The children learnt all the words to the songs and some children even sang a solo. We are very proud of how hard they have worked!



Year 2

Year 2 have had a fantastic Autumn term. We've read so many exciting stories, from Meerkat Mail to The Christmas Pine, Pumpkin Soup to twisted fairytales. The children have investigated the properties of different materials in science, learned about the continents and oceans in geography and explored the lives of Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole in history. We also learned about the Plague and we have been so impressed with the amount of knowledge that the children are able to retrieve each week! At the end of the term, the children put on a wonderful production called the Inn-Spectors and we are pleased to announce that it was rated outstanding by the KS1 teachers!

Year 3

We have had a wonderful term in Year 3. We recently went on a trip to Bradgate Park as part of our Stone Age History topic. We got to imagine what life would have been like all those years ago. We were able to watch the rocksteady concert that happened recently and had some members of Year 3 take part. Mrs Rupp very kindly demonstrated the fife to us and played a few very famous pieces of music. We were then able to have a little workshop to see what it would be like to play the Fife! In science we explored everything to do with rocks. We got to investigate soil and were able to use microscopes to have a really good look.



Year 4

Year 4 have had a fun filled half-term and worked hard. One of their highlights was our trip to Bradgate Park, where they enjoyed bug hunting, river dipping and looking at the river features bringing to life topics they have been looking at in Science and Geography this term. They all behaved brilliantly, listened fantastically and made us very proud.



Year 5

This term has been a lovely term for Year 5. All of the children have settled in well and have worked hard throughout. A particular highlight was learning about the Kingdom of Benin across our topic subjects; we learnt about who the people of Benin were in History, sang African songs in Music, designed our own African djembe drums in D&T and even created our own Benin-inspired clay sculpture in art. Science has also been one of our favourite topics to learn about (and teach) this term; the children have all been so interested and many have done their own research at home too. We have also enjoyed off-timetable days, such as Roald Dahl Day and practising for the Poetry Slam. Year 5 have also been lucky enough to go on several trips this term too - such as an exciting Science Workshop at Lancaster Academy and an out-of-this-world day at the National Space Centre.



Year 6

What a busy Autumn term we have had in Year 6! The children were very inspired by our World War 1 topic in history, English and Art. They produced some amazing art work, wrote very moving poems, followed the journey of *Private Peaceful* and did some fantastic writing about the book. Our topic culminated in a special day where we tied up the topic with some online research, baking and art work based on the local war memorial.

We have also completed Bikeability training, First Aid, raised over £300 in enterprise week, and that's alongside lots of hard work in English and Maths! Well done Year 6 – enjoy a rest over the Christmas holidays!

