

# The Beacon

Academic Year 2022/23

Issue No: 02

Date 7<sup>th</sup> Oct 2022

## *Hello from Mr Thomson*

It has been another great week at Montpelier! Over the past two weeks, we have been focussing on our three school rules: be safe, be respectful and be responsible. These ensure that our community is kind, considerate and caring in our relationships – making school a happy and safe place for everyone to learn and grow. Next week, it is NSPCC PANTS week. Talk PANTS helps children understand that their body belongs to them, and they should tell someone they trust if anything makes them feel upset or worried. You can sign up for emails about Talk PANTS Tips here: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/pants-form/>

Enjoy the autumnal weather this weekend and we will see you on Monday. Mr T

## *Café – Advance notice*

Nicky Heally our community police support officer (PCSO) will be in the cafe on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October from 8.30 - 9.30am. If there is anything you would like to bring to her attention, or chat to her about, just drop in and have a chat.

## *Girls Football team Continue long tradition*

On Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September, the girls' football team kicked-off the new football season by attending the qualifying tournament at Manadon.

The team showed good perseverance to overcome the disappointment of losing the first 2 games against champions Horrabridge and also (despite dominating) Shakespeare.

A confidence-building win versus Horrabridge B left a final game against Knowle and only a handsome victory would result in progression to the final in a few weeks. Happily, a strong performance meant a 5-0 win and a trip to the finals was booked.

Well played to the team: Isla M, Gracie, Isla A, Dahlia, Belle, Sofia, Emily-Rose, Eliza and Ella.

## *School Term Dates for 2022/2023*

**Wed 12<sup>th</sup> Oct 8.30 - 9.30am** - Nicky Heally community police support officer will be in the café, drop in and have a chat.

**Tues 18<sup>th</sup> Oct** – Progress evening

**Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> Oct** – Progress evening

**Mon 24<sup>th</sup> – Fri 28<sup>th</sup> Oct Inc.** – Half term

**Mon 31<sup>st</sup> Oct** – Closing date for secondary school applications

**Mon 19<sup>th</sup> Dec 2022 – 1<sup>st</sup> Jan 2023** – Christmas Holidays

**Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2023** – Bank Holiday

**Tues 3<sup>rd</sup> Jan** – Non-pupil day

**Wed 4<sup>th</sup> Jan** – First day of term

**Mon 13<sup>th</sup> to Fri 17<sup>th</sup> Feb Inc.** – Half term

**Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> to Fri 14<sup>th</sup> Apr Inc.** – Easter holidays

**Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Apr** - Non-pupil day

**Mon 1<sup>st</sup> May** – Bank holiday

**Mon 29<sup>th</sup> May** – Bank holiday

**Tues 30<sup>th</sup> May – Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> June Inc.** – Half term

**Fri 30<sup>th</sup> June** – Non-pupil day

**Fri 21<sup>st</sup> July** - Last day of term (**1:30pm finish for Year 6 / 2:15pm finish for Foundation through to Year 5**)

*If you have any concerns in regard to data protection please contact the school office on 01752 216160 or by email [admin@mpsplymouth.net](mailto:admin@mpsplymouth.net)*

## *Year 6 SECONDARY TRANSFER – SEPTEMBER 2023*

A reminder that secondary school preference forms need to be submitted by the **31<sup>st</sup> October 2022**. Wherever possible, parents are encouraged to apply online, it is quick and easy – all parents need is an email address. If you have any concerns please get in touch with Plymouth City Council, Admissions Team – they will do all they can to help.

### *Macmillan Cancer Support*

A huge **Thank you** to everyone who supported Macmillan by coming to our coffee afternoon on Friday and by buying raffle tickets. Together we raised a phenomenal £1239.31. This brings our running total since 2008 to £11481.54. Thank you so so much for all your generous donations to a charity so close to many of our hearts.

Jane Gilbert, Parent Support Advisor, Montpelier Primary School



### *Sport News*

We are delighted to announce that Montpelier Primary School has achieved the School Games Platinum Mark Award (the highest sporting level) for the 2021/22 academic year. The School Games Mark is a Government-led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward and recognise school's engagement (provision and uptake) in the School Games against a national benchmark and to celebrate keeping young people active, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success. Our physical activity and school sport achievements this year include: Athletics, Cross Country, Netball, Hockey, Quads, Football, Tag Rugby, Golf, Basketball, Boccia, Rowing, Tennis, Archery, Cricket just to name a few. We are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of physical activity and school sport, including those young volunteers, leaders and officials who made our events possible. We are committed to using the School Games to try and engage those young people who haven't previously been active or represented our school and to try and ensure that all our students have a positive experience and want to try out new activities beyond school too in our community. We believe in the power of physical activity and school sport as a school and give opportunities to those young people that need it most either as a participant, leader, official or volunteer. As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas linked to the five School Games outcomes and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.







# What Parents & Carers Need to Know about WHATSAPP



WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service, with around two billion users exchanging texts, photos, videos and documents, as well as making voice and video calls. Its end-to-end encryption means messages can only be viewed by the sender and any recipients; not even WhatsApp can read them. Updates to its privacy policy in 2021 (involving sharing data with parent company Facebook) caused millions to leave the app, but the new policy was widely misinterpreted – it only related to WhatsApp's business features, not to personal messages.

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

### SCAMS

Fraudsters occasionally send WhatsApp messages pretending to offer prizes encouraging the user to click on a link to win. Other common scams involve warning someone that their WhatsApp subscription has run out (aiming to dupe them into disclosing payment details) or impersonating a friend or relative and asking for money to be transferred to help with an emergency.

### DISAPPEARING MESSAGES

Users can set WhatsApp messages to disappear in 24 hours, 7 days or 90 days by default. Photos and videos can also be instructed to disappear after the recipient has viewed them. These files can't be saved or forwarded – so if your child was sent an inappropriate message, it would be difficult to prove any wrongdoing. However, the receiver can take a screenshot and save that as evidence.

### ENABLING FAKE NEWS

WhatsApp has unfortunately been linked to accelerating the spread of dangerous rumours. In India in 2018, some outbreaks of mob violence appear to have been sparked by false allegations being shared on the app. WhatsApp itself took steps to prevent its users circulating hazardous theories and speculation in the early weeks of the Covid-19 pandemic.

### POTENTIAL CYBERBULLYING

Group chat and video calls are great for connecting with multiple people in WhatsApp, but there is always the potential for someone's feelings to be hurt by an unkind comment or joke. The 'only admins' feature gives the admin(s) of a group control over who can send messages. They can, for example, block people from posting in a chat, which could make a child feel excluded and upset.

### CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

To start a WhatsApp chat, you only need the mobile number of the person you want to message (the other person also needs to have the app). WhatsApp can access the address book on someone's device and recognise which of their contacts also use the app. So if your child has ever given their phone number to someone they don't know, that person could use it to contact them via WhatsApp.

### LOCATION SHARING

The 'live location' feature lets users share their current whereabouts, allowing friends to see their movements. WhatsApp describes it as a "simple and secure way to let people know where you are." It is a useful method for a young person to let loved ones know they're safe – but if they used it in a chat with people they don't know, they would be exposing their location to them, too.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

[CLICK HERE](#)

### CREATE A SAFE PROFILE

Even though someone would need a child's phone number to add them as a contact, it's also worth altering a young person's profile settings to restrict who can see their photo and status. The options are 'everyone', 'my contacts' and 'nobody' – choosing one of the latter two ensures that your child's profile is better protected.



### EXPLAIN ABOUT BLOCKING

If your child receives spam or offensive messages, calls or files from a contact, they should block them using 'settings' in the chat. Communication from a blocked contact won't show up on their device and stays undelivered. Blocking someone does not remove them from your child's contact list – so they also need to be deleted from the address book.



### REPORT POTENTIAL SCAMS

Young people shouldn't engage with any message that looks suspicious or too good to be true. When your child receives a message from an unknown number for the first time, they'll be given the option to report it as spam. If the sender claims to be a friend or relative, call that person on their usual number to verify it really is them, or if it's someone trying to trick your child.



### LEAVE A GROUP

If your child is in a group chat that is making them feel uncomfortable, or has been added to a group that they don't want to be part of, they can use WhatsApp's group settings to leave. If someone exits a group, the admin can add them back in once; if they leave a second time, it is permanent.



### THINK ABOUT LOCATION

If your child needs to use the 'live location' function to show you or one of their friends where they are, advise them to share their location only for as long as they need to. WhatsApp gives a range of 'live location' options, and your child should manually stop sharing their position as soon as it is no longer needed.



### DELETE ACCIDENTAL MESSAGES

If your child posts a message they want to delete, WhatsApp allows the user seven minutes to erase a message. Tap and hold on the message, choose 'delete' and then 'delete for everyone.' However, it's important to remember that recipients may have seen (and taken a screenshot of) a message before it was deleted.



### CHECK THE FACTS

You can now fact-check WhatsApp messages that have been forwarded at least five times, by double-tapping the magnifying glass icon to the right of the message. From there, your child can launch a Google search and decide for themselves whether the message was true or not.



## Meet Our Expert

Parveen Kaur is a social media expert and digital media consultant who is passionate about improving digital literacy for parents and children. She has extensive experience in the social media arena and is the founder of Kids N Clicks: a web resource that helps parents and children thrive in a digital world.



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Raise festive  
cheer in your  
Christmas  
gear!

# Santas on the Run

eden project

Walk, jog or run 2k at the Eden Project  
on Sunday 4 December 2022

Sign up today [www.chsw.org.uk/santas](http://www.chsw.org.uk/santas)



Making the most of short and precious lives across the South West  
Registered Charity No. 1003314



**Children's Hospice South West - Due to the cost of living, we have reduced our early bird tickets for our fun 2k festive fun run to just £4.50 for a child, and £9 for an adult. This gives our participants free entry into Eden for the day to experience a wonderful family day out. We have had quotes from families already signed up this year that it was "the best bit about their Christmas".**



## **Transition to school group**

**Is your child starting school  
September 2023?**

**This exciting 8 week course will give you the  
opportunity to support your child and increase  
their skills to start school in September!**

**Outdoor activities based on popular stories will  
give your child different experiences, developing  
their listening skills, independence and  
confidence.**

**8 sessions starting Wednesday 12th October  
Soapbox theatre Devonport park  
10:00—11:00 am**

**Referral only, please text Sarah on  
07977020638 for more information.**





**ARGYLE  
COMMUNITY  
TRUST**

# OCTOBER HALF-TERM ROADSHOWS

PLYMOUTH 2022 | OCTOBER

## MANADON SPORTS & COMMUNITY HUB

Football - 24th,  
Strikers & Goalkeepers - 25th  
PDC/COE Training - 27th  
Halloween Special - 28th

**9.30am-3.30pm**

**Boys & girls**

**Aged 5-15**

**All abilities**

## PLYMPTON ACADEMY

Football - 26th

## HODE PRIMARY

Football/Breakfast Club - 24th, 25th, 27th, 28th  
Multi Sports/Breakfast Club - 26th

## MARY DEANS

Multi Sports - 24th  
Football - 27th

## LIPSON VALE

Multi Sports - 25th, 27th

## WEMBURY PRIMARY

Gymnastics - 25th  
Multi Sports - 26th

## IVYBRIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Strikers & Goalkeepers - 28th  
Girls Only - 28th

## NEWTON FERRERS PRIMARY

Multi Sports - 26th

## HORRABRIDGE PRIMARY

Multi Sports - 28th



## DISABILITY - PLYMPTON ACADEMY

Disability Roadshow - 26th

## DISABILITY - MANADON

Disability Short Breaks  
24th, 27th

**Book now 01752 562561 ext. 6**  
**[argylecommunitytrust.co.uk](http://argylecommunitytrust.co.uk)**

**BOOK  
NOW!**



## FOOTBALL ROADSHOW

Our Soccer Roadshows are age and football specific with the emphasis on fun, enjoyment and development. Sessions include skills, techniques, competitions and small sided games.

## GIRLS ONLY ROADSHOW

Girls of all abilities have the chance to learn new skills, make new friends and really feel part of the football community. These sessions are in place to shatter any lingering pre-conceptions about women's and girls' football and boost participation whilst learning skills and techniques and playing small sided games.

## MINI PILGRIMS 10:00AM - 11:00PM

Mini Pilgrim football sessions are aimed at three – six year olds, who are experiencing their first taste of a structured coaching session. The sessions are staffed at a ratio of 1 coach to 12 children. The emphasis is to improve the children's listening and concentration skills whilst working on balance and co ordination. The children can develop in a safe and fun environment over the duration of the sessions.

## STRIKERS & GOALKEEPERS

This specific day will cover a variety of shooting activities and goalkeeper training. With opportunities for defenders and attackers to showcase their skills.

## DISABILITY ROADSHOW 10AM-3PM

A fun-filled day packed with football games in an inclusive and comfortable environment. The day is tailored for children with a physical impairment, learning disability or mental health condition.

## SHORT BREAKS 10AM-1PM

Fun and inclusive football and multi-sport activities for children aged 7-15 with a disability and educational health & care plan (EHCP).

## MULTI SPORTS

Chance for participants to undertake a wide range of sports throughout the day. Sports will vary from football, handball, tag rugby plus many more. Each venue and area will offer different sports.



PHONE 01752 562561 ext 6

REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER 1128906

For our cancellation policy please visit <https://argylecommunitytrust.co.uk/terms>



@ArgyleTrust



[argylecommunitytrust.co.uk](https://argylecommunitytrust.co.uk)

# LEARN. PLAY. SUCCEED



## Spooktacular October Half Term at Plymouth College

Are your little adventurers ready to be transported to a bewitching world of mystery and High 5 Halloween fun this half term? Plymouth College will be hosting a week-long 'spooktacular' from Plymouth's leading provider of fun-filled activity camps this October half term. Featuring amazing activities like swimming, potion making with Lucy the friendly witch, a spooky reptile visit, pumpkin carving competition, tunnels of terror, NEW combat archery, the return of the timeless classic: conker wars and the super popular High 5 Halloween party including zombie dress-up.

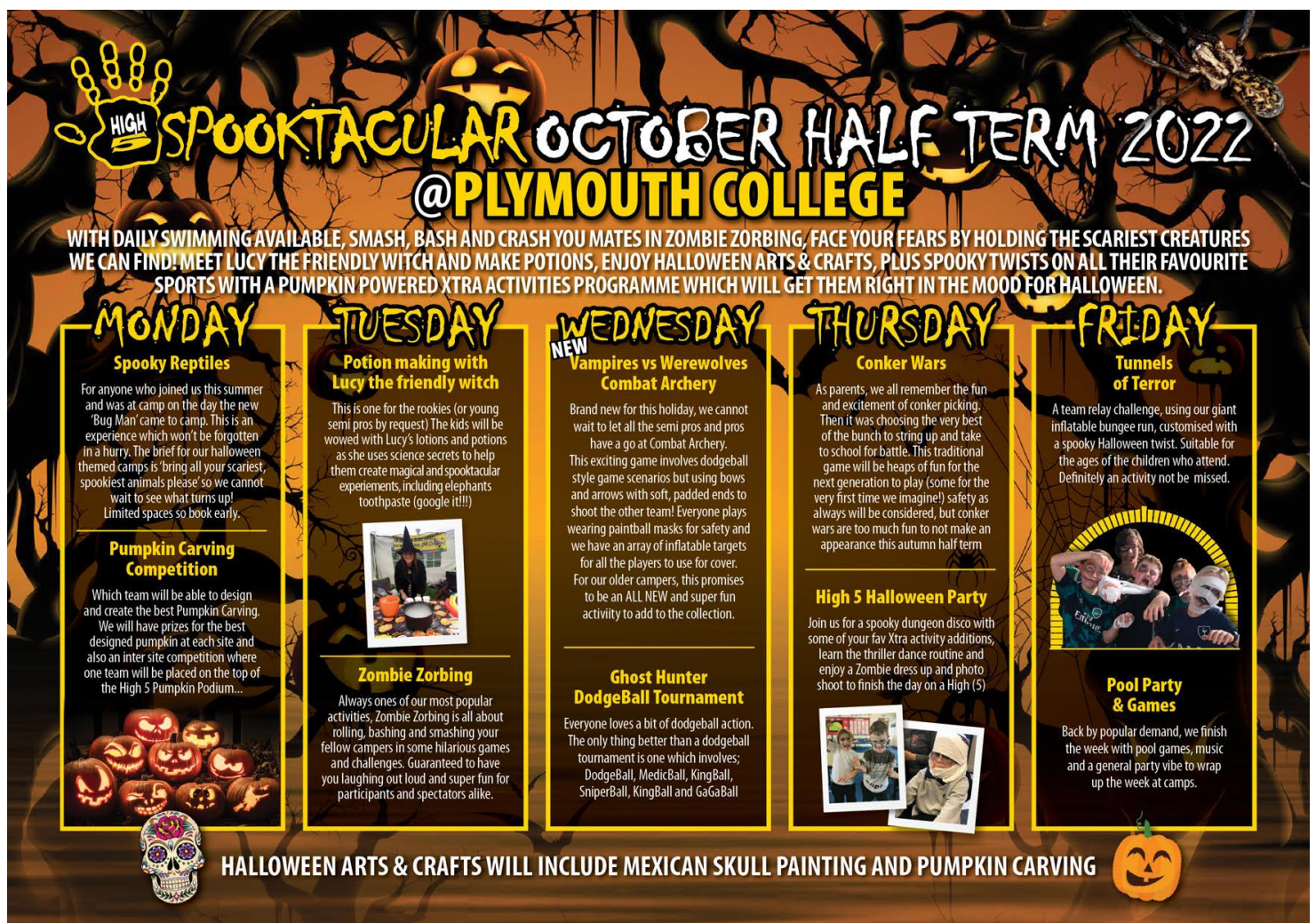
Join High 5's fabulous team at Plymouth College from 24<sup>th</sup> October – 4<sup>th</sup> November for TEN wonderful days of sports, activities, art and fun at their cool Halloween themed Camp. Enjoy the full week to make sure you don't miss any fun!

If you don't want your child to miss out on this please book here:

<https://campscui.active.com/orgs/High5SportsCamps#/selectSessions/3212541>

The link for the mini booking site, based at Plymouth College.

<https://campscui.active.com/orgs/High5SportsCamps?season=3212733>



**SPOOKTACULAR OCTOBER HALF TERM 2022 @PLYMOUTH COLLEGE**

WITH DAILY SWIMMING AVAILABLE, SMASH, BASH AND CRASH YOU MATES IN ZOMBIE ZORBING, FACE YOUR FEARS BY HOLDING THE SCARIEST CREATURES WE CAN FIND! MEET LUCY THE FRIENDLY WITCH AND MAKE POTIONS, ENJOY HALLOWEEN ARTS & CRAFTS, PLUS SPOOKY TWISTS ON ALL THEIR FAVOURITE SPORTS WITH A PUMPKIN POWERED XTRA ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME WHICH WILL GET THEM RIGHT IN THE MOOD FOR HALLOWEEN.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>Spooky Reptiles</b> For anyone who joined us this summer and was at camp on the day the new 'Bug Man' came to camp. This is an experience which won't be forgotten in a hurry. The brief for our halloween themed camps is 'bring all your scariest, spookiest animals please' so we cannot wait to see what turns up! Limited spaces so book early.	<b>Potion making with Lucy the friendly witch</b> This is one for the rookies (or young semi pros by request) The kids will be wowed with Lucy's lotions and potions as she uses science secrets to help them create magical and spooktacular experiments, including elephants toothpaste (google it!!!)	<b>Vampires vs Werewolves Combat Archery</b> Brand new for this holiday, we cannot wait to let all the semi pros and pros have a go at Combat Archery. This exciting game involves dodgeball style game scenarios but using bows and arrows with soft, padded ends to shoot the other team! Everyone plays wearing paintball masks for safety and we have an array of inflatable targets for all the players to use for cover. For our older campers, this promises to be an ALL NEW and super fun activity to add to the collection.	<b>Conker Wars</b> As parents, we all remember the fun and excitement of conker picking. Then it was choosing the very best of the bunch to string up and take to school for battle. This traditional game will be heaps of fun for the next generation to play (some for the very first time we imagine!) safety as always will be considered, but conker wars are too much fun to not make an appearance this autumn half term	<b>Tunnels of Terror</b> A team relay challenge, using our giant inflatable bungee run, customised with a spooky Halloween twist. Suitable for the ages of the children who attend. Definitely an activity not to be missed.
<b>Pumpkin Carving Competition</b> Which team will be able to design and create the best Pumpkin Carving. We will have prizes for the best designed pumpkin at each site and also an inter site competition where one team will be placed on the top of the High 5 Pumpkin Podium...	<b>Zombie Zorbing</b> Always one of our most popular activities, Zombie Zorbing is all about rolling, bashing and smashing your fellow campers in some hilarious games and challenges. Guaranteed to have you laughing out loud and super fun for participants and spectators alike.	<b>Ghost Hunter DodgeBall Tournament</b> Everyone loves a bit of dodgeball action. The only thing better than a dodgeball tournament is one which involves; DodgeBall, MedicBall, KingBall, SniperBall, KingBall and GaGaBall	<b>High 5 Halloween Party</b> Join us for a spooky dungeon disco with some of your fav Xtra activity additions, learn the thriller dance routine and enjoy a Zombie dress up and photo shoot to finish the day on a High (5)	<b>Pool Party &amp; Games</b> Back by popular demand, we finish the week with pool games, music and a general party vibe to wrap up the week at camps.

**HALLOWEEN ARTS & CRAFTS WILL INCLUDE MEXICAN SKULL PAINTING AND PUMPKIN CARVING**