

The Beacon

Academic Year 2020/21

Issue No: 09

Date 20th November 2020

Hello from Mrs Hunter

I love the fact that at Montpelier we are always ready to try something new. Over the past months I have become increasingly concerned that within the school family we have many people who are finding it harder than usual to cope with the pressure of everyday life. C19 continues to make life difficult physically and emotionally, sometimes in ways we have predicted but also in ways that take us by surprise. While we are doing so much to try and support each other, I am always looking for additional ways to make sure that we are all looked after. Therefore, I am delighted to announce that Montpelier now has our very own Chaplain. I am delighted to introduce you to Michelle Parkman. She is already the Chaplain at Marjon's University, where she is there to support students and staff. She is really excited about getting to know us. Michelle will be available for a chat and a cup of tea, whether you have no faith or a different faith. She is going to be here for all of us – children, parents, governors and staff. We have no set plans of how this will work week by week – we are going to see how it goes. Once we get past C19 Michelle will come in and meet the children, run assemblies and take part in school events so we get to recognise her face. Who knows where it will go from there? I hope that you will join me in welcoming Michelle to the school family.



Next week we have our Toy and Gift Giveaway. This is our annual event which is a 'harvest festival' but for gifts for local children. We have re-sent the letter this week with the details of what The Salvation Army would love us to donate and the times of the assemblies which we will share live on Facebook. These are difficult times. I appreciate that not everyone is able to spare much. Please know that a bag of chocolate coins or a chocolate Santa will be received with joy. On behalf of all those children who are going to receive gifts from you this Christmas, thank you.

Mrs Hunter 😊

School Term Dates for 2020/2021

(In light of the current situation dates might be subject to change)

Fri 27th Nov - Non-Pupil Day

Tues 1st – Fri 4th Dec – Christmas Lunch

Mon 14th Dec – Christmas Jumper Day – full mufti

Fri 18th Dec – last day of term

Mon 21st Dec – Thurs 31st Dec – Christmas Holidays

Fri 1st Jan 2021 – Bank holiday

Mon 4th Jan – Non-pupil day

Mon 15 – Fri 19th Feb Inc. – Half term

Fri 2nd Apr – Bank holiday

Mon 5th Apr – Bank holiday

Tues 6th – Fri 16th Apr – Easter holidays

Mon 3rd May – Bank holiday

Fri 31st May – Bank holiday

Tues 1st – Fri 4th June Inc. – Half term

Fri 25th June – non-pupil day

Fri 23rd July – Last day of term (**1:30pm finish for Year 6 / 2:15pm finish for Foundation through to Year 5**)

Mon 26th July – start of the summer holidays

Tempest Orders

Any Tempest photo orders need to be returned to school by the end of Tuesday 24th November, at the latest. Orders cannot be accepted after this time. Apologies for the quick turnaround but we're trying to ensure you receive your photos in time for Christmas. There is currently a skeleton staff on site at Tempest, due to Covid, and so things are taking longer to process. Orders can be placed online too.



Hi Parents and Carers,

At Montpelier, we have been taking part in the annual event that is anti-bullying week. We have been showing our support for this by wearing odd socks to school.

If you want some good resources to share with your KS2 child/children to help open up conversations around the topic of bullying, including some linked to cyberbullying, then check out the cbbc webpage at

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbbc/curations/anti-bullying-week>

There are games to play, video clips, stories, and lots of advice from a range of well-known faces.

The organisers of anti-bullying week have also put together a fantastic pack for parents to give them support to recognise signs of bullying and strategies to use to help them have conversations with their children about this topic.

The pack is free to download at

<https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week/parents-and-carers>

Hope that's helpful,

Monty

Montpelier Primary School's

CHRISTMAS

£1

RAFFLE

£1

Join Mrs Hunter
for a live Facebook draw
on Friday 11th December



Lots of prizes, BIG & small

Hoverboard

CE FC



**Nespresso coffee
machine & milk frother**



**Hotel Chocolat
Velvetiser**



**Buy tickets on School Money
Closing date 10th December**



Now Online:

Tue 24th Nov

Tue 15th Dec

Conversation Cafes 7-8.30pm via zoom

Where? Online...join us from the comfort of your own home.

Who? For dads/father figures/male carers (not aimed for children although we expect there may be the odd wave from a sleepy child)

What? A rare opportunity in our society, to come together as men to discuss what it is really like being a parent/care giver to our children. Share with a community of other dads, facilitated by professionals who specialise in supporting parents. Relaxed evening of conversation, make yourself a brew/grab a beer and share the highs and lows of being a parent/care giver and a man during 2020.

Eventbrite link for tickets:

https://conversation_cafes_autumn.eventbrite.co.uk

Calling all dads and male carers (step dads, uncles, grandads...) come meet other dads, make new friends, enjoy fun FREE activities with your children on Saturdays and discuss the challenges and successes of being a dad at our Tuesday Conversation Cafes— a safe space to talk all things dad & eat pizza...

Please book your FREE place through

info@dangerousdads.org.uk Or call/text 07934739098.

We will then send you an invite to the zoom call, only people who have signed up will be able to join the call and its a safe and friendly place to talk.



FREE Events for Dads-Autumn Series 2020