



Newsletter No 017 – 26 January 2018



Dear Parents

As you know we had our Ofsted inspection this week. Thank you to the parents/carers who completed the questionnaire requested by Ofsted. Also thank you for all the good luck wishes and kind messages that we received.

During the inspection several children spoke to the Inspector and he was very impressed with what they had to say. So thank you to; Eli, Thomas, Azaan, Zaaviyar, Ted, Dohaa, Stelios, Oscar, Louis, Hayden, Millie, Katerina, Georgette, Irfan and Jakub.

The final report should be published before half term and will be circulated to you then.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
Friday 9 February	Y1 & Y2 Expert Day – 9.15am YR – Chinese New Year Parade – 2.30pm End of Term
w/c 26 March	School Hall out of use – please see information regarding lunches below

Good Manners Cup

This week Buster the Good Manners Dog went to Panda Class, the Good Manners Shield went to Dolphin Class and the Good Manners Cup went to Stingray Class.

Well done to those classes!

Attendance

Our current attendance figure is 95.79%.

Congratulations to Flamingo class who has the highest attendance this week at 99.67%. Fantastic attendance! Look out for their photo in the gallery by the school office!

Attendance news

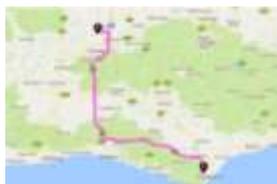
As part of our work to improve school attendance, working with you to ensure that all children are able to fulfil their potential, you will shortly be receiving a letter regarding your child's current attendance figure which will put their attendance into a 'red', 'amber' or 'green' category.

Please see below for details. As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any queries or concerns regarding your child's attendance.

97-100%	92-96.9%	90-92%	Below 90%
<p>Well done! Great attendance!</p>	<p>Initial concerns. Attendance will be monitored weekly.</p>	<p>Concerns. Attendance will be monitored by the Senior Leadership Team.</p>	<p>Serious concerns. Attendance will now be closely monitored. If no improvement is made, a meeting may be arranged with our attendance lead or a referral may be made to the Education Welfare Service.</p>

Daily Run

This week we have run 257 laps of playground in total which equals approximately 36 kms making our running total approximately 71 kms. Combined with our run to Brighton last week, this week we almost made it to Gatwick Airport!



Absence Line

A reminder that if your child is unwell, please leave a message regarding their absence on this number 01323 728989. This number is now at the top of the newsletter.

Rucksacks

A lot of children are bringing rucksacks to school instead of their bookbags. This is not practical as there is not enough room on the pegs in the cloakrooms. Bookbags are kept in their tray so that any letters can be put inside them. Children will only need a rucksack if they are going to an after school club and need to bring a change of clothes.

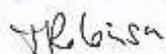
Spare Clothes

We are making another plea for spare clothes and are particularly short of girls knickers and tights. We would be grateful for any that your child no longer needs. Thank you.

School Hall

We are giving you some advance notice that we are having some work done in the school hall. This will mean the hall is out of action during week commencing 26 March and also after the Easter break on Monday 16 and Tuesday 17 April. Therefore, hot dinners will not be available on these dates. The kitchen will be providing packed lunches and if you would like to order these a sheet will be up (nearer the time), for you to choose school packed lunch or if you will provide one. Your choice will be for the duration – you will not be able to choose on a daily basis.

Football club and Kiddi Active/Kiddi Tennis will be outside that week but there will be no Karate that week.



Tracy Robinson, Head Teacher

Friends of Motcombe

Reception Party

I hope our Reception year group are looking forward to their party later this evening. I know I am! Thank you to all who have purchased tickets for this event. As predicted, the Reception Party has been a sell out! All money raised from the party goes back into the school paying for equipment, resources and experiences for our children.

Hotdogs and refreshments will be available to buy at the party. If you haven't yet volunteered to help, there is still time. My name is Claire and I'll be the one in the blue 'Friends' t-shirt. Come to find me if you would like to lend a hand.

Year 1 & 2 Disco

I am thrilled to announce that the Year 1 and 2 disco is booked for Friday 2nd March. Further information and details will be sent out nearer the time.

The Friends of Motcombe are contactable for any enquiries about events, comments or feedback via our Facebook page, email motcombefriends@hotmail.com or the red post box outside of the office entrance.

YR News

We have had another busy and exciting week with a visit to St Mary's church. Father Tom talked to us about weddings and baptisms that some people celebrate there. Back at school we have been working hard building churches, finding out about how weddings are celebrated in lots of different cultures and making our own stained glass windows. Thank you for your input on Tapestry this week –

we have enjoyed finding out about so many different celebrations the children in our school have enjoyed taking part in.

In maths we have continued our work on addition.

This week we have learnt the digraphs 'ee' (as in 'feet'), and 'ai' (as in 'paint') together with their cued articulation actions. Please see the cued articulation video on youtube for the actions for each phoneme. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BPLnfNciLbA>

We have also learnt to read the tricky words 'we', 'me' and 'be'. So far we have learnt to read these digraphs: sh, ch, th/th, ng, oo/oo, ee, ai and these 'tricky' words: I, to, the, no, go, he, she, was, we, me, be. Please help us to look out for them in our books when we are reading at home. Thank you.

Home Challenge

We visited a church this week, which we learned is a special place for some Christians. We wondered about other places that might be special to you and your family. Perhaps you have a special beach that you like to visit, or a forest. Perhaps it's a building where you have had special times together as a family – perhaps a museum or art gallery? Maybe you visit a mosque or temple with your family, either regularly or on special occasions. We are enjoying finding out about lots of ways we are similar and different so we would love to hear about the different places that are special to you and your family.

Y1 News

During Phonics sessions this week, we have been learning about the alternative pronunciation of the letters 'e', 'i', 'o' and 'u' in words, for example the 'e' in 'he' makes an 'ee' sound, the 'i' in 'find' makes an 'igh' sound and the 'o' in 'both' makes the 'oa' sound even though these letters are singular. It would be great if the children could see if they can spot any of these in their reading books at home.

In English we have been exploring newspaper reports and as news reporters we got to interview Samuel Pepys about the Great Fire of London. The children asked lots of fantastic questions. They will be using this to write their own newspaper report next week.

In Maths we have recapped multiplication and started learning about division as a way of sharing equally. The children had to share a chosen number of cubes between them and their partner and then between them and a group.

In Science the children carried out a simple test to find out which materials would float or sink. They then used this to decide what material would be best to make a boat out of, so that people could escape the Great Fire of London across the River Thames.

In topic we have been looking further into the Great Fire of London and finding out what happened on each of the days. The children then made notes and sequenced these events.

Y2 News

We have been reading a new book in English this week called "Dolphin Boy." We planned our own story about the character Smiler and where he might have gone on his adventures. We then used our plans to write an exciting story with a beginning, middle and end.

In Maths we have been continuing our work on different measurements and using these to solve problems. Please ask your child about which measurement they have been investigating this week and ask them to tell you about what they have been learning.

For Design & Technology this week we have designed our own boats and worked as a team to make them. We used our knowledge about the Titanic to inform our plans.

We have also been continuing to make our beautiful butterflies in art which will be going up around school soon.

Motcombe School Governing Body

If you would like to find out about the role of the Governing Body or wish to contact a member, please contact the Clerk to the Governing Body via email govsclerk@motcombe.e-sussex.sch.uk.

Alternatively, please follow this link for further information
<http://motcombe.e-sussex.sch.uk/the-governing-body/>