



# Meon Junior School Newsletter

YOUR MONTHLY GUIDE TO THE SCHOOL NEWS, INFORMATION AND EVENTS.

Welcome to our July newsletter which will keep you informed of important success stories, school events and ways in which we can work together to ensure the best for our children.

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you enjoy reading the last newsletter of this academic year and my last newsletter as Headteacher of Meon Junior School. It has been a pleasure to work alongside the staff team for the past 2 years. They all work incredibly hard to ensure your children are provided with a rich education. Over the past year, it has been lovely to see pupils visit the National Gallery and stage their own exhibition for the community at the Pyramids, visit residential centres and the stunning performance of the Lion King by our year 6 leavers, alongside all the wonderful work produced by our children throughout the year. I would like to wish our Year 6 leavers the best of luck for the future and wish them every success at their next school.

Thank you for all your support over the past two years. I am positive that the new Head Sara Paine will continue to build upon the strengths of the school and provide a quality education for your children.

*Luke Hanna*

Luke Hanna

## Thank you FOMs

A huge thank you to FOMs who, through their tireless fund raising activities, have not only staged fun-filled, exciting events for the children but have also raised money that has been used to greatly enrich the experiences of all the children in the school.

## Sainsbury's Active kids Vouchers

A really big thank you to everyone who collected the Sainsbury's Active kids vouchers for the school this year! The grand total of 8,144 vouchers enabled us to order new Lacrosse sets, Eurohoc sets and a large number of handballs. This will be a great addition to our PE equipment and enjoyed by all the children.



## Dates for your diary

Please note: The INSET days for 2017-18 are **04/09/17, 30/10/17, 19/02/18, 16/04/2018 and 04/06/2018.**

The first day of term for the children will be Tuesday 5th September.

## The Lion King Year 6

Last Friday, children and parents alike were treated to a magical performance of London's most popular musical, The Lion King. Based on the 1994 Disney film, this heart-warming tale follows the lion cub Simba as he learns to take his place in the great "circle of life".



Playing to a packed playground, Year 6 put on a performance that will live long in the minds of those lucky enough to be there. The wonderful acting, beautiful singing and energetic choreography produced an outstanding, creative and emotional musical enjoyed by all. A special mention must be made of the level of detail in the costumes and make up which created such a visual feast for the eyes.

A really big thank you to all the year 6 staff for their incredible enthusiasm and hard work, to Mr Hanna for his technical wizardry, ensuring everything ran so smoothly, and to Meon Infants who generously lent us their staging.

Well done, Year 6! The performance was absolutely superb!



## Payment by cheque

Please note that any payments made by cheque for dinners, trips etc. should now be made payable to 'Thinking Schools Academy Trust'.

Thank you.

## Letter from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends,

So here we are, at the end of a busy school year.

We've had an amazing 12 months, with so many things going on and to celebrate, from sports successes to incredible school trips, a new PE studio, and really pleasing results in SATS and across the school, to name but a few.

We thank all of the teachers, staff and children, who have worked incredibly hard. We are proud of the achievements at Meon Junior School.

We've also had challenges and important decisions to make, to ensure the best possible outcome for our pupils. I would like to take this opportunity to thank my fellow governors for their commitment, input and involvement during the year.

We are of course also saying farewell to Mr Hanna at the end of term. We are grateful for the work he has put in over the last 2 years, and the impact this has clearly had, and although sorry to see him go, I am sure you join me in wishing him the very best for his future.

We also wish to take this opportunity to welcome our new Headteacher, Mrs Sara Paine, who will take full control from September, and we look forward to working with her.

We hope you all have a very enjoyable summer break.

Yours sincerely,

Kevin Brazier

## Athletics

On Friday 7th of July, a team of 12 year 6's and 12 year 4's went to compete at Mountbatten in an Athletics competition. There was a range of activities on and off the track such as: High jump, Standing triple jump, 80m, 150m and 600m sprints. We all enjoyed the relay event the best as this was the most competitive event to watch.

Everyone showed determination and great teamwork, cheering on their fellow teammates in all events. Special mentions go to Layla Lock in 4R for winning the Gold in Long Jump and Jessica Clark in 6B for winning the Silver in the Triple Jump. Next stop, Team GB call ups!

**Eddie Frazer and George Couzens**

## Football

On Friday the 16th June, 17 budding young year 4 footballers competed in a tournament at the Goals Centre Portsmouth against other schools in Portsmouth. The weather didn't disappoint and neither did the Meon team performances, displaying great sportsmanship, motivation and teamwork throughout the afternoon. Congratulations to all that took part and a special mention to Meon Blues who picked up the Bronze medals in 3rd place! With plenty of sporting potential displayed, who knows, we could have the next biggest star of the beautiful game in our teams!



## Library News

A huge congratulations to our Millionaire Reader winners who all won a Kindle Fire HD.

Year 3- Maggie Frazer, Year 4 - Miabella Clark, Year 5 - Lauren Collier, Year 6 - Bertie Ferrett.

The Meon Junior School Book Award winners have been announced:

Year 3 - Diary of a Worm by Doreen Cronin

Year 4 - Use Your Imagination (But be careful what you wish for) by Nicola O' Byrne

Year 5 - A Child of Books By Oliver Jeffers

Year 6 - The Day the Crayons Came Home By Drew Daywalt and Oliver Jeffers

This year the Scholastic school book fairs have given us a rewards total of £245 to spend on new books for the library. Thank you very much for your continued support.



Wyatt Kingsbury, 4U, has been working hard to win his swimming award! Well done, Wyatt!



Laila Rose with her medals for completing the 'Pretty Muddy Obstacle Course' as part of the 'Race for Life'. Hope you didn't get too muddy, Laila!

## French

Bonjour! We love learning French. Our favourite topic is learning about the objects in the classroom because now, when we walk into school, we can say what we see in French

Here are a few objects in French.

- Un batton de colle (gluestick)
- Une bic (pencil)
- Une calculatrice (calculator)



French is tres bon.

**Alyssa and Ryan**

On the weekend of the 15th and 16th of July, me and my sister Ingrid took part in a 24 hour Relay for Life to raise money for Cancer Research UK. Instead of being lazy and sitting on the sofa we were walking and running around the Mountbatten Athletics track through the day and night with 600 people in 37 teams. Our team had a rota so we knew when we had to be on the track as someone had to be on the track for the whole 24 hours.

In the evening there was a Candle of Hope ceremony to remember those that had lost the fight to cancer but also to celebrate the survivors. Our team - Rocky Rockies - raised over £10,000. We actually started our fundraising in November 2016. Our team won a trophy because we raised the most money. Together the 37 relay teams have raised over £82,000 this year. Some friends came to visit us and we'd like to thank Lucy Brazier and her family for coming to support us.

**Margot Corderan**



## PE Day

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July, years 3, 4 and 5 visited The Mountbatten Centre for a fantastic day of sporting activities. Once there, the children split up into their individual year groups and set off eagerly for their first activity. The activities included football, run by Mr Conway and his willing team of helpers, rounders and athletics which included sprints, throwing events and the long jump. PE Day was a huge success and everyone had a fabulous, if rather tiring day! A big thank you to Miss Turner and Mrs Campell of the Mountbatten Centre who helped organise everything for us.



## Year 4's Greek Day

Year 4 have been learning about the Ancient Greeks. We celebrated by holding a Greek Day. We took part in lots of different activities including: an Olympic pentathlon, making clay Greek toys and drama by studying the Greek myth, Odysseus and the Cyclops. In the afternoon, we made Greek chariots and tasted a variety of Greek foods. Near the end of the day, we held a Greek catwalk to show off our Groovy costumes and gave out certificates and medals for excellent sportsmanship and effort. It was a brilliant day!



Crystal Griffiths with her medal and certificate for completing a sponsored swim for the pre-school deaf children. Keep swimming, Crystal!

## Poetry Competition



Not long ago, I entered a Polish Poetry Competition, 'Wierszowisko 2017'. When it was time for me to perform, I was really worried as I waited backstage with my mum. My worries quickly flew away when the audience laughed as I recited my poem. A few hours later, my name was called onstage and some ladies gave me a memory game, a certificate, a mysterious envelope (which had a £30 gift card for Argos) and a medal. I had won third place. My Polish school teacher was very proud and happy. Later, I was onstage again to perform 'Pan Swiat' with my friends. It was great and everyone wore brilliant clothes. We all received medals. I received two gold medals.

**Isa Cholewa Year 3**



## Summer Reading Challenge

From Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July until early September, Portsmouth children and parents are invited to sign up at their local library branch for the annual Summer Reading Challenge: the theme for this year's challenge is Animal Agents, illustrated by the UK's best-selling children's illustrator Tony Ross.

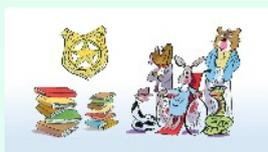
It's a detective agency manned by all kinds of clever animals – furry, scaly and slippery – and these guys are out to crack the case with a little help from their friends.

The Summer Reading Challenge encourages children aged 4 to 11 to read six books during the summer holiday. Children can read whatever they like - fact books, joke books, picture books, story books - just as long as they are borrowed from the library.

Portsmouth Libraries will host a series of activities for children based on this year's theme. By collecting the stickers on their collector folder, young readers will help the Animal Agents find out what's really been going on behind the scenes!

In return for their great work, children will be given a special collector's folder to collect six special cards as well as other rewards along the way. If your child completes the challenge, they'll receive a certificate and medal for all their hard work. They will also be invited to a special awards ceremony to celebrate their achievement.

Animal Agents is a must for all eagle-eyed kids and will test their skills and ingenuity along the way. With the Agents on their side, solving these mysteries comes with a large helping of fun!



Lucy Crackle with her gymnastics and cheerleading medals. Well done, Lucy!

## Year 6 Leavers Prom

On Tuesday the 11<sup>th</sup> of July, Year 6 enjoyed a fantastic Leavers' Prom to celebrate their time at Meon! It was great fun and we had a buffet, red carpet, photo booth and a DJ. All of the teachers came down in Year 6 2017 leaver's tops - it made us laugh. Well done to Stanley Nightingale (best dressed boy), Molly Douche (best dressed girl), George Cambridge (class clown), Megan Donaldson (best hair style), Kaitlynn Buck (cutest smile), Harvey Laidlaw and Florence Hall (cutest couple), Molly Douche (prom queen), Stanley Mason (prom king). A big thank you to FOMS who helped make this possible!



## Stubbington Study Centre

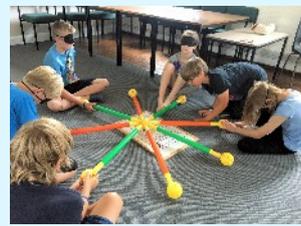
On Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July, we arrived at Stubbington study centre after a short journey. To begin with a few people were chosen to do certain jobs throughout the week: Lois and Daniel, bird experts; Ellen and Freddie, eco experts and Jasmine and Honor, weather experts.

The rising bell went off at 8:00am every morning and from then on everyday was pretty full on. Our activities included:

- Orienteering: We learnt the basics then we had a try in the conservation area - an area of stubbington that was a wood and was home to lots of animals.
- The hide: At 10:30 pm we went to the hide and saw fox cubs and badgers which was really exciting.
- Shelters: We built dens as a team. At the end we did a test to see if it was water resistant.
- Chaingangs: This is where you have a team of 4 and you have to move 2 planks while you're racing. It was really hard.
- Beach walk: We did fossil hunting, investigated rock pools and built sand castles. We found a lot of fossils and quite a lot of shark's teeth.
- Earthquake: This was a fun course in which we had to carry lots of equipment over obstacles without touching the ground.
- S factor: This is when each house group - foxes, badgers, kestrels and owls - performs a song they have learnt. Positions: foxes 4<sup>th</sup>, badgers, 3<sup>rd</sup> owls 2<sup>nd</sup> and kestrels 1<sup>st</sup>.

On Friday, we packed to go home. Everyone was sad to leave after having such a great week but really happy to see their families.

Ellen W and Lois VDB



## Rock Steady Assembly

A huge well done to all the children who took part in the Rock Steady assembly on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July. The whole school was thoroughly entertained by their fantastic display of musical skill. Performing in front of a live audience with a band is not easy. Playing a range of instruments (guitar, keyboard, drums and vocals), their performances were superb. Also, a big thank you to all the parents who attended and to Luke, the Rock Steady teacher, for his tremendous enthusiasm, musical and song arranging skills.



## Pompey in the Community

On Thursday, Year 4 were lucky enough to be invited to a delicious lunch prepared by students from the local area. We tucked into a fresh and nutritious lasagne followed by mouth-watering fruit crumble. There were full stomachs and thumbs up of approval all round!



If you have any news items about your activities or achievements over the summer and you would like them included in our newsletter at the beginning of next term, please give them to Mr Bayliss who will do his best to include as many as he can.

## Newsletter

Please note a version of the newsletter is always available on the school website in glorious colour.



## Activities Week Year 5

During activities week we took part in many different and fun activities.

On Monday, we went to Bransbury Park and played: Danish Rounders, tennis, golf, team building and athletics.

On Tuesday, we went to Milton Locks and identified bugs and sea life. After we walked back to school in the pouring rain, we grabbed our kits and were off again for swimming.

On Wednesday, a kind lady offered to teach us a little science about solids, liquids and gasses and how they're made. We also found out what happens when Vinegar and Bicarbonate of soda are mixed together. It was great fun!

On Thursday, we made a tower to hold a tennis ball for at least 15+ seconds. The materials we used were: straws, cardboard plates, lollypop sticks, rubber bands, string, cardboard tubes and a tennis ball.

Then we experimented with different ways to make a bubble wand and different shapes of bubbles. In the afternoon we went to Tesco's to learn about healthy eating.

On Friday, we made slime, played rounders and watched a video whilst doing art. It was great!