



Magor Messenger

'Creating Strong Foundations, Developing Curious Minds'



Welcome to our October edition of the Magor Messenger!

Dear Parents/Carers

As we come to the end of the first half term, we would like to thank you for taking the time to speak to your child's teacher this week. We hope you found this a valuable and worthwhile conversation, and it gave you a useful insight into how your child has settled into the new school year. We recognise that these parent/teacher consultations do not provide an opportunity for parents to see the learning environment and see their child's books. This is an important part of being able to engage in your child's learning and see their progress. The changes to the curriculum mean that the learning is not always evident as a written exercise in books e.g. it could be collaborative work in class, practical activities or work completed on electronic devices. Our previous face to face consultations held in the hall didn't provide these opportunities either. Following on from the very successful 'sharing our learning' event at the end of last summer, we have decided to continue with these throughout this year. We will continue to have online parent consultations in October and March with a written report in Summer but will be adding 'Sharing our Learning' events in December, February and at the end of the academic year. Watch out for dates!

Congratulations to:

Our caretaker, Mr Harris, who has just returned from representing Wales in a six nations walking men's football tournament;

Our wonderful PTFA for receiving a Gwent Volunteer Achievement Award in recognition of their outstanding contribution to volunteering in the Monmouthshire Parent and Child category. This is very well deserved, and we are very fortunate to be the recipients of all their hard work.

We are really sorry to see Mrs K Phillips, teaching assistant in Year 3, leave us at the end of this month but we wish her well as she embarks on her 'dream job' working with Building Stronger Families in Monmouthshire.

A special thanks to our kitchen staff who have seen a significant rise in the number of dinners they are serving following the introduction of free school meals for all Reception to Year 2 learners.

We are still looking for extra staff for Breakfast Club and Midday Supervisor positions. If you or anyone you know may be interested, please contact the school office.

Mrs Hamer.

PE Uniform

Just a reminder that on PE days, children wear their PE uniform to school. Football kits etc are not allowed as P.E. kit. Our school P.E. uniform should be:

Yellow t-shirt
Navy blue or black shorts
Navy blue or black jogging bottoms
(for outdoor PE only and optional)
Black or White trainers or plimsolls



Rising Cost of Living Support

With the cost of living going up, many of our families are feeling the pinch. As a school we are very aware of the rising cost of living and the impact this is having on family budgets. We are working closely with a group from the Netherwent Ministry Area to support families who may find themselves struggling to put food on the table. We currently have a number of boxes of cereal and cartons of long-life milk in the school foyer for any family who would like some. There is no criteria and you do not need to contact the school or ask if you can have it, please just come and help yourselves.

If you are using a pre-payment meter or if you are having difficulty paying your bill, there is a dedicated energy advisor based at the Citizen's Advice Bureau who can offer advice on available grants and schemes to support you.

Sensory Boxes

We are still developing sensory boxes for the children to access in classes. If you have any unwanted poppets, fidget toys, stress balls etc can you please send them in to school?

Here are some examples of the things we are hoping to have accessible for our children in each class;



Forest School Area

A huge thank you to our very talented caretaker who has worked so hard over the summer to help develop our Forest School area. He has been extremely resourceful, creating benches, observation huts and other areas for our children to use during outdoor learning. Thank you!!!



Progression Step One

In Nursery we have settled into our Autumn Nursery family and begun our learning adventures. We have enjoyed the chance to explore the outdoors seeking the Autumn treasures naturally appearing around us. We have looked for shapes, numbers and made marks with our friends.



Reception have settled into school life absolutely brilliantly! Mrs. John is so proud of them! They have been very busy showing off their drawing, crafting, painting, counting and ordering skills. They are such a wonderfully creative bunch of children!



Progression Step Two

Year One children have been having lots of fun talking about ourselves and our families. We have been finding out about where we live and the people who help us. We have enjoyed using our new maths resources to work on teen numbers and number stories to 10 and beyond.



Year Two have been very busy exploring the local area and carrying out their own enquiries to find out about different roles and responsibilities in the community. They are preparing to re-create Magor Square in their upcoming 'Wow' day!





Year Three children have enjoyed walking around the village to see which buildings and businesses make up our Magor Community. We walked past the church and talked about how the church contributes to our community. We also had a lovely chat with Sharon from the post office!



We have also been enjoying our Samba sessions every Thursday and we have enjoyed brass and woodwind demonstrations from Gwent music. We have continued to practise our mindfulness through mindful thinking and yoga sessions to promote physical and mental wellbeing.



Progression Step Three

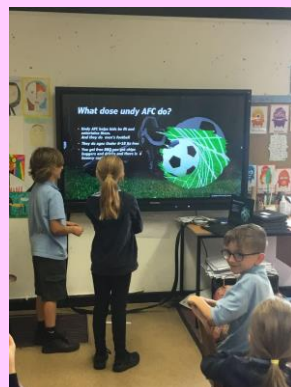
Year Four have all had a fantastic first half term full of fun and excitement! We have really loved our topic of 'Cynefin' and exploring that feeling of belonging, that sense of identity, that community feel. We went on a walk around our vibrant Magor square and beautiful church grounds and made a tally of all the different types of facilities within our community, stopping for a chat with Natalie at Donnie's cafe! We



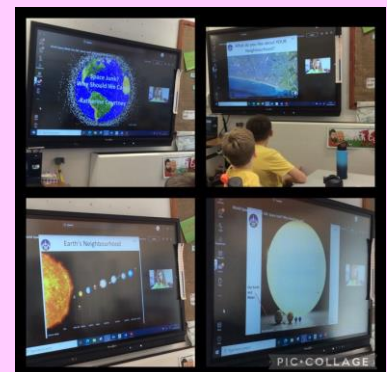
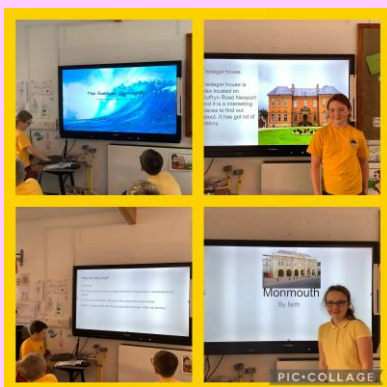
looked at some very old photos of our local area and identified all the changes that have happened over the years. We have been keeping fit with our amazing Rugby sessions led by Tygan from Gateway Rugby and learning to become talented musicians with our keyboard sessions run by Gwent Music.



Year Five has been really enjoying our 'Cynefin' topic this term. We have been exploring what communities we're a part of and how diversity is an important aspect of how each community runs. We look forward to running our own volunteering schemes at the end of the month and seeing the positive impact it has on our community. We have also been excited to start our keyboard sessions with Gwent music.



Year Six have become presenters this half term. They have chosen a local or world community to research and have shared their work in class. It has been fantastic to see their confidence and enthusiasm.



Cynefin with Melin Homes

As part of our Cynefin topic, Georgina from Melin homes came to visit Years one to six to talk to us about her work in other countries. We learnt all about differing communities such as Brazil and Cambodia and how Melin homes have helped develop homes in their communities. She gave us all a challenge to share an act of kindness to help us build on our Magor School community spirit.

Shwmae Day

On the 14th October, the children dressed up in Welsh colours to celebrate Shwmae Day. This was to celebrate all things Welsh, including the use of Welsh in our community! Criw Cymraeg enjoyed making a 'Shwmae' video to go towards the Arian Cymraeg award.



Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 9th December we will be taking part in Christmas Jumper Day (Nationally this will be on the 8th but we are taking part on the 9th!). Children can dress up in anything 'Christmassy' to 'make the world better with a sweater'. Donations to Save the Children can be made via our Just Giving page. Please help us meet our £200 target;

<https://donate.justgiving.com/donation-amount?uri=aHR0cHM6Ly9kb25hdGUtYXBpLmp1c3RnaXZpbmcuY29tL2FwaS9kb25hdGlbnMvZTlyZWJlYTE3ZTRINDI3ODgwM2E5OTZiNzViYjhjNWU=>

Reporting Absence

Just a reminder; if your child is absent from school, please let us know before 9.30am. You can report child's absence by email (magorvprimary@monmouthshire.gov.uk), using the telephone system (01633 880327) or via the Absences section on the ParentMail App.

School Communications

We have received a number of enquiries recently that parents aren't receiving communications from school. In the vast majority of instances, there has been a change of parent email address or the parent is not logged into the app. Every message sent arrives as an instant alert on your mobile if the App is logged in and active on your device. Keeping the ParentMail App logged in on your device also prevents your



internet service provider's security systems from blocking our emails. The APP stores all the messages we send you in one place, so you do not have to search.

Diary Dates: Confirmed **2022/2023** dates for your calendar:

Autumn Term:

Wednesday 9th November - School Photographs

Friday 11th November - School Prospectus Photoshoot (Best uniform where possible please)

Friday 9th December - Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 23rd December 2022 - Training Day (School Closed)

Other dates:

Friday 17th February 2023 - Training Day (School Closed)

Monday 5th June 2023 - Training Day (School Closed)

More dates will be added as the term progresses. You can also check the school website calendar. Don't forget to follow us on Twitter for regular class and school Tweets!

Next Messenger Date: December 2022

