



# Margaret McMillan Primary School

## Newsletter

Issue March 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

As the Spring term draws to a close I have been astounded by the generosity and care that the children and parents of Margaret McMillan have shown. We raised £514 for Comic relief through the sale of red noses and non-uniform day and a whopping £1100 the week after for Bradford Autism Support Team and a donation to the Lifefoundation.co.uk for a local student volunteer to support orphaned Autistic children in Romania. As a community we teach our children many things; how to read and write; to become confident mathematicians; about the past; to speak new languages and about the world around them. But I feel one of the most important things we teach our children is how to show compassion and understanding for those who are less fortunate or different from themselves. In the past few weeks our children have learnt a most valuable lesson thanks to all our efforts.

This term we also hosted the first SHINE Spelling Bee competition. The 9 SHINE schools met in groups of 3 to hold a spelling competition between them. I am proud to inform you that our KS1 team and the Y5/6 team won their competitions and the Y3/4 team were very strong also. We have 2 more competitions in our group with the overall winners in each age group competing later in the year against the winners of the other school groups. I wish them the best of luck.

For those who are celebrating I wish you a Happy Easter and I wish everyone a good break.

Thank you,  
Lorraine Martin  
Head teacher

## Phase updates

### Phase One

The talk for writing text in Nursery has been 'Jasper's Beanstalk' and in Reception it has been 'Jack and the Beanstalk' to fit in with the theme of growing. The children have been planting seeds and running garden centres in their role play, which they have really enjoyed.



Please continue to help by practicing bear words.

In Year 1 the children have been learning about Neil Armstrong and Christopher Columbus. Ask them about their learning and see what they can tell you.

### Phase Two

On the 7th of March, Year 2 participated in a carousel of activities based on the theme of Africa. With the help of a visitor, the children decorated African masks and learned about the relevance of certain colours. The children used different mediums such as painting and collage to create pictures of African animals. In the afternoon, the children used the African masks to work co-operatively to participate in an African dance which they thoroughly enjoyed!



Year 3 received a strange voice message from Captain Hook asking for their help. It turns out that Peter Pan had sent him a letter challenging him to a Snakes and Ladders tournament. He needed us to write a letter back because he didn't have any hands left! We created old paper and wrote a letter pretending to be Captain Hook. We even tried to use some pirate phrases!

On Monday 6th March a group of Year 4 children went to Centenary Square in Bradford to be part of the flag raising ceremony for International Women's Day. It was an important occasion to heighten awareness of inspirational women across the world. Noreen Khan who is the Director of the NESSIE foundation took time to explain the importance International Women's Day to the children and recommended that all the children went home to hug their mums as they were likely to be the most inspirational women in their lives.

### Phase Three

From the beginning of Spring term, Y5 have had the exciting opportunity to work with the Northern Ballet dance academy. Experts from the academy have been leading workshops with the children in



school. Y5 have recently enjoyed another fantastic day out in Barnsley at the Civic Theatre watching Goldilocks and the Three Bears. Also, this half term, Y5 have taken part in Cyber Bullying workshops where there have been given advice about how to stay safe online. Y6 have had the opportunity to take part in Cyber Bullying workshops this half term where they have been given advice about how to stay safe online. They have been working really hard with the run up to SATs and the teachers are pleased their effort and determination. On Friday 7th April the year6 teachers hope that all Y6 parents will join them at the SATs meeting which will take place in the main hall at 2.30pm.

### Attendance

Earth	96.20%	Mars	88.50%	Saturn	87.60%
Jupiter	92.40%	Mercury	94.70%	Neptune	90.40%
Galileo	90.09%	Sharman	93.60%	Hawking	89.50%
Bronte	91.40%	Hockney	96.30%	Nightingale	95.60%
Adams	94.40%	Armstrong	98.10%	Newton	92.70%
Turing	94.90%	Pankhurst	95.10%	Ennis	96.90%
Mandela	94.20%	Malala	95.60%	Rowling	95.20%

The attendance for the whole school was 93%

Well done to all classes with more than 95% attendance!

## Diary dates

Friday 7th April.....School closes for the Easter Holidays  
Monday 24th April.....School re-opens  
Monday 1st May.....May bank holiday—school closed.  
Friday 26th May.....School closes for Half Term  
Monday 5th June.....School re-opens

### Autism Awareness Update

As a school we have celebrated Autism Awareness week on the 27<sup>th</sup> March till Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March. We have had an actioned packed week . The children have loved taking part in all the activities and we had a fantastic turn out.

Bradford Autism Support were overwhelmed with the amount we have raised for them. Thank you for your support.

The winner of Guess how many sweets are in the jar was Fiza Younis

Name the bear winners were:

Moon: Muminah Zahid

Stars: Yazan Ali

Reception: Riyaan Farooq

Year 1: Subhan Zaman

Year 2: Raheem Ali

Year 3: Sa'ad Abbasi

Year 4: Nimra Amir

Year 5: Hussain Sajad

Year 6: Farhan Khan



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