

# Menston Mail—Number 3

21st December 2018



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On behalf of myself and all the staff, I would like to wish all our children and their families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Mr Jones



## School Lunches

School meals are free for children in Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2. For Years 3 to 6, please note the cost of school meals will be £9 per week from 1st January 2019.

In addition, from January 2019 we will be moving to a 'cashless' payment system. All school meals must be paid through this new system. You should have received an activation letter this week to set up your account.

The themed lunches for this term are:

### **Tuesday 5th February:**

Chinese New Year

### **Friday 1st March:**

St David's Day

### **Thursday 7th March**

World Book Day

Menus will be sent out in advance for each event and all children will have the option to book a meal in advance for that day at a cost of £1.80.

## Polite Reminders

### Start of the School Day

We need all parents and carers to help us get off to a prompt start every morning. School starts at 8.55am. Therefore, children should arrive at school no later than 8.50am. We aim to close KS2 and KS1 classroom doors as quickly as possible after 8.55am. We allow a little longer for Foundation children. Please help with this by setting off in good time every morning.

### Appointments in school time

Please try and book all non-urgent appointments for your children outside of the school day. This will cut down disruption to the teaching day and help us to maximise the learning of all children. When offered appointment times, always ask for those which will result in the least school time being lost.

### Forgotten Items

Please try to ensure children have everything they need for the school day with them when they arrive at school. We cannot guarantee when children will get forgotten items that are brought to the Office as they will only be taken to children when it is convenient and will not disrupt class.

### Dogs on School Site

Thank you for your support in keep our site dog free. Can we please ask that dogs are not tied up and left unattended at the gates. We do have children in school who are be frightened/intimidated by dogs no matter how well behaved they are.

## 'Cashless' School



You will now have received communication regarding changes in the way we accept all payments for school dinners, trips and residential. From January, payments must be made online via ParentPay. We will no longer be able to accept cash or cheques.



**Save the Children**  
**CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY**

### Christmas Jumper Day

It was lovely to see so many festive woollies! Thank you for your donations—we raised £307.16 for Save the Children.



Children  
in Need  
**£360.58**  
Thank you!

## DATES TO REMEMBER

**Monday 7th January:** School opens

**Friday 11th January:** Open Afternoon for 2019 Foundation Intake, 1:30pm

**Monday 4th February:** Parents Evening

**Thursday 7th February:** Parents Evening

**Saturday 9th February:** Wharfedale Primary Schools Cross-Country League

**Friday 15th February:** School closes for Half Term

**Monday 25th February:** School opens

**Saturday 2nd March:** Wharfedale Primary Schools Cross-Country League

**Thursday 7th March:** World Book Day

**Friday 12th April:** School closes for Easter break

**Monday 29th April:** School opens

**Please see your Year Group Newsletters for Key Stage specific diary dates**

## FoMPS

### FoMPS Christmas Fayre

Thank you to everyone for their generosity in donations for the tombola! And thank you to all the volunteers who gave up their time to make the Christmas Fayre the best one yet! The total raised this year was over £3500 which is amazing. We hope you all enjoyed the afternoon.

### Co-Op Good Cause

Did you know we are registered with the Co-Op to raise money for FoMPS? We want to improve the pedestrian crossing outside school and teach the children valuable in crossing the road safely.

<https://membership.coop.co.uk/causes/23697>

### Talent Show and Disco

Save the Date—Saturday 16th March at Kirklands. Details to be confirmed...watch this space!

### FoMPS Yomp

The FoMPS Yomp is our annual Dad's fundraiser/social event; a walk from Burnsall to Menston (approx. 32km/20 miles) taking in a few pubs along the way.

This year's event is on Saturday 18th May 2019. Meet at the school at 7:45am for an 8:15am departure.

Places cost £25 per person which covers the coach from the school gates to the starting point, breakfast and a meal.

The event gets more popular every year, so secure your place today.

[Click here](#) or visit the website for more information.

**Look out for more information for all events on the FoMPS tree notice boards in the coming weeks in the school playgrounds. Updates will also be sent via the year group messenger apps.**

### Apprenticeship Teaching Assistant

The Governors seek to appoint an enthusiastic and caring Apprentice Teaching Assistant to undertake an apprenticeship for one year. Please see the school website for more information:

<https://menstonprimary.co.uk/vacancies/>

### News from the Governing Body

Our last meeting focused exclusively on the 2017/18 pupil results. Although preliminary results had been shared with schools much earlier, these figures have only recently been officially published. It is one of the main responsibilities of the Board of Governors to analyse and monitor these figures in detail. We are happy to confirm that pupils continue to achieve well and make good progress at our school. Results are above the national average for phonics, and for reading, writing and maths at KS1. At KS2 results for reading and maths significantly exceed national average, while writing is in line with it. These results are very pleasing and reflect the hard work of all pupils, staff and parents. Areas for further action have been identified and included in the School Improvement Plan that guides the school's work to raise standards even further. Of course Governors recognise that, as important as these results are, there are many other aspects that reflect children's overall experience and development at school.

Governors send their best wishes to all pupils, staff and parents for Christmas and the New Year.

Annet Nottingham, Chair of Governors

