

Menston Mail—Number 5

15th February 2019



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We hope that you are enjoying hearing all the positive things your children have been doing this last half term. We have also introduced 'Hot Chocolate Friday' where, each week, one child per class is nominated to join myself, Mrs Wilson, Mrs Ellis and Mr Goldthorp for a Hot Chocolate in the Staffroom to celebrate their amazing effort and learning behaviour.

Mr Jones

Year 6 Football Success!

Congratulations to our Year 6 football teams—both the girls and boys are having a fantastic season.

The boys finished as league champions, winning by 4 points. They won 7 games and drew 1. So far they have scored over 30 goals and have only conceded 4. They are currently in a strong position to win the champions league cup competition which finishes in March. Watch this space for the result!

The girls finished runners up in the league. They won 7 games, lost only 1 and have scored over 35 goals. They are currently leading the girls champions league tournament and if they draw or win their next game they will also be league champions.

Notable mentions:

Joe-Luca L- has scored 17 goals and has been an excellent striker.

Mattie D- has scored some vital goals whilst being a rock in a defence that has only conceded 4 goals.

James L- A very intelligent player who has got a great future in football.

Lucia S- in my opinion she is easily the strongest player in the entire league. She has scored 22 goals, but has also supported her team mates and really helped improve the rest of the team.

Harriet W- has transformed from someone who had hardly kicked a ball before the season to an assured defender. I am so proud of the journey she has taken and she has now even joined the Guiseley Girls team!

Mr Gibson



Wharfedale Primary Schools Cross Country League— Saturday 9th Feb

A huge 'Well Done' to all our children who took part in the race at Ben Rhydding Primary School.

Congratulations to the Year 5 and Year 2 Girls who came in 1st place, and the Year 2 and Year 5 Boys who came in 2nd place.

Special mentions to:

- Oliver H (Y5), Neve G (Y5) and Harry L (Y3) who won individual Bronze
- Sophie P (Y5) and Sophie L (Y2) who won individual Silver
- Matilda I (Y6) and Sophie W (Y2) who won individual Gold



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 increased to £1.80 per day/ £9 per week.

The total for the Half Term from Monday 25th February to Friday 12th April is £63.00.

We have now moved to a 'cashless' payment system. All school meals must be paid through this new system. You should have received an activation letter to set up your account.

The themed lunches for this term are:

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 have a school meal that day at a cost of £1.80. Please pay for the meal via ParentPay.

Please note: if you have any questions relating to payment of dinner money you need to contact Leanne at Facilities Management on 07973 841632.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday 15th February: School closes for Half Term

Monday 25th February: School opens for Spring Term 2

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 for Summer Term 1

Monday 6th May: May Day
Bank Holiday

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

FoMPS

The FoMPS committee have been getting stuck in again this New Year and we have a number of amazing events planned.

The next event is the fantastic Menston's Got Talent Show and Disco on Saturday 16th March at Kirklands Community Centre. This was suggested on last year's parent survey. Students at MPS will be asked to perform their talents and skills in front of an audience and a panel of friendly guest judges and there will be prizes awarded. Afterwards there will be a disco, with food and a bar available.

If you would like to help out with the planning and running of this event, please see fomps.org.uk for details or email admin@fomps.org.uk.

If your child would like to take part in the talent show, they will be given a permission letter to bring home with all that they need to know. Tickets for the show will go on sale on 1st March.

Future Event Dates for your Diary

Friday 24th May - Sponsored Fun Run in aid of Cancer Research UK & FoMPS

Friday 7th June - Movie night

Saturday 6th July - Summer Fete

Friday 20th Sept - AGM & Bingo night

Friday 18th October - Quiz night

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.

Absence and Attendance

As a school, we are tasked with promoting good attendance and we award certificates to those who have 100%. By law, we have to maintain attendance records and submit these to the Department of Education as this is one of the things which is recorded about the school and available in the public domain. However, in promoting good attendance, we also have to stress that it is important that children (and staff) are well enough to be in school and that their attendance does not negatively affect that of others around them. There are certain published guidelines from Public Health England which we use that stipulate the length of absence connected with some absences such as the '48 hour rule' after sickness. Please can we ask you to make sure that, if you send children to school, they are well enough to attend. We have a 24 hour pupil absence line - 01943 873180. Please make sure you inform the office if your child will not be in school.

Vacancies

We currently have vacancies for Care Club Playworkers and Casual Lunchtime Supervisors. If you or anyone you know is interested in applying, please visit the website for more information: <https://menstonprimary.co.uk/vacancies/>

News from the Governing Body

At our last meeting in January, Governors discussed the Pupils Attendance Policy. Research from the Department of Education shows a direct link between good attendance and children's progress and attainment at school. Staff work hard to provide a stimulating, welcoming and inclusive environment in which children thrive, so that they enjoy coming to school. While we recognise that some absence through for instance illness is unavoidable, we set high standards for each child to achieve attendance of 97% or better. Governors therefore agreed unanimously that the Headteacher is unable to authorise holidays during term-time. This is in line with guidance from Bradford Local Authority and will take effect from September 2019. We are confident that you will agree that this decision is in the interest of all children.

Annet Nottingham, Chair of Governors

