

Menston Mail—Number 3

20th December 2019



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**Merry
Christmas**

Christmas comes to school again! I hope you were able to enjoy a concert or two to help the children create and experience some of the magic of this season.

The switching on of the Menston lights/FoMPS Christmas Fayre was a lovely reminder of how lucky we are to be part of this community and how important it is for our children to take part in such events. The school gets such marvellous support and help from families at these times and we are truly thankful to those very busy people who find time to help the school and the children.

Our choir visited 'The Beeches' on Wednesday afternoon to bring a little Christmas cheer to residents and in the new year we are going to work with some of the residents on a poetry project. This will involve the older and younger participants learning poems by heart and performing with/for each other. It is another example of how the school can build community spirit and pride. I wish you all a very 'Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.'

Mr Jones



Save the Children
CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

Make the world better with a sweater!

Christmas Jumper Day

On Friday 13th December the children and staff all

looked fantastic in their festive jumpers! We also raised an amazing £342.07 for Save the Children. Thank you to everyone who took part and donated!



The Book People's Big Book Boost

We have signed up to receive fundraising from The Book People. If you are shopping online, please select Menston Primary School from the Big Book Boost to enable us to receive funding for books in school.

<https://www.thebookpeople.co.uk/bigbookboost>

School Lunches

School meals are free for all children in Foundation, Year 1 and Year 2.

For Years 3 to 6, from 1st January 2020 the cost of school meals will increase to £1.90 per day/ £9.50 per week.



Please ensure your ParentPay account is in credit prior to meals being taken by children.

The total for the half term from Monday 6th January to Friday 14th February is £57.00.

The total for the term from Monday 6th January to Friday 3rd April is £114.00.

The current menu can be found on the school website: <https://menstonprimary.co.uk/our-school/school-meals/>

Forthcoming Themed Meals:

Friday 24th January: Chinese Themed Meal

Thursday 5th March: World Book Day Themed Meal

Tuesday 17th March: French Themed Meal

Please note: if you have any questions relating to payment for school meals you need to contact Facilities Management on 07973 841632.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday 6th January: School opens for Spring Term 1

Friday 14th February: School closes for Half Term

Monday 24th February: School opens for Spring Term 2

Thursday 5th March: World Book Day

Friday 3rd April: School closes for Easter holiday

Monday 20th April: School opens for Summer Term 1

Friday 8th May: May Day Bank Holiday - School Closed

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



School Kitchen

We recently welcomed an inspector from the Food Standards Agency for a routine inspection of the school kitchen. We are very pleased to let you know that we received a 5 star rating for food hygiene. Well done to the kitchen staff for their consistent hard work!

Primary School Applications

If you have a child due to start school in September 2020, please note the deadline for Primary School Applications is **Wednesday 15th January 2020**. Applications can be made online using this link:

www.bradford.gov.uk/admissions



FoMPS

FoMPS would like to thank all who helped to plan, organise and run the Christmas Fayre that took place at Kirklands this year. Thanks to those who brought cakes (of a particularly brilliant standard this year!) and donated raffle and tombola prizes and sacrificed their time and pennies to help. We were pleased to have so many older pupils performing and helping on stalls – what a credit to their families. It came with challenges to hold it somewhere new but it also felt great to support the light up event and come together as a village in this way. We are incredibly pleased to announce that we raised a total of £3,932.84 of which we plan to gift £200 to the Village towards the lights to be erected at Christmas time next year. The rest, as usual, will be put towards projects that enhance and enrich the education and experiences of the Menston Primary School pupils.

Have a lovely Christmas and a happy new year everyone and we look forward to seeing you at some more excellent events in 2020!

Look out for more information for all events on the FoMPS tree notice boards in the coming weeks in the school playgrounds or visit <https://fomps.org.uk/>.

News from the Governing Body

Our most recent meeting focused on the 2019 pupil progress and achievement. 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 outcomes in detail. We are happy to confirm that pupils continue to achieve well and make excellent progress at our school. Results are well above the national average for phonics, and for reading, writing and maths at KS1. At KS2 results for reading and maths significantly exceed the national average (+23% and +16% respectively), while writing is 6% above national average. The data also shows that the school provides appropriate challenge for the most able pupils. We congratulate all staff and pupils on these excellent outcomes and thank them for their hard work. Areas for further action have been identified and these are included in the School Improvement Plan that guides the school's work to raise standards even further. As important as these results are, of course governors recognise fully that our children's education is not just about academic performance, and we equally value children's general development and happiness.

Governors send their very best wishes to all pupils, staff, parents and carers for Christmas and 2020.

Annet Nottingham, Chair of Governors