

Menston Mail

22nd October 2021



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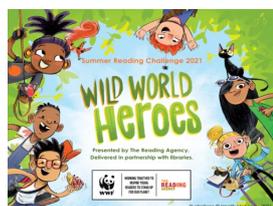
Well, I can't quite believe that we have reached the half-term point already! The children have made us really proud every day since the term began – our new starters have settled so well and everyone has enjoyed having a little more freedom to mix in wider groups. We are still being very cautious and we are ventilating school well and cleaning our hands and our spaces regularly. It has been a difficult half-term for those families who have been affected by Covid-19 and we need to prepare ourselves for the possibility of further disruption throughout the winter months.

It has been wonderful to be able to start up our sports clubs again and I have been so delighted to the responses from our older children to my Friday litter-picking club. I will be continuing this club for the whole year, so anyone in Key Stage 2 who would like a chance to do this valuable service for our community who hasn't managed to sign up so far will have a chance in 2022.

On behalf of all of our staff, I would like to wish everyone a happy and safe half-term break. The children deserve a good rest and I know that we have some very excited children who have plans for days out, holidays and seeing family and friends.

I look forward to seeing everyone back at school in November. If you know of any families who have little ones due to start school in September 2022, please direct them to our school website where they can find out more about our open days.

Mrs Wilson



Summer Reading Challenge

Well done to all our children who completed the reading challenge in the summer. You should have all received your certificate and medal this week.

Covid Update

We currently have very few PCR confirmed cases of Covid in school. Thank you for continuing to monitor your children for potential symptoms and getting PCR tests when necessary. Please make sure you call the school office on 01943 873180 to report any absences and PCR test results.

Macmillan Cake and Juice Morning

Our annual Macmillan Cake and Juice morning for staff and KS1 parents was a huge success again this year. Thank you to



everyone who participated to make this happen. We raised a whopping £911.69 for Macmillan Cancer! Thank you for your support.



Access to the School Office



Please note that we have an intercom system to speak to the school office. If you are dropping off or collecting your child from the office, please can we ask that you use the intercom to speak to the office staff. The office will then open the door for your child to come in or make

arrangements for your child to be brought out to you. Thank you!

School Lunches

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

For Years 3 to 6, the cost of school meals is £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 1st November to Friday 17th December is £66.50.

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

Friday 22nd October: School closes for Half Term

Monday 1st November: School Opens for Autumn Term 2

Tuesday 2nd November: Whole School Flu Vaccinations

Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th November: Open Mornings for September 2022 admissions. Pre-booked appointments only

Saturday 13th November: Wharfedale Primary XC League 2021/22 at Ghyll Royd School

Saturday 13th November : Open Afternoon for September 2022 admissions. Pre-booked appointments only

Friday 10th December: Christmas Jumper Day and School Christmas Dinner

Friday 17th December: School closes for Christmas

Tuesday 4th January 2022: School Opens for Spring Term 1

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

FoMPS

The Friends of Menston Primary School (FoMPS) are busy planning our Christmas fundraisers for the school and we are looking for offers of raffle prizes. If you, or a friend/family member, are able to offer something for the raffle - this could be in the form of a voucher for a local business/service or an actual product or gift set - then please get in touch via e-mail:

info@fomps.org.uk

Further details about our Christmas events will be coming out soon.

We have a bank of secondhand uniform that you can purchase (£2 per logo item, all others £1) and we will take donations of good condition used uniform, we love recycling!

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/>.

School Achievements

We are pleased to announce that we have been awarded the Silver Quality Mark by the national Skills Builder Partnership in recognition of our high standards in the teaching of transferable skills to all of our children. Our high standards have been further recognised by our school also being awarded Skills Builder Showcase School status. Read all about our work on the partnership's showcase pages <https://www.skillsbuilder.org/case-study/menston-primary-school>



Skills Builder
Silver Award
2021 - 24



LoTc Mark (Silver)

We would also like to share that we have been accredited with the Silver Learning Outside the Classroom in recognition of our commitment to provide frequent, continuous and progressive learning outside the classroom experiences to all pupils. Thank you to Miss Greenwood for leading on this and enabling us to receive such a reward.

News from the Governing Body

We were fortunate to welcome Emma Bramley as a new parent governor just before the summer. As you have been made aware we currently have a vacancy for another parent governor with a closing date of Monday 1 November. I would like to encourage you to consider joining our team of governors who are committed to their role in supporting and challenging the school leadership team.

At our latest meetings our attention has been primarily on Covid recovery, in terms of children's and staff wellbeing, children's progress and the school's finances. We are of course mindful that Covid has by no means gone away and school will continue to take every precaution. In spite of continued uncertainty, our focus remains on children's learning and the quality of the curriculum, and we are planning further refurbishment work on the school buildings. We are confident that under the energetic leadership of Mrs Wilson the school community will continue to flourish.

Annet Nottingham, Chair of Governors

