



Message from the Governing body

At the start of the year, governors have welcomed Lou Sparkes who had been elected as the new staff governor. Our most recent meeting focused on the 2022 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. This year's results are the first since the 2019 pre-Covid results, and there is evidence to suggest that all children have in some way been affected by the disruption caused by the pandemic. Having said that, we are happy to confirm that pupils at our school continue to make excellent progress. The EYFS results, which are assessed differently from 2019, show that 75% of EYFS children achieved Good Level of Development, and 75% of children achieved All Goals, compared to 65% and 63% nationally respectively. At KS1 and KS2, our outcomes are also well above national averages in all areas. At KS2 results for Reading, Writing and Maths significantly exceed the national average (+17%, +9% and +10% respectively). 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, wellbeing and happiness.

Governors send their very best wishes to all pupils, staff, parents and carers for Christmas and 2023.

Christmas Craft Morning

On Monday the whole school enjoyed a Christmas craft morning. Each year group created festive decorations, with the Year 6's buddying up with the Foundation children and Year 5's with Year 1. There were masses of glitter, sequins, glue and shiny paper used, with everyone enjoying the Christmassy treat.



Christmas Shows

Thank you to all of our families who came into school to support and watch the children in their Christmas shows. The staff did an amazing job with their organisation and the children's hard work during rehearsals certainly paid off. The shows were fabulous, well done everyone!



Message from Mrs Wilson

As we reach the end of the first term, I would like to say how proud I am of our children for their hard work, positive attitudes and great behaviour so far this year. I would like to thank the whole staff team for all of their hard work and commitment to making the school the best place possible for the children. Huge thanks also to all of our families for supporting the school and the children's learning so well at home.

Our children are really enjoying reading books from their class libraries and the books that they have chosen on their visits to Menston Library too. Oxford Owl have produced a web page which families can access to support reading for pleasure at home. Please [click here](#) for more information.

As some children will be getting new electronic devices for Christmas, I would like to highlight some online safety guidance for families. Please find advice from Childnet [here](#) and the UK Safer Internet Centre [here](#). It is really important that we keep up to date with the ways in which we can help to protect children online, so I would recommend that parents check the advice on these websites periodically.

On behalf of all of the staff, I would like to wish you all a very happy holiday. I hope that you all manage to spend lots of quality time together with your families doing things that you all enjoy. I look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Tuesday 3 January.

Mrs Wilson

School Council



Hello, it's your Communication Team! This week we have had two more Action Teams approved; a Leading Reading Group and a Building Team. The Reading Group will be working hard with Miss Hodkinson to improve our library and promote reading across school. The Building Team will be using their love of construction to build models to be used in the playground by fellow pupils – what a fantastic idea! We have so much more to come in the new year and we can't wait to keep helping to make the world a better place.

Attendance

The Autumn term whole school attendance was **96.35%** This is above the national average so well done everyone and lets keep up this great effort going in to the Spring term!

The class with the highest attendance this week is **Hazel** with **97.42%** attendance.



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 £2 per day / £10 per week. Please ensure your ParentPay account is in credit prior to meals being taken by children. If you have any questions relating to payment for school meals please contact Facilities Management on 07973 841632.

School Lunches—w/c 3 January 2023 Menu—Week 1

Tuesday: **Mild Chicken Curry** or **Halal Keema & Peas**; **Vegetarian Quesadillas**; **Jacket Potato** or **Sandwiches**

Wednesday: **Roast Chicken** or **Halal Chicken Tikka Roast**; **Vegan Cottage Pie**; **Panini** or **Wraps**

Thursday: **Cheese and Tomato Pizza** or **Ham and Cheese Pizza**; **Garlic Vegetable Noodles**; **Jacket Potato** or **Sandwiches**

Friday: **Battered Fillet of Fish**; **Savoury Roll**; **Panini** or **Wraps**

For details of the full new menu please [click here](#) for our school meals web page.

'My British Hero' competition prize winner

Philip Davies MP visited school this week to present Anya in Year 5 with her prize for being one of the winners of the 'My British Hero' competition. She really impressed the judges with her brilliantly bright and fact-filled depiction of the Queen. Well done Anya!



Job Vacancies

We have a vacancy for a Lunchtime Supervisor. The hours of work are 11:45am to 12:45pm, Monday to Friday, term time only.

We also have a Teaching Assistant vacancy, either 1 x full time role or 2 x part time roles, Monday to Friday, term time only.

If you are interested in applying, or know someone who might be interested, please visit our website for more information:

<https://menstonprimary.co.uk/about-us/vacancies/>

DATES TO REMEMBER

Fri 16 December: School closes for Christmas

Tues 3 January: School reopens for Spring term 1

Mon 9 January: Foundation Sight Tests

Thurs 12 January: Early Help Drop-in

Mon 30 January: Parents' Evening

Thurs 2 February: Parents' Evening

Fri 10 February: School closes for half term

Mon 20 February: School reopens for Spring Term 2

Please see Year Group Newsletters for Key Stage specific diary dates

Christmas Fair—Thank you



FoMPS are really pleased to let you know that the Christmas fair raised £2,978.50 that will be put towards school projects to install covered bike racks and new play equipment. Thank you to everyone who bought/sold raffle tickets, baked or contributed to the fair and to everyone who came along on the day, without your support events like this would not be so successful.

We would like to wish you and your loved ones a very happy Christmas and we look forward to seeing you at FoMPS events in 2023.

FoMPS has a very affordable and sustainable second-hand uniform selection. We have uniform and PE kit in most sizes including some new with tags, so please get in touch at fompsuniform@gmail.com. All items are priced at £1-£2 each.

Please support us wherever you can by volunteering to help at events and just coming along and spending your money. Please get in touch via our [website](#) if you would like to join us.



MENSTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Making Our World A Better Place