



Menston Primary School Newsletter

Making Our World A Better Place

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Friday 14th March 2025

Science Week 2025

It has been an exciting week for us all at Menston Primary with the whole school focused on science throughout the week. Mrs Wilson and Mrs Gilmour got the week off to a spectacular start with assemblies showcasing some of the exciting reactions that underpin our learning in Chemistry. Also on Monday, Year 6 visited the school laboratories at Ilkley Grammar School where they investigated the effects of pressure imbalances; this included observing the impact of removing air particles from a black bin liner (with a child – safely! – inside) and using Bunsen burners and cold water to compress tin cans. They also observed an amazing simulation of igniting rocket fuel.

Back in school, we were delighted to welcome parents into school to showcase their science expertise and share how science informs their work. This included live bats, robots, simulated tornados, a full-size skeleton, models of the digestive system, discussions about neuropsychology, mathematical modelling and many more. We are very grateful for the kindness of our parents (and friends from the University of Leeds) in giving up their time to support our celebration of science.

In Reception, the children investigated chromatography, the impact of exercise on the heart, and which liquids are best for cleaning coins!

In Key Stage One, children have participated in a carousel of science discovery activities; these include investigating forces with catapults, growing rainbows using felt-tip pens and creating aero-dynamic paper aeroplanes.

In Key Stage Two, Year 3 have been investigating magnets and researched important female scientists; in Year 4 the children have participated in a sound workshop and looked at how vibrations can be manipulated to affect pitch and volume. Year 5 children have been busy making and testing rockets with great success. And in Year 6, the children have created some excellent artwork linked to their learning on 'Earth, Space and the Solar System' as well as starting an investigation into the impact of bird beak design on eating habits.

A busy science week for all – and we send a huge thank you to everyone who has helped facilitate all the events and supported the learning and developments of our young scientists.



Cross-Country

We are very proud of our three KS2 children, Michael, Brody and Isobel, who took part in the West Yorkshire Cross-Country Final at Temple Newsam on Thursday 6th March. In tough, competitive conditions, with the best runners from across West Yorkshire, they did incredibly well. Michael came 6th, Isobel 7th and Brody 20th. What amazing results!



Michael and Isobel have now qualified to represent West Yorkshire in the national finals. Wow!

A reminder that the next cross-country relay event will be held on **Saturday 15th March**, at [Nell Bank](#), for KS2 children only. This will be the last event of the season and the prize giving presentation will be held at this event.

World Down Syndrome Day

A reminder that **Friday 21st March** is **World Down Syndrome Day**. We will be raising as much money as we can to support the Down Syndrome Training and Support Centre in Bingley. There will be lots of exciting events taking place in school, including a 'bring and buy sale,' organised by our School Council and the Upper KS2 children. If possible, please send your children to school with some money to spend. Items will be priced at 50p to £1. Please also look at your child's year group newsletter which will explain what other activities they may be involved in. One of our families is also raising money for this fantastic cause. If you prefer to donate online, please [click here](#) to read their story and donate via their page.

Important Medical Tracker

We are pleased to advise that, in the coming weeks, our school will be introducing a new online system called *Medical Tracker* to record and manage first aid incidents. This system will replace the current handwritten accident paper slips, with email notifications for any first aid treatments your child may require during the school day. Your child will still receive a head bump sticker if they have sustained any type of head injury.

In cases where a First Aider feels it is important to discuss an incident in more detail, you will receive a telephone call to discuss a suitable course of action (stay in school or collection), followed by an email notification from the *Medical Tracker* system detailing the incident. We believe this new system will improve communication and streamline our processes for your convenience.

An exact launch date for *Medical Tracker* will be shared with parents and carers in due course.

Dates for your Diary: check [our website](#) for more!

Saturday 15 March: [Wharfedale Cross Country @ Nell Bank](#) (KS2 only)

Friday 21 March: [Comic Relief](#) & [World Down Syndrome Day](#)

Wednesday 2 April: Reception Easter Craft Afternoon with Parents 2-3pm

Thursday 3 April: KS1 Easter Performance

Friday 4 April: School closes for Easter Holidays

Tuesday 22 April: School reopens for Summer Term

Wednesday 23—Friday 25 April: Year 4 Residential to Caythorpe Court

Monday 5 May: May Day Bank Holiday

Monday 12 May: KS2 Practice SATs Week

Friday 23 May: School closes for May half-term

Tuesday 3 June: School reopens

Tuesday 17 June: Class photos

Wednesday 25—Friday 27 June: Year 6 Residential to Great Tower

School Lunch Menu — W/C: 17/03/2025 Week 2

Please [click here](#) for updated information and pricing for the school meal menu.



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 £2.35 per day/ £11.75 per week from Monday 4th November 2024.** Please ensure your Parent Pay 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**

Week 2:

Monday: Vegetarian Lasagne, Halal Meat Lasagne, Spicy Vegetable Spring Roll, Cheese Panini or Ham, Cheese or Tuna Sandwiches

Tuesday: Pasta Bolognese, Halal Chicken Jalfrezi, Pomodoro Pasta, Jacket Potatoes or Ham, Cheese or Tuna Wraps

Wednesday: Roast Meat Dinner, Quorn Roast Dinner, Cheese Rolls, Cheese Panini or Ham, Cheese or Tuna Sandwiches

Thursday: Cheese & Tomato Pizza, Loaded Vegetable Pizza, Jacket Potatoes or Ham, Cheese or Tuna Wraps

Friday: All Day Brunch, All Day Vegetarian Brunch, Fish Fingers, Cheese Panini or Ham, Cheese or Tuna Sandwiches

PE People Easter Holiday Club

PE People are excited to announce that bookings are now open for the easter holidays! Running from 7th—17th April 2025. Book now by [clicking here](#) or scanning the QR code for Easter themed fun!



70s/80s Disco at Kirklands Community Centre

Kirklands Community Centre will be hosting a 70s/80s disco on Saturday 22nd March, 8pm—midnight. This is a fundraising event on behalf of the 'Angels for Children' charity. Tickets are £12. Please contact Beth on **07719 785986** or email afc.info@icloud.com



Susan Hughes Performance Drama School

Susan Hughes is holding drama and performing arts lessons on Thursday evenings at The Queen's Hall, Burley. Please message Susan on 07806640661 to book a no-obligation free trial. The classes are for children 5+ years. Susan will also be running holiday camps at Easter and May half-term. Please see the attached leaflet for more information.

NHS Parent / Carer Support Group

The next online support group run by the Bradford & Craven Mental Health Support Team will be held on Teams on **Tuesday 18th March**. The topic this month is 'The Teenage Brain.' Email mhstparentsupport@bdct.onmicrosoft.com for an invite. See the attached flyer for more information.

Bingley Down Syndrome Training & Support Centre

[The Down Syndrome Centre in Bingley](#) is celebrating its 25-year anniversary in 2025, but is facing a daunting future. It was recently announced that they have had to close the centre on Fridays, meaning a reduction in services for families. We will be doing some fundraising to support the centre this year, but in the meantime, if anyone would like to make a donation, please [click here](#).



Bradford District Museums & Galleries

- Museums for Play and Growth: Museums for Play and Growth are FREE drop-in sessions for children 0–5 years old inspired by "50 Things to Do Before You're Five". On every 3rd Wednesday of the month, you can bring your little ones to Bolling Hall to explore our museum, learn something new, and have a fun time. These sessions are offered across all the sites - check [the website](#) for more details.
- Cartwright Hall: the [Refreshment Room at Cartwright Hall Art Gallery](#) has been accredited with the Kids in Museums Family Café Standard. The Family Café Standard is a benchmark that recognises cafes at museums and cultural attractions that are great for families. Situated in the original 1904 Refreshment Room at Cartwright Hall Art Gallery the cafe is the perfect place to relax, enjoy a coffee and treat yourself to a delicious handmade cake or snack with vegan and gluten free options.

Bradford City of Culture 2025

Bradford is the new UK City of Culture for 2025. Explore the action-packed programme of events [here](#).



- Loading Bay is Bradford's very own pop-up venue in the city. A disused storage depot is being transformed into a temporary culture hub for Bradford 2025 – and it's set to open in March 2025 with an action-packed programme. [Click here](#) for more information.
- [Share your Story](#): The National Literacy Trust in Bradford are going on tour this year. The Bradford Stories Bus is a wonderland of storytelling magic – a classic American school bus transformed by the National Literacy Trust in Bradford into an inspiring space for reading, writing and talking about stories. There'll be books to read, activities to do and fun to have, all aimed at children and young people aged 5-11. Best of all, you don't need a ticket to ride this bus: you can hop on any time, and it's all free.

FoMPS

The FoMPS committee is seeking a new secretary to join the team to help support our school continue to be a wonderful place for all our children to learn and grow. The secretary needs to be able to attend a small number of meetings each year to take minutes, answer any email enquiries we receive (this is not many over the course of a year) and do a few administrative tasks for events (booking venues, setting up ticket sales and applying for licences). If this sounds like something you could help us with then please get in touch via fompsinfo@gmail.com. Without an active committee FoMPS will not be able to run any events this year. If you are looking to purchase pre-loved, good quality uniform, please email fompsuniform@gmail.com, we currently have high stock levels in most ages.



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