

26 November 2021

Newsletter

A huge thank you to those parents who responded to our Collective Worship consultation. We received 120 replies and 111 (93%) supported our application for a Determination for Collective Worship. This means that we will apply for our collective worship to continue to encompass all faiths and provide opportunities to celebrate and reflect on all major religious festivals and holy days.

Our new Trust CEO, Michael McCarthy has settled in and has been visiting the Trust schools, meeting our children and seeing what we do.

Since September we have been busy returning our curriculum to its wider offer with visits, visitors and experiences. EYFS – Our early year team have been busy settling the children into school.

Y1 – Y1 have been on a visit to Lister Park and have been learning about ballet and dance in weekly Northern Ballet workshops along with Year 5.

Y2 – Y2 are busy rehearsing for their Nativity performance at the end of term. And are off to the Ledston Estate next week.

Y3 – Year 3 have been to Magna Science museum in Sheffield and have had safety workshops covering online safety and keeping safe as a pedestrian and Y3 are working with an artist each week as part of a story makers project. Year 3 are learning golf in school this term and are taking part in an inter school tournament in December. Y4 – years 3 and 4 have enjoyed wellbeing and self-esteem sessions delivered by an educational wellbeing practitioner. Year 4 have also visited Cliffe Castle and Ledston Estate.

Y5 – Y5 have been to watch a Ballet performance at Leeds Grand Theatre.

Y6 – Before half term our Y6 took part in a Frisbee tournament with other schools and are currently on their week long residential in the Lake district and are having a brilliant time.

We are planning many more experiences for our children to enrich their learning, including a Linking schools project for Y4, with Wilsden Primary. Can I remind Y3 and Y4 parents that we have a visit to the pantomime at the Alhambra on 5th January. If you need any help with Parent Pay – please contact our office team.

Our Christmas Card competition closes on the theme is Friday 3rd December and the theme is “Recycled Christmas” the overall PAT winner will have their card made into the official Trust Christmas Card and the Margaret McMillan class and school winners will each receive a prize.

We want to help our children grow as well rounded, compassionate and confident individuals. With your support, the children raised £379 for Children in Need recently. Our KS2 Eco Warrior team, led by 2 very capable Eco captains have begun to look at real ways the school can work towards being more environmentally responsible and our Peer mentors are supporting younger children with their reading. Our school counsellors have been elected and will be supporting school development and improvement with their decisions. As we emerge from this pandemic, we are determined to make sure Margaret McMillan returns better than ever.



New school meals provider

In September the Trust changed the school meals provider to Mellors. Our children have reviewed the menus and been part of a focus group that has given feedback to them about their lunches. We will continue to ensure that feedback from the children is part of our evaluation.

Goodbyes

Two staff have recently said goodbye and moved onto new roles; Mrs Wicherek has left our Nursery to take up a post as an after- school club leader in Leeds and Mr Bujra has left to be a mentor in another Bradford School. At the end of this term we will also say goodbye to Mrs Jamal, a senior lunchtime supervisor who is retiring after 35 years service at Margaret McMillan. I know you will join me in wishing them all the best for the future.

Attendance

Our school attendance rate is very low since returning this year. Please ensure that your child attends school on time everyday. Our staff are working very hard to your help children recover their education from the last 2 years but they cannot teach them if they are not in school. Our attendance team will be in touch if your child's attendance is low so that they can support you.

As we enter the season of winter illnesses there will be many viruses and colds that your child will not need to be absent from school for. However, please remember to inform school and take your child for a PCR (not a LFT) test if they have Covid-19 symptoms- a new continuous cough or high temperature.

Finally...

Buddy the Office Elf is getting ready for his return to Margaret McMillan on 1st December. We are currently undertaking all the appropriate safeguarding checks and ensuring his DBS is up to date.

Thank you



Lorraine Martin
Headteacher