



A caring learning community

Malvern Way News

From Mrs Cole

Newsletter 5: 20th December 2018

It would seem that Malvern Way certainly does have talent! Every child in the school has taken part in Christmas performances over the last 2 weeks. For those of you able to attend, I am sure you will agree, these were hugely enjoyable. The singing, dancing and acting were all of extremely high quality and the children made their transitions between scenes seamlessly. It is hard to believe that at times, 180 children were maneuvering around the stage. For some of our youngest children, this was the first time they had performed in front of a large audience but they rose spectacularly to the challenge.



While the children are the stars of the show, I need to thank the back stage crew who have worked hard to put these productions together. As well as the team of teachers and teaching assistants, I would also like to thank our office and site team for the role they play in ensuring these shows are an enormous success.



I also had the pleasure of accompanying our Year 2 children to Little Green to watch the Year 4 performance of "The Late Wiseman". This was a wonderful production which the children took complete responsibility for including the technical tasks such as lighting and music. The singing was of a very high quality and we particularly enjoyed the live brass ensemble!

School Clock

For the first time in the 4 years I have been at Malvern Way, we have a working clock in our long corridor. This clock is an important feature of our school and many past pupils (some from 50 years ago) comment when they see it is still here. The clock has been repaired by Mr Turffrey who I understand completed the last repair some 10 years ago. Mr Norcott has been given his instructions to wind it carefully (every 8 days).



Christmas Dinner



The school enjoyed a Christmas dinner on Wednesday this week with the staff serving the children before sitting down to join them. The dinner was delicious and I would like to thank Mrs

Herlock and her team for all their hard work in serving us lovely meals during this term.



Since my last newsletter, there have been a number of trips and events in school and further afield. Most notably, we had our annual trip to the pantomime to watch Snow White at the Watersmeet theatre. This year the children really got into the spirit of it and booed, clapped, danced and cheered throughout the performance. Unfortunately for Mr Norcott, he made quite an impression on the pantomime dame but handled the attention with good humour! Thank you to Mrs Butcher for her diligent planning for this event.



While we were out of school, our Nursery children also enjoyed a show from Aesop's Theatre. The children from all classes joined together for lunch, games and then enjoyed a performance of The Tortoise and the Hare. Thank you to the Friends of Malvern Way for funding the show.



Clubs

All of our clubs have now been confirmed for next term, and details are on the school website.

Special Thanks

We would like to thank one of our Christmas Fair Raffle winners who wishes to remain anonymous, but kindly donated their prize of an Amici's voucher to the school.

Parent Tours

In respect of 2019/20 Reception admissions, we still have places available for our parent tours on Thursday 10th and Friday 11th January (both at 9.30am).

We also have places available for 2019/20 nursery admission tours on 31st January at 9.30am, 6th February at 1.45pm and 26th February at 9.30am.

Full details are on the school website.

Please contact the school office if you would like to book a place.



Parent Voice Meeting

You will recall that we held a joint parent voice meeting with Little Green earlier this term and I am aware that the discussions at this have not been widely shared with the whole parental body. While Mr Roberts and I are still considering some of the joint items shared at this meeting, here are some responses to the thoughts specific to Malvern Way

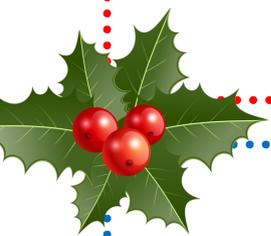
Giving parents electronic access to the Learning Journeys (EYFS) – the system we use for our Learning Journeys does have this capacity. Mrs Linfield has identified a couple of schools who do use this function and we hope to allow electronic access to parents in the summer term.

Is it time for the school to review the Good to be Green behaviour system – at Malvern Way School the vast majority of our children display exemplary behaviour. As such our behaviour policy has only had a light touch review. All staff have now had the opportunity to share their thoughts on this and we are making some significant changes to the system. I am just finalising the policy and I will be sharing this with parents at the start of the new term.

Why aren't Malvern Way using Twitter or other social media outlets – during the next 2 terms we will be reviewing our school website and looking into the option of including blogs or the use of twitter.

E-Safety messages – supporting our young children appropriately – we continuously share e-safety messages with the children. Mr Reid leads on this area in the school and has just redesigned our e-safety poster for the children. This will be shared in the new year to the children and our safety week in February will further consolidate these messages. We previously held a joint e-safety meeting for parents at Little Green. This was poorly attended (about 12 parents) but if parents are keen for us to consider hosting this event again I would be interested to know.

Restricting access for siblings at events gives the impression that Malvern Way is not family friendly – it is uncomfortable to hear that a small number of our parents have this opinion. There are many events during the year where the whole family are invited to attend. However for our tours and our performances we do ask that younger children do not attend. Hopefully through the course of the year, you will enjoy the events we put on for the whole family.



It has been another busy term at the school. There have already been so many learning opportunities provided to our children that I must say a huge thank you to our teaching, site and office teams for their hard work in providing an outstanding education to our children. In our last staff meeting I asked the teachers to share a highlight from this term. While some of us recalled the whole school projects such as the installation of the music garden or the creation of our mosaics others shared the personal achievements of individuals in their classes or reflected upon the acts of kindness they had seen in the children.

I would also like to thank our Governors for the time they have given to the school. Our Friends of Malvern Way should feel very proud of their fundraising efforts this term raising £8,910 for the school, and I am thankful for their ongoing contribution to us. I am also grateful to the army of volunteers who play a huge role in our school, helping with all manner of tasks. Whether your help has been for a single event or you have provided weekly support to us, we are very grateful.

I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all – staff, children, parents – a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Head Teacher Awards

Nursery: Kitty, Anna, Chloe

Shield bug: Seb, George, Aarav, Lottie, Aanya

Bumble bee: Lucas, Mason, Samuel

Ladybird: Matthew, Teddy, Charlotte, Zoe, Jessica, Caelan, Ada, Abigail

Hedgehog: Ava, Isla, Sophia, Hollie, Larry, Joseph, Jack, Rishi, Louis, Jenson, Joseph, Henry

Rabbit: Chloe, Jack, Freya, Reece, Suhani, Eesha, Kenny, Ellie

Squirrel: Sienna, Harriet, Shiven, Iman, Levin, Maya, Freya, Oscar, Dorothy, Aran, Aditya, Lucy, Arya, Joshua

Robin: Aryan, Margaret, Lexie, Florenza, Leo, Tudor, Nia, Emy, Alex, Max



Badge Assembly

Congratulations to the following children who have received a badge since our last newsletter:

Being Independent Learners ~ Annabelle, Aryan, Aarav, Teddy, Lorna, Kishan, Chloe, Mary, James N, Aarav

Good Listeners ~ Frank, Christopher, Izzy, Maisie, Isaac, Suhaani, Arya, Jessica S, Beatrice, Alice, James, Christopher, Rhys, Samuel, Evie, Henry, Eesha, Isobel, Elisa

Polite ~ Freya, Scarlett, Benjamin, Florence, Freya, Isla, Jessica W, Millie

Kind & Thoughtful ~ Ada, Abigail

Care of the Environment ~ Ellie, Rosabella, Eddie

Good Friend ~ Hugo, Emy



School Admissions Consultation



The consultation on Hertfordshire County Council's admission arrangements for

2020/21 is open until 6th January 2019. The County Council has proposed:

- ◆ Amending the definition of 'Rule 2'
- ◆ Clarifying the late applications and continuing interest schemes
- ◆ Reducing the published admission numbers at some primary schools.

To find out more, and to respond online, please visit: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions2020

Small in size.
The risk of a
big problem.



Inside some electronic devices are button cell batteries that if swallowed can cause severe life-impacting burns or even death.



These batteries can be found in toys, musical books, key fobs, remote controls, calculators, and other small electronic devices.

Ensure your child does not have access to these devices if the battery compartment is not secure.

Make certain that spare batteries are locked away and that used batteries are disposed of safely.

If your child does swallow a button cell battery, seek urgent medical advice *immediately*.