



A caring learning community

Malvern Way News

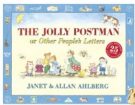
From Mrs Cole

Newsletter 9: 10th March 2017

My aim with the school newsletter has always been to ensure it sends a positive message about the events at school and the achievement of our children. Unfortunately, I have a number of concerns that I need to bring to the attention of our whole parent body. Recent monitoring shows a significant decrease in whole school attendance and we are in danger of dropping below our expected level of 96%. Analysis of this data shows our illness rates are in line with previous years but absence due to routine medical appointments, family holidays and weekends away have increased significantly. Part of the judgement on a school is the level of attendance and decreasing attendance will be seen as a cause for concern by Ofsted and Herts For Learning. I am urging parents to therefore ensure your children are in school, on time everyday unless it is absolutely unavoidable.

I am also concerned with the ongoing situation regarding parking. Too many of our parents are regularly breaking the rules and putting themselves, their families and our children at risk. Incidents that have been brought to my attention this week are: parking on yellow lines, double yellow lines, on bends, getting children out of the car on the roadside and leaving younger siblings unattended while dropping off at school. I myself was witness to the inconsiderate and dangerous parking and thoughtless driving last week when seeing our Year 2 children off on a school trip. Parents you need to do better. I take this opportunity to remind you that the school car park is for staff only.

World Book Day



Thank you to everybody for getting into character for our Jolly Postman themed book day. The day was hugely enjoyable and the children have completed some lovely writing inspired by Mrs Linfield's adaptation of the Jolly Postman. The children enjoyed a performance of the story by the Malvern Way staff, which included Mrs Butcher cycling around the school hall! In the afternoon, children enjoyed a special story telling session.



Thank you to all who attended our Book Look session on 27th February. Our children really value the opportunity to share their learning with family members. Quite rightly, they are proud of how much they have improved during the year. Our next Book Look is on 25th May.

A Journey into London

Our Year 2 children enjoyed a trip to Buckingham Palace last week and a tour around the Royal Mews. This was the first time our school had visited this landmark and the children have all told me how much they enjoyed the trip.



I have had the pleasure of seeing the writing that was inspired by this day out and hope there will be more visits in the future. While the Queen and Prince William were in residence that day, the children were unfortunate not to see them.



Reading Bookmarks

Following our reading evening, all children should have received a reading bookmark. We hope you will find this useful in supporting you when reading with your child.

Bekonscot Model Village

The Reception children also had a new visit for the school, travelling to Bekonscot model village as part of their Step into a Story topic. Since the trip, the children have created their own story settings in shoe boxes.



Goodbye to Miss Douglas



The staff and children said goodbye to Miss Douglas last week who left our lunchtime team. Miss Douglas has had a long association with the school (more than 15 years) both as a volunteer and member of staff. She was a highly dedicated member of staff who worked hard to ensure the well being of our children in the dining hall and playground. Miss Douglas left us to take up a full time position with a day nursery in Rickmansworth – lucky them!



Arts Council



As part of our ongoing commitment to provide an arts rich curriculum an Arts Council has been appointed to ensure the children have an even stronger voice and engagement in arts learning experiences. The children were selected by their class teachers and met with Mrs Butcher to begin to plan our Art Week. Mrs Butcher is also on the hunt for passionate photographers who would be happy to come and speak with the children about photography as a medium for art. If you know of anyone please let her know.

Mrs Butcher is seeking donations of **clean bottle tops (milk/drink)** for a whole school art project.

Shrove Tuesday
Our Nursery and Reception children all had the opportunity to make and taste pancakes as part of their learning about Shrove Tuesday. While Nursery enjoyed the pancakes in the dining hall, our Reception children bravely cooked their own “camping style!”



Due to our recent success in gaining the **Level 3 RHS School Gardening Award** we have earned some amazing prizes. One of them is a delivery of soft fruit bushes and canes that will bring us fruit for many years to come. However, to help protect our prize from eager blackbirds we desperately need a fruit cage. If anyone has one they no longer need or use and could donate it we would be extremely grateful. Alternatively we are happy to try and make our own fruit cages using recycled materials, so if anyone has any spare PVC overflow piping, connectors, wire ties, spare wood and most importantly netting then please can you let us know.



School Pond

I would like to say a huge thank you to Mr Charlton and his team for their work in refurbishing our school pond and clearing the school site following the damage sustained during storm Doris. Our pond is now in top condition and the staff and children are excited to be using it as part of their learning once again. While we were sad to see our Cherry Tree chopped down, a new one has been planted in its place.

Nursery Admissions

A reminder to all parents with children born between 01/09/13 and 31/08/14 that applications for Nursery Admissions close on Friday 17th March. We will be offering a limited number of 30 hour places. For more information – please see the school website or call Mrs Bushell in the school office.

Head Teacher Awards

Dragonfly: Lucas

Shield Bug: Martha, Carlos, Olivia, Jack

Bumble Bee: Abigail, Emily B, Sam

Hedgehog: Eva, Lily, Callum, Tom

Rabbit: Lily, Bonnie, Tristan, Scarlett, Molly, Caitlyn

Squirrel: Anthony, Jacob, George

Robin: Archie, Lillie, Sam, Evie, Francesco

Heron: Ardam

Owl: Amelia, Lauren, Evelyn, Phoebe, Amelie B,
Dominic, Ethan



Michael Sobel Peace Hospice

We finally have details of the amount of money raised for Michael Sobel Hospice through the sale of Christmas Teddies. The school raised **£237.78** ~ thank you for your support.

Badge Assembly

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

Being Independent Learners ~ Sanaya, Freya G, Joseph, Levin, George W, Almaan, Millie H, Taran, Maan, Xavier, Beatrice, Niam, Will, Ava B, Declan, Zara, Lauren, Ava M, Aaran

Being a Good Friend ~ Freya B, Isla, Roye, Millie, Harry

Good Listeners ~ Jack, Lillia, Seren, Claudia, Chloe K, Ava, Alice, Charlotte, Emily F, James, Hadley, Lily, Lisa, Reece, George

Kind & Thoughtful ~ Lily S, Jack, Eleanor

Polite ~ Nina, Alexander

Care Of The Environment ~ Lillia, Chloe