

# Primary Matters

News and Information from Primary Phase - Term 3, 2023-24

## Vice Principal's Message

This week, we were proud to present our first four silver stars for students who had received 250 achievement points so far this year, well done Alexa, Austin, Edward and Simi. At the same time, we gave out at least 20 more bronze stars, as well as the 350 certificates we gave out earlier this term to primary phase students who had received 0 behaviour points in the first two terms of the year. It is brilliant that our students are working so hard and I would also like to thank you for the support you give us in ensuring these high standards and expectations are maintained.

We continue to enrich the curriculum through events such as our mental health and well-being week, and provision of extra-curricular clubs like 'Let's Get Cooking', KS2 gymnastics, football and of course Strictly! Our students have seen great success recently, acquitting themselves well in the county finals in football, and reaching the county finals in KS1 Kurling and KS2 gymnastics. With the weather beginning to improve, we look forward to getting out on the field and into our forest school area as part of our learning. Planning is in full swing for our visits to Silverstone, Thinktank and the Black Country Living Museum amongst others, as well as for the residential trips to York and the Isle of Wight in the summer.

Next term, we will be training staff on our new curriculum, ready to begin implementing it after Easter. We will give you all the details you need on the termly Sway newsletter and I would encourage you to check weekly the MS Team for your child's year group and giving us a thumbs up by clicking the like button to show that you have seen the posts.

The next term is very brief at just under 5 weeks long, so we hope that the students come back refreshed and raring to go from their break in order not to waste a moment of learning time. Year 2 Tudor day here we come!



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## Caring is Sharing!

We contacted CCS parents last week asking for food donations as part of our 'Caring is Sharing' ongoing initiative. This was with the aim of being able to provide some food parcels to some of our more disadvantaged families over the half term holiday. We were so overwhelmed with the response and would like to thank everyone who so kindly donated to this worthwhile cause. Our school community is amazing and never lets us down! This drive also ties in nicely with our HPL value of being 'Empathetic'.

We'd also like to say a very special thank you to the following companies who helped to make this community initiative a success:

- Kajima - for their very generous donations. A special mention to Sam Bell and her family who did the shopping and put together some beautiful toiletry hampers.
- Mitie - for their ongoing help. A special mention to Mick who always goes above and beyond to help where he can.
- Tesco Mereway - for their donation of shopping bags which were used to bag up the food and toiletries. A special mention to Remi, Tesco Community Champion, who helped us secure the donation.





# Let's Get Cooking!

In November, Mrs Honeywood, together with Miss Losty and Mrs Robson relaunched our 'Let's Get Cooking' extra-curricular club for a select group of Year 5/6 children. The children had the chance to make some classic dishes and to learn some important cooking skills in our fully equipped kitchen, within the secondary building.

The first session was an important introduction to food safety and cooking skills. In this session, the children learnt knife skills, including a bridge hold, claw grip and how to peel, slice and cut safely. They also learnt how to use the various bits of equipment, including the oven and a grater, how to read a recipe, adjust cooking time and independently measure ingredients.

During the sessions, the children made a number of dishes from scratch including vegetable soup, cookies, pizza (both the dough and sauce), lasagne, including a tricky cheese sauce and sweet and sour chicken,

During the sessions, the children practiced preparing vegetables by mashing, shredding, using scissors to snip, scooping, crushing and grating. They all learnt all about food hygiene.

We think you'll agree, Mrs Honeywood managed to squeeze a lot of useful life skills and yummy food into the sessions; hopefully, parents enjoyed the dishes that the children brought home.



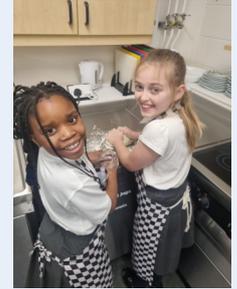
"I was surprised I liked stuff I hadn't tried before and I can now use an oven!"

Tristan · Year 6



"It was awesome being able to make my favourite food - pizza!"

Nicole · Year 6



"I enjoyed the choice of what we were making."

Rose · Year 6



*"Please pass on my thanks to everyone involved. ... has absolutely loved her cooking sessions and she has already recreated her lasagne dish."*

Parent



## Dates for Your Diary



**School closes**

**School reopens**

Y2 Tudor Day

5CS Mini Brass Concert

5AP Spotlight on Learning Assembly

Y6 SATs / Residential Trip Information Evening

2MSDK Spotlight on Learning Assembly  
Comic Relief Day

**Friday 16th February**

**Monday 26th February**

**Wednesday 28th February**

**Thursday 29th February**

**Friday 1st March**

**Wednesday 6th March**

**Friday 8th March**

**Friday 15th March**

# Term 3 - Roundup in Pictures



## Foundation Stage

Foundation Stage have had a very busy time this term learning all about their Learning Theme 'A Ticket to Ride'. They thought carefully about what values might make a superhero and they welcomed many of our real-life superheroes into school to find out all about their jobs.

Along with the theme learning, children in EYFS have also been developing their fine motor skills using a range of tools including paintbrushes, scissors, pencils, tweezers and Play Doh.



## Key Stage 1

In Year 1, children have been following the journey of the Gingerbread Man across the UK to visit traditional tale characters. As part of their Sensational Start, they took part in a scavenger hunt around the KS1 hub to look for all the fairytale characters.

Year 1 have also been learning all about measurements and the different way you can measure objects. They have lots of fun measuring each other using the building blocks.

In Year 2, children started their new Learning Theme of 'Through the Keyhole'. They have been finding out all about life in the Tudor times. They have learnt all about what it was like living life as a Tudor child, as well as the battle of the Tudor rose and how it links to the local area. In maths, they have been practicing 2, 5 and 10 times tables, as well as learning about simple fractions.

## Lower Key Stage 2 (Y3/4)



In Year 3, their Sensational Start was based around learning about the Stone Age. Their favourite part was experiencing what it was like to paint in a cave by creating their own cave art under the table in the classroom with the lights off! Year 3 have also been learning to master the 3, 4 and 8 times tables, as well as listening to stories in the LRC.

In Year 4, they have been learning about the elements. They started the term by working in teams to make their own earthquake-proof building using junk modelling. The children worked as teams to come up with some very creative structures.



## Upper Key Stage 2 (Y5/6)



As part of their Learning Theme "Journeys", Year 5 have been exploring human hourneys and the different reasons for these. In art, the children made their own traditional South African Ndebele art pieces, based on bright colours, use of patterns and symmetry.

Year 6 have been learning about China and Japan for their "Enchanting East" learning theme. As part of their Sensational Start, they made origami frogs, designed some Manga art and took part in the Smarties chopstick challenge!