



# Mercenfeld Primary School



## Spring 2 Newsletter

Here at Mercenfeld we can hardly believe that we are fast approaching the end of another academic year! The calendar has been full of exciting events to enhance learning and to give children a range of different experiences. Our Sports day was a particular success. It was wonderful to be able to invite you all back in to watch even though it was one of the hottest days of the year! Thank you for all your positive comments about the event.

There are lots of transitions this term. We have welcomed our new EYFS children, undertaking home visits and Stay and Plays. Year 6 have had several visits to their secondaries and have come back really excited about the move. Finally, we have the transitions to new classes within school. We have decided to move classes around within school so we have key stage classes together.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your support for the school over the past few terms. The staff and I have the children of Mercenfeld at the heart of all we do, and we are tremendously proud of all them. Having read all their reports, I know how hard they all work, how much they have learnt and achieved this year

We wish you and your families a very happy and healthy summer!

Mrs Randle (Interim Head)

### Awesome Athletics

On Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June, we took 35 Key Stage 2 students to Saffron Lane for the Area Athletics competition. The children performed fantastically and managed to finish 4<sup>th</sup> out of 22 schools. We managed lots of top 3 finishes in many individual events and the relay teams were particularly impressive.



Two special mentions must go to Ewan and Skye who managed to win the Year 6 boys 800m and the Year 5 girls 75m sprint respectively.

Another special mention must go to the Year 5 girls team who managed to win their group overall and bring a trophy back to Mercenfeld.

I was so proud of all of the children who took part. They represented the school superbly and showed respect, teamwork and resilience throughout the day.



Mr Perkins (PE Lead)



### Start times and attendance

As you may know, the Department for Education has stated that schools must be open for 32.5 hours a week.

As of the start of term we will be **opening the registers at 8.40 am and will close them at 8.50 am**. After this time your child will be deemed as late.

We will also now have to be far more vigilant and improve our monitoring systems in regard to lateness and absence and we will be putting additional systems in to monitor this.

We thank you for working in partnership with us on this important aspect of school.



### Commando Joe

Mercenfeld's new Commando Joe's character scheme is now well and truly underway. The children have been having assemblies on a new character skill set each week and have been discussing when they shown this character skill. Many year groups have now had a go at missions that link to their main topics. These missions are a practical and enjoyable way to develop these different character traits. Next year, many more strategies from Commando Joe's will be put in place to continue to develop the whole child here at Mercenfeld. Watch this space!



### Year 2 Healthy Eating



During Healthy Eating week, we created our own healthy eating pop-up shop! The children thoroughly enjoyed making healthy treats for their parents to buy. We made smoothies, fruit skewers and snack pots. In maths, the children worked hard on their money skills to make sure that they provided their parents with the correct change. They did a super job! Thank you so much to the Year 2 parents for your support with this. We hope you enjoyed your healthy treats and were impressed with your children's money skills.



## Spotlight on.....

### PE Kit and Sport

With so much sport having happening this term though we would have spotlight on PE this newsletter.

We have achieved the Platinum Award for sport, from Hinckley and Bosworth School Sports Partnership, due to a host of activities we do in school – training KS 2 children as Sports Leaders, participating in sports and having after school sports club to name a few. This is an amazing achievement especially as to get the Platinum level we needed to have had four consecutive years of getting gold!

One of the few positives to come out of the pandemic is the wearing of PE kit to school on the day that children have PE. This has saved on so much time, especially on getting changed, so more time can be spent on the lesson itself. It had also cut down on bulky bags in the cloakroom!

We will also now be able to get back to inter school competitions. Mr. Perkins has again signed the school up for with the Hinckley and Bosworth School Sports Partnership to enable us to participate.

PE kit is part of the school uniform, even more so, now that children are wearing it for longer. If you are buying more kit ready for next term, please can we respectfully ask that you follow our uniform policy which we will be gently enforcing next year! See below for the items.



**Shorts** – Plain black shorts/skorts with no logos



**T-shirt** – White with or without the school logo (no other logos)



**Sweatshirt** – Plain black with no logos



**Jogging Bottoms**  
Plain black with no logos



**Pumps (for indoor PE)**  
Elasticated black PE pumps



**Trainers (for outdoor PE)**  
An inexpensive pair of trainers

<https://www.lissport.co.uk/mercenfeld>

<https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/MercenfeldPrimarySchoolLE679WG>

## Year 2 trip to Warwick Castle

Year 2 had the most amazing trip to Warwick Castle. We were so lucky with the weather as the sun shone for us the whole day. Our trip was action packed from start to finish with so many highlights. We walked through the peacock garden and saw beautiful peacocks roaming around. We were lucky enough to see their feathers spread so we could see all the spectacular colours and patterns. We explored inside the castle and walked through many different rooms. We watched a brilliant show with horses which amazed us all. We had our lunch outside whilst watching a fantastic bird of prey show. We also spotted Lords, Ladies, Jesters and knights around the grounds throughout our day. The children were an absolute credit to the school and their families and we couldn't be more proud of each and every one of them, thank you Year 2 children.

Mrs Farley, Mrs Scott and Mrs Brassington



## **Trips**

We have had some amazing trips this term – Warwick Castle, Harry Potter World, Stonehurst Farm to name a few. It is so important to us that we give the children the chance to go out on visits as they not only enhance their learning but provide memorable experiences which stay long in the memory. We really try to keep the cost down to a minimum but often the coach companies and venues pass on their rising cost to their customers. We fully appreciate the cost of these trips can be expensive to you especially if you have several children in school. We do have a small pot to meet shortfalls but unfortunately if this is too high, we do have to consider if the trip can go ahead.

Please remember, if you are in receipt of free school meals, we are able to pay for your child.

We thank you for your support.

## **Telephone Lines**

We are excited to let you know that we will be updating our very ancient phone system to a super system with 4 lines which will mean that you should always be able to get through to us. There will be a dedicated absence line for you to leave a message about your child's absence. We are hoping this will be up and running in the new academic year but watch this space.



## **A new member to our office team**



We are really pleased to inform you that we have recruited to the post of Office Administrator. Mrs Becky Willett will be starting with us as of the new term. She has lots of experience and has come from Church Hill Infant School, one of our partner BEP schools.

We all look forward to welcoming her!

### Our new system – Arbor

We have now migrated to a new system, known as Arbor. Please make sure you have downloaded the App which Mrs Cox has sent out. This new system will be our 'one stop shop' where payments can be made for meals and trips, plus information regarding your own child can be seen.



### Dates for your diary

Year 6 visits to Charnwood – Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> June and Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June

Transition to new classes – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> June

Reports sent home – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July

End of term – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July

Term dates will be sent out through email. Please note the start of term is **Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August.**

### Healthy snacks and drinks



Here at Mercenfeld we encourage all our children to be healthy and hydrated. Please can we ask that snacks at break are fruit and drinks are water **not** juice. If children finish their drink during school time, we have water coolers available at school for them to fill up their bottles.

A reminder that in EYFS and KS1 children can access free milk though the Cool Milk scheme. However, after they turn 5 parents do have to register to ensure their child still gets milk. All children in EYFS and KS1 also get a free piece of fruit every day.



### Mercenfeld PTFA

We had a well-attended Annual General Meeting this term and we are so happy to announce the continuation of the group! Wonderful parents have stepped up fill to all the roles.

The groups will be meeting again, on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2pm at school to look to plan future events. Please do let us know if you are interested in joining the group.

Many thanks to PTFA who have kindly purchased Mercenfeld book bags for all our new EYFS starters.

### New catering contract

The Trust has this year gone out to tender regarding catering. We are pleased that we now have a company called Caterlink who will be providing the school meals from the start of the new academic year. Please bear with us regarding menus as the handover is happening during the summer. The menus will be uploaded to our website over the holiday. We do not expect a huge rise in cost.

We are expecting the new menu to be really appealing and hope that more children will take up the offer of a nutritious, healthy meal at school!



### Year 6

Our wonderful Year 6 cohort will be leaving us to take the next step on their educational journey. A reminder that their leavers production will be taking place on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July** and **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July** at 5.30 pm. The Tuesday performance will be the one at which presentations will be made.

We wish everyone of them well.



### Mrs Noon



It is also with great sadness we say a fond farewell to Mrs Noon, who will be retiring at the end of this term. Mrs Noon has been with us for 6 years and taught right across the school with a myriad of different hats including Deputy and Acting Head. I know you will all join us to wish her a wonderful, happy and healthy retirement. Thank you, Mrs, Noon for all your hard work and your dedication to Mercenfeld. We will miss you very much.

