



Merchenfeld Primary School

Autumn 2 2022 Newsletter



'Striving for Excellence'

It has been a really busy half term already. We have had several visitors that have really fired up everyone's enthusiasm and excitement for learning. Please read about them below.

Our PTA ran their first event of the academic year with a very successful Halloween movie night which sold out very quickly. Thank you to all of you who supported this.

Since the start of the term, we have been working on our visions and values. We feel that 'Striving for Excellence' encapsulates our drive as professionals in school to ensure we constantly work hard to do our best for our young learners. We also feel it empowers our children to be the best they can be supporting them to become lifelong learners, equipping them for their futures.

As we approach Christmas there will be lots of events going on, both in school and out, some of which you will see in this edition of the newsletter. We are really excited about our whole school trip to the pantomime to see Sleeping Beauty on Wednesday 14th December at Loughborough Town Hall. We thank the PTA for paying towards the trip as part of their Christmas present to the children.

I continue to enjoy seeing you all in the morning. Please do pop over for a chat!

Thank you for your continued support to the school.

Mrs Randle

Interim Head



Children in Need

Spotty and Dotty Day



You raised a fabulous £229

Thank you for your donations and your fabulous outfits!

Our Uniform

A reminder that our uniform is:

- **Sweatshirt** – Red with or without the school logo.
- **Cardigan** – Red with or without the school logo.
- **Polo shirt** – White with or without the school logo.
- **Trousers** – Black or grey, NOT jeans, leggings or combat trousers
- **Skirts** – Black or grey.
- **Pinafore Dresses** – Black or grey.
- **Summer Dress** – Red and white checked dress
- **Footwear** – Practical sensible plain black shoes or trainers.
- **Coats & Jackets** – An appropriate coat or jacket depending on the weather
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All items should be **plain with no logos**, only the school Mercenfeld logo if you choose to buy one from our suppliers. All information is on our school website

See below for our PE kit.

We would kindly ask that all items are marked with children's names. Please do check that this is still visible, as after a few washes it may disappear!

Thank you for your support on this matter.

Mercenfeld Local Advisory Board (LAB)

We are pleased to welcome two new parent governors to our LAB .Ellen Hetaj and Matt Beighton attended their first meeting at the start of the month. Matt Beighton will also be our Chair.

Thank you to both for supporting the school and we look forward to seeing them in school for their visits and meetings.



Attendance and Punctuality

We continue to closely monitor absence and punctuality. We do write to parents if children are late to school on more than one occasion.

A reminder that we will not authorise any holiday in school time and any absence for holidays may result in us having to refer the absence onto Leicestershire County Council for a Fixed Penalty Notice. Please be advised that the school does not get any of the money from the fines that are collected.

We politely request that you do not make any medical appointments within school time.

Please see the information from the Trust regarding school attendance. We do endeavour to work in partnership with you if you have issues regarding attendance and punctuality. Our Trust Attendance and Welfare Officer, Di Cresswell, is available to work with us to support you.

Anti-Bullying Week

This week, we have all taken part in Anti-Bullying Week.

On Monday, we all enjoyed wearing odd socks to celebrate our differences.

Throughout the week, we have taken part in lots of different learning activities, focusing on this year's theme 'Reach Out.'

We have talked about how to 'Reach Out' if we have any worries about bullying and who we can reach out to.

We talk about STOP as a way to understand what bullying is and to support us.





Writing Workshop

On Wednesday 9th November, the children were lucky to have a visit by local author Matt Beighton who delivered a whole school writing work shop.

Every child was able to participate in writing a whole school story that was shared in an assembly at the end of the day. It was fantastic to see the enthusiasm from the children as they shared their ideas and creativity.

Thank you to Matt for answering their questions and inspiring future authors here at Mercenfeld.

KS2 Carol Concert

We are currently arranging our KS 2 Carol Concert with Year 3 taking the lead on the morning of Tuesday 13th December. More details to follow via Arbor!



Christmas Craft Market and Christmas Jumper Day

We are really excited to announce, our school council children have voted to hold a Christmas Craft Market!

This will take place after school on **Friday 9th December** in the school hall and in Orca's classroom.

All KS2 children will be making craft and food items to sell.

Please come and join us for this festive event.

We are going to combine it with wearing our Christmas jumpers that day so the whole school will be looking super festive!



Spotlight on.....

Our Dinner Supervisors



Mrs Frid
Dinner
Supervisor
Manager



**Miss
Rostock**



**Mrs
Kinton**



**Mrs
Hargadon**



**Mrs
Abdullah**



**Mrs
Hollinshead**



**Mr
Booton**



**Miss
Platts**



**Miss
Hurst**



**Miss
Thompson**



**Mrs
Havers**



**Miss
Pinsent**

Our Dinner Supervisors, led by our Midday Manager Mrs Frid, work tremendously hard during their short time in school each day. They support the children in the dinner hall, helping them with their packed lunches, encouraging them to eat their dinner and try new things as well as being friendly, nurturing and kind.

Some of our Cover Supervisors and LSA's also have a dinner supervisor role so this helps to ensure a smooth transition from class time to dinnertime.

We are enormously lucky to be able to work with ME Sports who provide several high quality coaches who engage the children in more structured sports activities during dinner time.

Our Dinner Supervisors also support the children outside, talking, chatting and being on hand to sort out any issues that night take place on the playground. All are approachable and trusted by our children.

The majority of our dinner supervisors are also first aid trained.

We are very proud to have such dedicated and nurturing staff on hand for our children at lunchtimes.

Sad Goodbyes



Mrs Cox



Mrs Abdullah



Mrs Parkinson

Mrs Cox has secured a senior HR role at the Trust. We are tremendously thankful to Mrs Cox who has worked tirelessly to help to 'steady the ship'. We are so proud that she has got a central position and she will still be in our Trust to provide support and guidance to us.

Mr Abdullah (Mrs A!) will be moving into a very new position working for the NHS. A new direction and an exciting career change. We will miss Mrs A's amazing adaptability and her calm and unflappable attitude!

Mrs Parkinson will be moving on to work at Quorn Hall, working with children who have additional needs. Mrs Parkinson has made amazing relationships with both staff and children and will be missed.

We wish them every success in their new ventures and are enormously grateful for all their hard work and dedication to the school.

Christmas Production - EYFS and KS1

We are really pleased to be able to have our first Christmas concert since Covid!

EYFS (Koalas), Year 1 (Toucans) and Year 2 (Manatees) will be joining forces and putting on a Christmas concert, called **The Wriggly Nativity**

We will do several productions. However please be advised that we can only allocate 2 tickets per family due to space in the hall and that these will be allocated to each performance on a first come, first served basis.

Dates

Tuesday 6th December – 9.45 am morning performance

Wednesday 7th December – 2 pm afternoon performance

Thursday 8th December – 5.30 pm evening performance. Please bring children back to school for 5pm

All additional information will be sent out on Arbor.

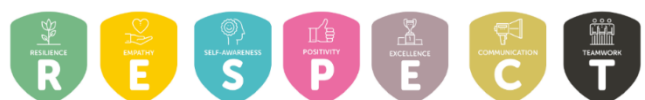


Commando Joe's

It is an exciting time at Mercenfeld in regards to our Commando Joe's character scheme.

In school, our classes are all taking part in **character missions** which the children are really enjoying. During these missions, children will be developing key skills such as communication, empathy, respect and teamwork. These missions also have many cross-curricular links recreating expeditions of significant figures.

We have now launched our **pupil passports** and it is great to see so many children engaging with this. Please do continue to encourage children to complete lots of tasks! Parents will be invited in during the last week of term to celebrate the children's successes with completing these passports – watch this space!



Twitter

We are now back on Twitter!

We will be using this as a sharing platform to post pictures about sports, celebration events and learning that has gone on at school.

Any other information will be still shared through Arbor.

Please do follow us!

@Mercenfeld_Sch



Christmas Menu



Tuesday 12th December

Roast Turkey

Or

Vegetable Wellington

Roast Potatoes, Pork
Chipolata, Carrots, Peas &
Brussels

Chocolate Frosted Xmas Cake
Or Gingerbread Biscuit



caterlink
feeding the imagination

Mercentfeld Sports

Basketball

On Thursday 9th November we took some children to participate in the Hinckley and Bosworth Year 5/6 Basketball tournament at Bosworth Academy.

The children did superbly. They won both their group games but narrowly lost in the final. However we have qualified for the level 2 tournament against all of the winners and runners-up from around Hinckley and Bosworth. This will be coming up in January.



We have also been working closely with professional BBL team, the Leicester Riders. The Riders coaches have been coaching our Year 6s in PE and will be working with some other year groups in the near future. We were visited by Darian Nelson-Henry, the Riders captain, who talked to the children in assembly about his career and offered some super advice on how to become a professional sportsperson. The Riders coaches will be coming in to work with some of our Basketball teams to get them ready for a tournament at the Morningside Arena, the home of the Leicester Riders.



I will let you know of any ticket offers I am able to get through our association with the Leicester Riders and we also hope to be able to take some children to watch a Riders game in the near future. Keep up to date with all of this through Arbor or our new Mercentfeld Twitter account (@Mercentfeld_sch).



Sports Leaders

Well done to all of the Year 5 and 6 children who completed their Sports Leaders training in school with Martin from the School Sport Partnership. Your new skills will be very useful in school; helping with sport with younger children and also doing a few sports jobs for Mr Perkins!

World Cup- Qatar 2022

Children will be learning about the FIFA World Cup in school and will have the opportunity to watch England's opening game against Iran on Monday 21st November (1pm Kick Off).

Children will also be learning about specific countries who are taking part in the World Cup and each class will have a couple of countries to support. If their class country wins then there will be a reward for the winning class. These countries will be drawn before the tournament begins.

Finally we will be setting the children a challenge at home to design a Mercenfeld World Cup kit. Children will pay £1 to enter and will have to design a kit. Key Stage 1 will also have to complete a spot the difference to enter and Key Stage 2 will need to complete a World Cup crossword. The winning design from each Key Stage will then be made into an actual football shirt for the winner to keep! Runners up will receive a football each. We hope lots of you get involved in designing these kits!

E-safety Meeting for Parents

A message from Miss Ma.

Thank you for those who attended the parent e-safety meeting. I hope it was useful to you and that you have found some ways in which you can engage in conversation with your child about how to be safe online.

It was great that we were able to chat and share ideas on how we can further develop our children's knowledge of the online world.

We only had a very small turn out but those that attended said how useful and important it was. I am therefore going to run the meeting again on **Wednesday 15th February at 2.30 pm** in the hall. This is an earlier time so you can attend before you collect your children.

I look forward to seeing you there!



Mercenfeld PE Kit

At Mercenfeld Primary we wear the following for PE.

This is so we can show who we represent in local competitions and also show our pride in being part of the Mercenfeld Primary School Community.



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



Pumps
Elasticated black PE pumps



Jogging Bottoms
Plain black with no logos



Trainers
An inexpensive black pair of trainers for outdoor P.E.

PE Kit with the Mercenfeld Logo is available but not essential.

This is available from Liss Sport or School Trends

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

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

After School Clubs



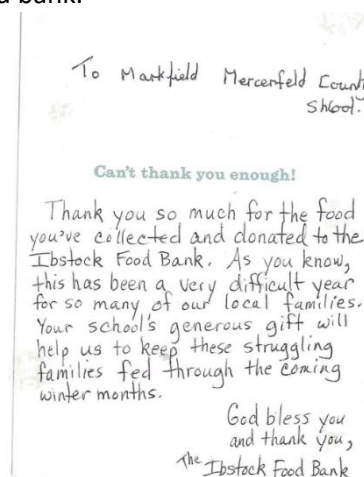
Monday - Performing Arts
Tuesday - Art & Crafts
Wednesday - Multi-Sports
Thursday - Football
Friday - Dodgeball

The clubs run from 3.30pm to 4.30pm and cost £3.50 per child per session.

You can book directly through ME Sports - by phone on 01530 242706 or email bookings@megroup-uk.co.uk or you can collect a form from the office.

Our Harvest Collection Donation to Ibstock Food Bank

Thank you so much for all of your generous donations at Harvest. We were blown away by the amount! We have since received a lovely thank you from the food bank.



Safeguarding

Here at Mercenfeld we take safeguarding and child protection seriously.

Please do access our Safeguarding and Child Protection policy via our website.

https://www.mercenfeld.bepschools.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/12/2022/09/Mercenfeld-Primary-BEP-Child-Protection-Policy-2022_23.pdf

**Safeguarding is
Everyone's
Responsibility**

'Talk the Talk' Event

Three of our talented Year 6 children were selected to represent our school at the 'Talk the Talk' event held on Thursday 17th November. At this annual event three Year 6 students from 11 local primary schools took 5 minutes each to present to an audience about topic that they were interested or passionate about. Taking place in the theatre at Brookvale Groby Learning Campus, to a filled auditorium, our brave and clear speakers gave informative and engaging presentations. Huge congratulation to:



Ewan Hossack talking about Ukraine

Amelie Thompson talking about Kick Boxing

Alyssa Thompson talking about Guide dogs

We were tremendously proud of you!



Year 6 African Workshop

With our Year 6 children studying black history within their Maafa topic, we thought it would be a great idea for them to take part in a workshop.

This meant specialists within African music, dancing and singing came in to school giving the children the opportunity to really understand African culture!

They put on a performance to parents at the end of the day and great fun was had by all!



Merckenfeld PTA News



Earlier in the term we launched a competition in school to look for a new logo for our PTA. We were amazed at the creativity and hard work that clearly went into everyone's designs. It was incredibly difficult to narrow it down to the final few and even harder to choose the winning design. However, congratulations go to **Darcey** in Huskies whose design was chosen as our winning entry. The design will soon be featured on our posters and Facebook page - well done Darcey!

Thank you to everyone who supported our Spooky Movie Night in October, we loved seeing everyone's enthusiasm and we raised over £235.

Another thank you goes to everyone who has supported us by ordering Christmas gifts from Xmas4Schools which has raised £211 so far. All of the funds raised go towards items to benefit each and every child and we are pleased to be able to support school in providing additional reading books for the children.

We are also thrilled to have been able to contribute towards a large part of the festive pantomime ticket cost and we hope that everyone enjoys a fun and well-deserved afternoon away from the classroom.

To kick-start the countdown to Christmas we will be selling raffle tickets to win one of two amazing advent calendars which have been generously donated to help us raise additional funds. One is a lego calendar and the other is from Smiggle. Both look absolutely fabulous. Tickets are £1 each and will be on sale next week at 3.10pm at "the hut" near the school gates on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

Carol

PTA Chair