

Weekly Newsletter

Friday 4th October 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Well done to the two classes with the best attendance for the period 23.9.19 – 27.9.19. They are as follows: -

Early Years & KS1 –RRJ– 97.9% KS2 –6JP – 97.4%

There is a dip in the figures this week. This is predominantly due to a sickness bug that has affected some of the children. Let's hope that there is an improvement in next week's figures ☺

Start of new Mini Missions!

All the children have started their new "Mini missions" this week and they are all based around Science!



Fun in Year 5

Year 5 had a great start to their week this week getting involved in their new "Minion Mission", "Out of this world".

When the children came in to school on Monday, the teachers were trapped in the cupboard and turned into Minions by Gru. He had left a letter explaining that he had stolen the planets and if they wanted to save the universe they had to win them back. Their first mission was to seek out the information Gru had left and summarise what they had found. Good luck Year 5 in your mission! ☺



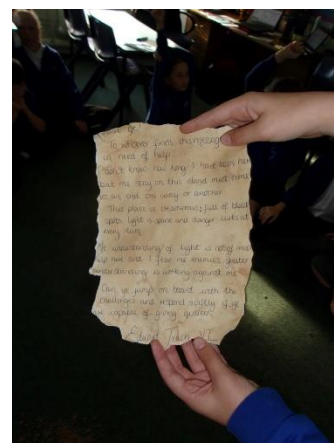
Year 6 find a message in a bottle!

Year 6 launched their new Mini Mission yesterday, "Let there be light". A stranded islander sent a message in a bottle asking for their help. Edward Teach VI is stranded on an island and the children are providing valuable information about light in order to aid his escape plans! Exciting developments to follow...



Harvest Festival

This year's Harvest Festival is fast approaching and plans are well under way to celebrate it in school. Only the children



in KS1 will be taking part this year and their Harvest celebrations will take place on;

Tuesday 22nd October (9:30 a.m.) – Year 1 & 2 only – KS1 Hall

Our nominated charity will be the local Women's refuge. If you would like to send food donations, preferably tinned items in date, or more traditional baskets of fruit, they would be gratefully received. Items of fresh food should be brought in to school no earlier than Monday 21st October and taken to the KS1 hall.

If you wish to join us in our celebrations, numbers are limited to 2 per family due to Health & Safety and our Fire Regulations.

I would like to also extend the request for food donations to the rest of the school as well. I know that many parents like to send in these traditional donations as they are given to such a wonderful cause. Thank you in advance for your support.

Year 4's budding scientists!

Year 4 created gigantic classification charts about animal groups this week. They had a focus on vertebrates and invertebrates. Pond Patrol to the rescue!



Flu immunization program – 2019/2020

Letters have been issued to the parents of all children in Reception to Year 6 this week, offering the flu immunisation within the school setting.

The immunisations will be taking place **on Wednesday 4th December** throughout the day. If you would like your child to receive it, please return the consent form as soon as possible so the correct amount of vaccinations can be ordered. If you have misplaced the form, please see Mrs Watkins in the office, she does have a few spare.

If you have any queries regarding this or require any further information, please either email; school.immunisation@mpft.nhs.uk or call 0300 124 0366. Thank you.

Macmillan coffee afternoon

Thank you to everyone who donated cakes for our Macmillan coffee afternoon on Monday and for everyone who supported us by coming along to enjoy a cake and a drink with your child.

It was lovely to see so many faces and the array of cakes was fantastic.

A huge thank you too to our PTFA ladies who ran the event for us this year. It takes a lot of hard work to set up and run events such as these so we are always really grateful to them for all their hard work.

The total raised was £256.60 which is amazing, and I believe we still have cakes left to sell too! This will be sent off to Macmillan as soon as possible.

Thank you again for your support.



Teddy Bear's Picnic

The children had a lovely time at their Teddy Bear's Picnic this week.

They enjoyed some tasty picnic food with their friends and it was lovely to see such a lovely range of their favourite teddies. We are looking forward to our next event.



Dress down day for Oscar!

Next Thursday, 10th October we are holding a non-uniform day for Oscar. Whilst Jemma's son, Freddie was receiving his treatment for cancer in Birmingham Children's hospital, he met Oscar.

Oscar is suffering from an acute form of Leukaemia and following numerous treatments including chemotherapy and a bone marrow transplant, sadly the cancer has returned.

The only chance he has of surviving this cruel disease is for his family to pay for some lifesaving treatment which isn't currently available on the NHS. The treatment costs £500,000 and the family only have eight weeks to raise the money. His appeal has gone nationwide and the support they are receiving is truly fantastic. They have raised just over £100,000 but they still have much further to go.



On the day, please send your child to school in non-uniform with a £1 donation for Oscar. If you would like to send in more, that would be wonderful, please bring these donations directly to the main office. Let's all work together to help Oscar and his family. A little can go a long way and if we all get behind this we can help to make a big difference. Thank you in advance for your support.

Book Start Bear Club

The Family Support Service have asked us to share some information with you on their "Book Start Bear Club".

This club is run by them for children aged 12 to 30 months where they enjoy sharing books and stories, bringing stories alive through puppets and props, bringing stories alive through fun drawing and having fun sharing rhymes. If you would like to take part with your child, you can call them directly on 01902 424147 to find out where the closest run sessions are taking place.



Alternatively, let the school office know if they attend Ducklings and you would like your child to take part in one of these sessions whilst they are at school. We can make a direct referral with your permission and if we submit enough referrals they will come in to the Ducklings setting to run the group. Please pop to the office and speak to Mrs Watkins or Mrs Clark (SENCO) if you require any further information. Thank you



Free School Meals

Now we have started the new school year, it is a good time to check if you are eligible for Free School Meals. This especially applies to children who have recently joined the school, especially in Reception. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are eligible for Universal Free School Meals but the school will still receive extra money and benefits for children who are eligible to Income based Free School Meals.

This means additional resources to support your child, including breakfast club access and some discounted school trips.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they'll remain eligible until they finish the phase of schooling (primary or secondary) they're in on 31 March 2022.

If you think you may be eligible simply visit

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

You will receive an instant answer when you apply which will be either a green tick or a red cross. If you received a green tick bring in confirmation to the office and we can record the entitlement straight away. Thank you.

October is Walk to School Month!

Every October is International Walk to School Month – an opportunity for children to join hundreds of thousands of pupils across the globe celebrating the walk to school.

Staffordshire County Council are encouraging families to walk to school throughout October in order to improve health and fitness and help the environment;

- Do you know that walking to school instead of driving can save a family up to £400 a year?
- A 15-minute walk or cycle to and from school will provide your child with half of their recommended daily exercise.
- Research has proven that children who walk to school are more alert in the classroom
- Over a third of parents say that their walk to school is where they find the most out from their children.

Piota – our new school app

Our new school App, Piota is a fantastic way of being kept informed of things that are going in within the school. This has replaced our texting service and has proved to be really popular so far. Over 95% of people own a smartphone or tablet and Piota is free to download. If you haven't already downloaded the app, please do so as soon as possible.



Once the app has been downloaded, search Piota schools and type in Norton Canes

Primary Academy. **Once the app is up and running, click on the lock symbol in the top right hand corner and follow the instructions to register your device.**

Apart from the Newsletter, which in subsequent weeks will continue to be uploaded on to the website, this will be our only form of communication so it's really important you download it and unlock it if you haven't already done so. Thank you.

Aldi

Thank you to everyone has brought in stickers from Aldi, we are doing really well but still have a long way to go!

Aldi have set up an initiative to get 1.2 million children eating healthier by 2020!

They are getting schools involved and providing learning materials to develop children's understanding and love of fresh, healthy foods.



Aldi have provided us with 2 large posters that will be situated in the KS2 office/library. Every time a member of

our community spends £30 in Aldi they will be given a special Team GB athlete sticker. Simply bring these stickers to the school office where you can stick them on the sticker chart we have received from Aldi.

There are 300 stickers to collect on each chart and once completed, if done so by 3rd November we may have the chance of winning £20,000! Please let all your family and friends know!! Thank you in advance for your support.

Book People Book Bus

I just wanted to let you know that we have booked The Book People Book Bus to come to school on **Thursday 19th December**. This is the same as the Book Fayre that we have previously held in school twice yearly, but instead of the books being on sale in the library, there will be a book bus in school all day. Parents will be able to visit the bus at the end of the day to buy competitively priced books for your children to enjoy or even for presents for Christmas! Children will be able to visit the bus during the school day. We will send out leaflets to you closer to the time giving you an idea of books that will be on sale.

Mrs. B. Hadley
(Head Teacher)

Dates for your diary

Thursday 10th October – Dress down day for Oscar

Tuesday 22nd October – Harvest Festival – Year 1 & 2 – 9:30am

W/C 28th October – October half Term

Monday 4th November – School opens

Friday 8th November – Remembrance Service for grandparents of children in Year 5 & 6 and Servicemen

Sunday 8th December – Year 3 & 4 – Lantern Parade

