



Mendell Primary School

October Newsletter 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a long half term this has been! The children have all been working so hard and have been carefully following our three schools rules: Be safe, be ready, be respectful. The 'be safe' rule has been especially important in light of COVID19 and children are being very sensible around school.

Should children need to isolate and stay at home, they are expected to complete school work as if they were in school. A full day's work will be set on our school website (on our remote curriculum page). We ask parents to submit work to the teachers via class Dojos. If you have any problems using Dojo please contact support@mendell.wirral.sch.uk as this line of communication is so important all the time but especially when we expect children to work from home.

Staffing update:

- Mrs Kearney, our Office Manager is leaving us at the end of this term. Mrs Kearney has been part of our Mendell team for over 20 years (an amazing 22 years!) and will be greatly missed. I know you will join me in wishing her all the very best and giving her our thanks for all her hard work and dedication.

- Mrs Sanati is starting her maternity leave shortly after half term, we wish her all the very best and look forward to exciting news of the new arrival. After recruiting for maternity cover in year 4, we are pleased to announce that Mrs Chee, who is an experienced, fully qualified teacher, will be job sharing with Mr Cowley. Mr Cowley will teach in the mornings (assisted by Mrs Chee) and Mrs Chee will be the class teacher in the afternoons.

We hope all the children (and staff) have a very well deserved rest over the half term holiday. Mr Cowley is looking forward to seeing which class will be the winner for TTRS over half term. As well as resting, please ensure your children still go on TTRS and Bug Club.

We also have a competition running over half term... we would like to rename our school houses. At the moment we have Beckham, Bunton, Deeley and McGregor. We are seeking suggestions from children as to what we could rename the 4 house teams. If children would like to enter the competition they can bring their ideas in during the first week back at school. The competition will close on Friday 6th November.

Please remember school is closed to pupils on Friday 23rd October as it is a staff INSET day, we will see you back at school on Monday 2nd November.

Mrs O'Neill Edwards



A reminder- if your child's attendance falls below an acceptable level you may be asked to provide medical evidence for any future absences.

Parking!

Please have consideration for our neighbours when dropping off/picking up your children and remember to follow the rules of the Highway Code with regards to parking near a junction.



Don't forget to follow your child's new class on Twitter for daily updates! @mendellf1

@mendellf2 @mendellyear1 @mendellyear2 @mendellyear3 @mendellyear4 @mendellyear5

@mendellyear6. You can also search by # to look at particular subjects

e.g. #mendellhistory #mendellmaths #mendellscience #mendellenglish etc



F.U.S.S.



Don't forget you can drop off any old uniform into school. It will be washed and sorted through by F.U.S.S. and will be available free of charge to anyone who requires any school uniform at the Methodist church in Bromborough.

Pop in any time the church is open to see what they have or for more information.

Holidays during term time are NOT permitted unless under "exceptional" circumstances. Requests must be given in writing to the Head Teacher 2 weeks PRIOR to the holiday for consideration.

All holidays that are taken during term time will be subject to fines from the local authority.

Coronavirus

Please remember if you or your child has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus you MUST inform us straight away, get a test and self-isolate until the results of your test come back.

Work will be set and uploaded to the school website every day, which we would expect your child to complete while isolating.

The main symptoms are:

- A new and continuous cough
- A loss or change of taste/smell
- A high temperature, ABOVE 37.8



Upcoming Dates

2 nd Nov	Back to school
8 th November	Remembrance Sunday
13 th November	Children In Need Day – (wear spots/stripes to school for £1)
27 th November	Flu Immunisation
18 th December	Break up for Christmas
4 th January	Back to School

Christmas 2020!

As we know things have been very different this year and we will be unable to hold our usual Christmas fair. We do however have a few activities lined up for the children to get involved with. These include the sale of Christmas bow ties and hair clips after half term, which children will be able to wear throughout December. More information will be sent home regarding all of this soon.

A few dates to remember are:

Wednesday 25th Nov – Winter movie night

3:30 – 5pm

£3 each, includes hot chocolate & small snack

Wednesday 2nd December – Elf Run

(Sponsor forms will be sent home for this shortly to raise money for the St Johns Hospice)

Wednesday 9th December – Christmas dress up day

£1 each

Wednesday 16th December – Christmas Party night

3:30 - 4:30pm

£3 each, includes hot dog & snack

Class Trips and Visitors

F1 - Our new Foundation 1 class is up and running and the children are just experiencing their first tasters of life at Mendell. We would really like to welcome all of our new families and children to our Mendell family. We have been learning all about our families and new friends, our new school environment, our rules and routines and having fun with new friends. It has been lovely to see the excitement on the children's faces and hear their laughter as they start on their learning journey. A BIG thank you to all parents and carers who have supported their child during their induction, it has helped all children to settle quickly.

F2 - F2 have settled into school life and new routines so well. They have enjoyed exploring their new environment and making new friends. We have spent lots of time talking about our families and things that are important to us. In our weekly Forest School sessions, we have explored our forest, made natural mobiles, autumn crowns and had a scavenger hunt. The children have loved reading *The Gingerbread Man* and completing lots of activities based on the book, including role play and baking their own gingerbread men. The gingerbread man has been leaving us clues about the story, letters and even a video clip which we have been very excited about!

Y1 - I am so proud of how Year 1 children have settled in this half term. They have loved getting to know their new environment and Year 1 provision. The children have enjoyed our 'catch up' English sessions with a focus on Black Lives Matter through the story 'Look Up' by Nathan Byron. We looked at a space suit and telescope during our book reveal. Another exciting topic has been our theme of 'Childhood' and we have looked in the past at ourselves and significant events from history.

Y2 - Year 2 have made a superb start to the year ahead! In English, the children have really enjoyed reading and exploring the text 'Look Up!' which taught them all about the astronaut Mae Jemison and her story inspired the children to believe in following their dreams for the future. During our Creative Curriculum topic 'Movers and Shakers' Year 2 have learned about significant people throughout history and particularly William Lever as a local historically significant figure. We participated in a number of Forest Skills sessions in our Forest School area, team building games, exploring nature and using our outdoor environment to support maths and English learning.

Y3 - Year 3 have enjoyed a fantastic first half term back at school. The children have really enjoyed looking at different street art as part of our theme 'Urban Pioneers.' A particular highlight was our zoom meeting with the artist Dotmasters. In our Q and A session with Leon. They had a tour of his study and found out interesting facts about scaling, stencilling and finding ideas from everyday experiences. We were extremely lucky to receive an original piece of artwork from Leon, which is currently on display outside of Year 3's classroom. Check out our class twitter page for photos.

Y4 - A huge well done to Year 4 who have settled in really well to their new class. Even though there are so many of us in our room they have been so sensible and focussed their learning on our Music topic. The big focus for Year 4 this term is TimesTables Rockstars (TTRS). The children have been working hard to try and play at least 20 minutes each day in school and 20 minutes at home each day. Being able to rapidly recall their multiplication and division facts for the times tables up to x12 is an important skill to prepare them to tackle UKS2 curriculum and beyond and is also a vital building block in their mathematical knowledge. Daily practise of their times tables will also prepare them for the national times tables test that all Year 4 children take in May.

Y5 - What a fantastic start to Year 5! The children have enjoyed reading our class text, 'Of Thee I Sing,' wrote a magazine article to celebrate 'Black Heroes' and raise awareness about some of the issues around racial discrimination. Following our theme, 'Alchemy Island,' the children went on a magical journey to find the gold hidden deep within the island's mysterious landscape. The only way was to study the map and unravel the riddle. They children did all they could to learn about gold and master the ancient art of alchemy. The children went on to compose a stunning soundtrack to bring this mysterious landscape to life, which you can see on our Twitter page @mendellyear5. Some of the children also took part in a Bikeability workshop where they learnt key skills on how to stay safe on the road.

Y6 - The children have settled in brilliantly and made a fantastic start to Year 6. They have really enjoyed our topic this half term 'A Child's War' and during our impact day, they loved dressing up as an evacuee and making model gas masks. They also worked hard to investigate and make Anderson shelters, which looked authentic. As part of our PSHE, Year 6 had a special virtual workshop to learn about parliament. They found out all about the House of Lords, the House of Commons and the role of MP's.