



# Happy New Year!

and valued.

I am sure that the news that the Prime Minister delivered on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January was not what any of us were fully expecting. I am sorry that the New Year has brought more restrictions and a near full closure of our school. I am certain, though, that our community will pull together in the same way that it did in March 2020. This week has already seen the introduction of our remote learning provision for most of our children. We will be offering a broad and balanced provision which is in line with the work happening in school. As part of the remote learning, teachers will be providing explanatory material, often in the form of videos or voice recordings.

If you think that your job is considered critical to the nation's response to coronavirus and the end of the Brexit transition phase, you should check the list on the Gov.Uk website. Our critical worker list is available on the school website – you must complete the form and return it to the school office before your child is offered a place. It is important that families who are eligible for this provision only make use of it when there is no other alternative. We find ourselves in another national lockdown where people are being actively told to stay at home.

Children who attend nursery are allowed to access this facility as previously which is in line with the Government expectation that all nursery classes remain fully open.

From Monday the CBBC channel will have a three-hour block of primary school programmes from 9am and CBeebies has a 'preschool lockdown timetable' available on iPlayer.

We are continuing to look at how we can improve access to learning for all children working at home. As part of this we are looking at how we can use Microsoft Teams. We will be sending out more information soon.

All learning whether it is remote or in school is following our usual curriculum at this point in the academic year. You will receive today the termly forecast for the Spring Term.

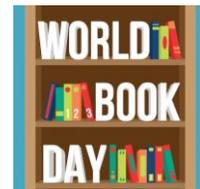
**Christmas Performances –** I am sure you were impressed and delighted with how wonderful the children were in the various Christmas performances we produced for you. We, as a staff, were very proud of the children, who really rose to the occasion. I would also like to thank all the staff who worked so hard to ensure that each performance ran smoothly and for giving the children the opportunities to shine.



**Starting School –** If your child is starting school for the first time in September you need to make your application for them now if you have not already done so. It is really important to apply by the deadline of Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January – this applies even if your child attends our school nursery.

**Behaviour Inclusion Lead Teaching Assistant Vacancy –** We are in the process of appointing a teaching assistant to work across the school. More information and details on how to apply will be live on our website and Reach South website very soon.

**World Book Day –** As a school we love to take part in World Book Day, as we want every child to develop a love of reading and to be able to read with confidence. We do encourage everyone to dress up (including staff). It is being held on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> March and we will be sending more information out shortly.



### **Attendance –**

Our average whole school attendance for the Autumn Term was **94.9%**, slightly below the national expectation of 96%.

Good attendance at school is vital to your child's education - recent research has found that more than 17 days missed from school can lead to a drop-in achievement. We want, with your support, for your child to reach their full potential - very high attendance will help us to achieve this.

Unfortunately, our PA (Persistent Absence) figure still remains extremely high at 12.3% - this is **DOUBLE** the national average! Your child becomes PA when their attendance drops below 90% due to ANY absence, whether this is authorised or unauthorised by school. We send letters to families when attendance falls below 95%. This is to let you know that your child's attendance has dropped below the national average of 96% and to offer support so we can improve their attendance rate. Further letters are sent when/if your child's attendance falls below the 90% making them a persistent absentee. The purpose of this is to inform you of your child's attendance rate and to offer support so that we can get your child into school every day.

If you have any worries/concerns about attendance, please call/email the school office and we will be happy to discuss these with you and offer support.

### **Curriculum News**

What an unexpected start to the year we have had! However, we have been as busy as usual beginning new projects across the school. Whether you are learning at home or with us in school, we will still be following the projects as if we were all in school together. In Year 6, 5 and 4 we have started or Geography led projects. Y6 are finding all about life in the South American country of Peru whilst Year 5 are discovering the American State of Arizona and Year 4 are learning about Iceland. Y3 have begun a DT project called Play the Game during which they will be designing their own games. In Year 2 the children are busy reading and writing poetry whilst in Year 1 the children have begun to find out about the Great Fire of London in 1666. Meanwhile the children in FS2 have begun their project - Going On A Bear Hunt, and are looking forward to exploring the outside areas of school whilst hunting for bears! The children in Nursery are busy with their 'Whatever the Weather' project and this week have been leaning all about cold weather, including snow, frost and ice – very fitting for our weather this week! We hope you are enjoying your learning at home – we have seen lots of great work on our Twitter account and are looking forward to seeing and sharing lots more!

**Friends of Malmesbury Park (FOMPPS) –** A happy New Year from everyone at FOMPPS. We hope that everyone managed to have a break and are ready for the challenges ahead. Don't forget that we are not alone as parents and can work together to support one another. Please take a look at our FOMPPS Facebook page.

We would like to thank everyone who supported our raffle as well as all the local businesses who contributed. We raised £684.51.

Although we can't hold lots of our usual fundraising events we do still have all our online initiatives:

<https://uk.gofundme.com/f/laptops-for-malmesbury-park-primary>

Amazon smile – this is the direct link to support FOMPPS:

<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1105949-0>

(Please note that FOMPPS is registered on Amazon Smile as Friends of Malmesbury Park Primary School)

Bournemouth Coastal Lottery – we have launched a lottery page. You can support the school and win prizes of up to £25,000. Tickets cost £1 per week and 50% of all tickets sold from the FOMPPS page come back to FOMPPS. To start supporting please visit:

[www.bhcoastallottery.co.uk](http://www.bhcoastallottery.co.uk) and search for FOMPPS.

We look forward to continuing to work with you. If you wish to get in touch you can do so by contacting the school office or joining our Facebook page.

**Polite Reminder** – We do ask that dogs do not come onto the school site, even when carried by an adult.



**Inset Day** – We have two Inset Days coming up this term on:  
Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February  
Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

When it is an Inset Day, no children come to school.

**Coats in Cold Weather** - As the weather turns colder and it is often cold and damp, please make sure your children come to school with a coat so that they stay warm when outside during lunch and break times.



### **Dates for Your Diary**

Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> Feb – Break for half term  
Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Feb – Inset day  
Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb – Inset day  
Tues 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb – Return to school  
Thurs 4<sup>th</sup> Mar – World Book Day  
Wed 31<sup>st</sup> Mar – Break for Easter  
Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> April – Inset day  
Mon 19<sup>th</sup> April – Return to school  
Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> May – Bank Holiday (School closed)  
Mon 10<sup>th</sup> May – Y6 SATs week  
Fri 28<sup>th</sup> May – Break for half term  
Mon 7<sup>th</sup> June – Return to school  
Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Inset day  
Mon 5<sup>th</sup> July – Inset day  
Fri 23<sup>rd</sup> July – Last day of term

**ADVERTS - Malmesbury Park School places all adverts in good faith. It should be noted however that the quality of products or services being offered have not been checked by the school nor are the school aware whether necessary DBS checks have been carried out. Malmesbury Park is neither encouraging nor discouraging any advert placed.**



**YOGA FOR LOCKDOWN**

**TUESDAY 12PM**  
LUNCH BREAK FEEL GOOD FLOW

**THURSDAY 6PM**  
RELEASE THE DAY FLOW

**FRIDAY 9.15AM**  
FLOW FOR STRENGTH

**SUNDAY 10AM**  
EASY LIKE SUNDAY MORNING

£6.50 per class or unlimited classes for 5 weeks £39  
60 minute Zoom classes

♡ Yoga for Everybody ♡

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