



Micklem Primary School

School News

Wednesday 20th December 2023

Reflection on our term

We've made it to Christmas! What an incredibly long term it has been, but it has been so full of learning and adventures that at times it has flown by!

This term has been full of exciting opportunities including: Reception's trip to St. Albans Cathedral; various sports trips and competitions; swimming on Micklem's playground; EYFS and KS1's Nativities; an OFSTED inspection; Carols Around the Tree; the return of School Discos; Christmas Craft Fayres and parent visits.

We have really enjoyed supporting the learning of your children this term and have seen them making progress as they develop their skills. We are looking forward to what the new year will bring and are more determined than ever to develop our own practice and continue to support your children.

We are excited to announce that from January (an as yet unspecified date) we will be working alongside Magic Breakfast to provide breakfast for every child in the school on a daily basis. Breakfast Club provision will remain as it is, but all children that arrive at school will be provided something to eat. We will send out further information in due course.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all of our staff, who work tirelessly to make Micklem a fantastic place to learn. They are always giving their all to ensure that your children get the best possible offer. I'm sure you will join me in thanking them for their never ending contributions. In regards to staffing we are saying an exciting 'see you soon' to Miss Courtnell, who will be starting her maternity leave in January. We wish her all the best and are looking forward to meeting her new arrival. We will also be welcoming Miss Jolly as our Year 4 teacher and welcoming back Mrs Walker as our Year 5 teacher. I'm sure that you will all make them feel incredibly welcome and part of the Micklem family.

Lastly, I would like to say a thank you to you, parents. You spend more time with your children than anyone, and it is with your support that we can make this school even better. I look forward to continuing to work with you in 2024 and wish you and your families a Very

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Be Kind. Show Respect. Aim High.

Mr. Swift

Attendance

1st September - 20th December 2023

| Nursery | Reception | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Year 4 | Year 5 | Year 6 |
|---------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 85.3% | 89.7% | 95.2% | 93.3% | 96.9% | 94% | 91.8% | 94.5% |

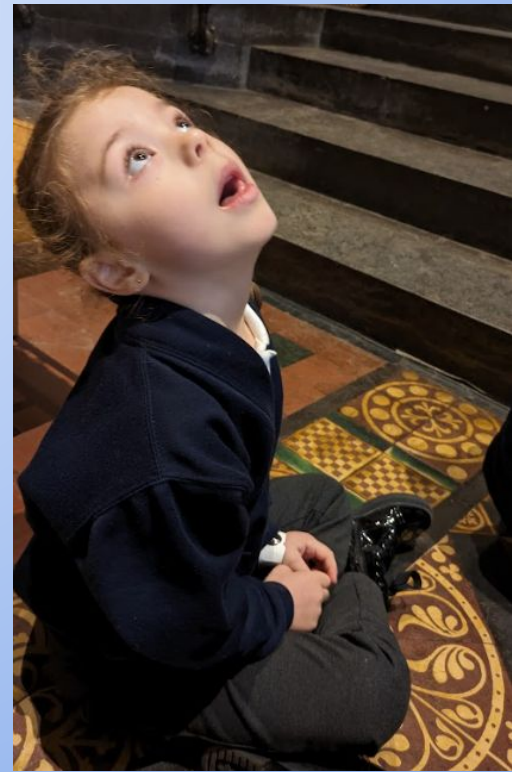
Class above our 95% target

Congratulations to these children who have produced an excellent piece of learning over the last couple of weeks. Well done to the following children for aiming high with their reading and achieving their reading awards.

| Learning of the Week 15th December | | | | | | | |
|---|-----------------|--|------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|---------------------|
| | R | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 15/12 | Wyatt Finlay | Alfie Jasmine George (reader) | Emberly James | Stefan Artem Sofia (reader) | Sophie James | Oliver Adrian | Delilah Michaela |

| Upcoming Dates | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Date | Event |
| 08/01 | Children Return to School |
| 15/01 | Nursery Application Open |
| 18/01 | Census Day |
| 23/01 | Year 3 Target Games at Hemel Hempstead School |
| W/C 05/02 | Children's Mental Health Week |
| 06/02 | Safer Internet Day |
| 15/02 | Valentines Disco |
| 19/02 - 23/02 | Half Term Holiday |
| 26/02 | Children Back to School |
| 07/03 | World Book Day |
| 08/03 | Mother's Day Gift Sale |
| W/C 11/03 | Neuro-Diversity Week |
| 15/03 | Red Nose Day |
| 21/03 | Nursery Open Morning |
| 22/03 | Nursery Application Close |
| 28/03 | Children Finish School at 1:30 for the Easter Holidays |





What did your children find exciting in their recent learning?

Reception

'I really like singing' - Bella
'I like making cards for people' - Josh and Finlay
'I really enjoyed the Christmas party' - Wyatt and Ayla

'I really liked dancing at the party' - Zuzanna

We all enjoyed our trip to the Abbey, our disco, our craft day with our families and of course, our nativity play!!

Year 1

I had so much fun singing in our Christmas production- Jasmine

I really enjoyed learning all our cool dance moves for the play- Harry G

Year 2

I have enjoyed learning my times tables in maths this term as well as D&T - Jason

I have enjoyed Science this term - Liz

Year 3

In Maths I enjoyed measuring with jugs, rulers and weighing scales - Ama

In DT, Cam and I made a Dinosaur egg toy. When you blew up a balloon the egg hatched - Leo K

Year 4

We learnt all about Christingles and enjoyed making our own version - Year 4

Year 5

I loved DT as we got to make moving toys. - Jessica

I've enjoyed English, especially the book, 'The Boy in the Tower' - Albert

Science. It's been great learning about forces and doing experiments - Jessie

Year 6

"We enjoyed learning about fairground rides and we added circuits to make them move"

"We loved reading the Letters of the lighthouse"

SEND and Family Support Information

DSPL8 Parent/ Carer Newsletter and Dacorum SEND Courses, Support & Information for Families

DSPL8

Delivering Special
Provision Locally

The latest 'DSPL8 Parent/Carer Newsletters' & 'Dacorum Parent/ Carers courses and support: Spring 2024' are available to download from DSPL8's website via the following link: <https://dacorumspl.org.uk/online-resources-for-parents-and-carers/>

Their most recent newsletter includes:

- Update on DSPL8 Communications
- Job opportunities to develop whole family SEND work in Hertfordshire
- DSPL8 Dacorum Families SEND Information Fayre: 07.12.2023
- ADD-vance Drop-in Consultations: 10.01.2024
- SEND Surgery: 23.01.2024
- DSPL8 EBSA Coffee Morning: 30.01.2024
- Anxiety Unravelling Course by Bounce Forward: 28.02.2024-13.03.2024
- Spring Term DSPL8 Parent/Carer Support

Anxiety Unravelling
Supporting my child with Anxiety

Highlights

- Three, 60-minute sessions
- Live or on-demand
- Lifetime access

A three-session online course for parents

The world around us can generate plenty of uncertainty and affect the way we go about our daily lives.

You may be more worried than usual or perhaps you are in the midst of a growing cycle of worry and concern that you'd like to unravel. **You are not on your own.**

"Learning about these strategies to help us deal with anxiety was particularly useful and learning these to help manage my own anxiety as well as my son's."

Join us for a series of three 60-minute sessions to explore anxiety. The sessions will provide a space to think about your own responses and provide practical tips and advice that you can use at home to help your children develop their resilience to anxiety.

[Click here to register](#) [Find out more](#)

Dacorum Parent/Carer courses and support available from various local providers:

- Parenting Courses and Support in Dacorum Spring Term 2024
- HAPpy Camps
- SPACE Hertfordshire: December Activities
- Potential Kids: December Activities
- New Herts Haven Café for young people's emotional wellbeing opens in Hemel Hempstead
- Relationship Support for parents
- Neurodiversity Support Hub
- SEND Drop-in sessions

SPACE Hertfordshire: December Activities

Eventbrite: [SPACE HERTFORDSHIRE Events | Eventbrite](#)

DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

Booking now open

| | |
|------------|---------------------------------|
| Fri 1st | Children's Online Art |
| Sat 2nd | Driving |
| Sat 2nd | Therapeutic Farming |
| Sun 3rd | The Patch Outdoor Play |
| Mon 4th | Junior Online Cooking |
| Mon 4th | Teens Online Cooking |
| Wed 6th | Online Lego Club |
| Thurs 7th | Wellbeing Walk |
| Sat 9th | Jump City - Christmas Special |
| Sat 9th | Aerial Gymnastics |
| Sat 9th | Little City - Christmas Special |
| Fri 15th | Teens Online Art |
| Sat 16th | Driving |
| Wed 20th | Ranger Stu Virtual Zoo |
| Thurs 21st | Wildlife Mosaics |

[We hope you can join us!](#)
Book your place on the SPACE Eventbrite - SPACE Hertfordshire

SPACE
Autism | ADHD | Neurodiversity Conditions

Follow DSPL8's social media pages for their most recent updates:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/dspldacorum

Instagram: www.instagram.com/dspl_dacorum

SEND and Family Support Information

Neurodiversity Support Hub

For Parents, Carers and Professionals

We can offer support, signposting and guidance about a whole range of things including but not limited to:

- Understanding ADHD/Autism
- Distressed Behaviours
 - Anxiety
 - School

No
Diagnosis
Required

The phones are answered by our team of parents and carers of neurodivergent children and young people

Are you a
Parent, Carer
or
Professional?



01727 833963



We Can't :

- Give updates/ fast track places on waiting lists
- Recommend specific private assessors



supporthub@add-vance.org

Open Monday-Friday
9 AM - 1PM



Here to support, reach out for a listening ear





Bookmark



Help a child learn to read

This year our school is working with Bookmark, a children's literacy charity that links schools with volunteers to provide children with extra reading support.

You can help a child develop the reading skills and confidence they need for a fair chance in life. 30 minutes, twice a week, for six weeks.

As a Bookmark volunteer, you'll help your community and make a huge difference to a child.

**SIGN UP
TODAY**



[bookmarkreading.org/
volunteer](https://bookmarkreading.org/volunteer)

Registered Charity No. 117768

READING MATTERS!

HERE'S THE IMPACT OF READING 20 MINUTES PER DAY!

A STUDENT WHO READS



WILL BE EXPOSED TO

1,800,000

WORDS PER YEAR

282,000

WORDS PER YEAR

8,000

WORDS PER YEAR

AND IS MORE LIKELY TO SCORE IN THE



ON STANDARDIZED TESTS!

Source: Hoag, Anderson, and Herman, 1997

9 Ways Reading Benefits Children

1. Reading increases creativity and imagination.
2. Reading together builds strong family bonds.
3. Reading expands a child's vocabulary.
4. Reading opens minds to new and diverse people, places, and situations.
5. Reading is fun and helps children relax after a stressful day.
6. Reading promotes and enhances critical thinking skills
7. Reading teaches children about the complex world we live in.
8. Reading promotes positive communication in families.
9. Reading helps build character.

