



Micklem Primary School

School News

Friday 10th November 2023

Reflection on our learning

Already two weeks completed since half term and we are now racing towards Christmas! I love Christmas in primary schools, it is a time of joy, creativity and excitement. We have dates for our EYFS and KS1 productions, Christmas Fayre, Carols Around the Tree and more. We look forward to inviting you in to more events over the coming weeks.

As for the last couple of weeks, we have seen fantastic learning taking place and children are starting to talk excitedly about the learning that they have been doing in class. I am really proud of how hard our children are working at the moment and look forward to seeing how far this will take them. It has been brilliant to hear the level of enjoyment coming from the swimming pool over recent weeks and children have been desperate to tell me all about it.

Have a fantastic weekend and stay safe.

Be Kind. Show Respect. Aim High.

Mr. Swift

Reading

This past few weeks has flown by and we are excited to have received a lot of new books from our Ready, Steady, Read event and from the money from our book sale. Children have already started to enjoy these. Our school library will be opening soon and more new titles are available here as well.

Next Wednesday, we are excited to be welcoming children's author Olaf Falafel to speak to children about his books. This will be an interactive assembly with the chance for a book signing at the end. Please pre-order your books via the Arbor School Shop before the event.

Please continue to support your child with reading at home- it is a vital skill and it will help them to achieve in all areas. We have awarded our first certificates for completed bookmarks and are looking forward to our first golden ticket draw at the end of term.



Attendance

30th October - 10th November 2023

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
83.3%	93.3%	96.7%	93.2%	98.1%	96.3%	91.2%	96.3%

Class above our 95% target

Congratulations to these children who have produced an excellent piece of learning over the last couple of weeks. It was brilliant in assembly to hear you telling me all about your learning and how hard you have been working. What a fantastic way to show how you are aiming high!

Learning of the Week

N	R	1	2	3	4	5	6
Ana	Mohammed	Harry C	Daniel	Sofia	Lewis	Emmanuel	Godfred
Jonny	Alessya	Alexis	Amber	Cam	Riley	Albert	Liana

Well done to the following children for aiming high with their reading and achieving the first reading awards.

Bronze	Silver
Oliver (6), Liana (6), Emma (5), Janel (5), Paige (5), Emmanuel (5), Archie (5), Amelia (4), Antonia (4), Iris (4), Saule (3)	Iris (4), Liana(6)

School Council

Congratulations to our new School Council, who were elected to represent our school by the children in each of their classes. They are all eager to get to work!

N	R	1	2	3	4	5	6
Leia	Vinnie	Harley	Harleigh	Rhiannon	Lewis	Isabella	Frenki
Liam	Angel	Ayla	Jason	James	Olivia	Ollie	Darcie

Their first meeting with Miss Evans was a positive conversation around Mental Health and Anti-Bullying. They came up with the idea of bringing back peer mediators to support handling disputes on the playground at lunchtime. I think this is a fantastic idea and will support our children to speak to one of their peers if they are finding lunchtimes difficult. The peer mediators will receive training to support them in conflict resolution, problem solving and how to set up a range of activities for children to engage in. School Council will be presenting this idea to their peers in an assembly on Monday afternoon.

I think this is a really good start for our School Council, and is something that will definitely improve our school further - great job team!

Swimming Pool

We have come to the end of our three weeks of swimming. I am sure that you will agree that it has been a really positive addition to our school, and that your children have enjoyed learning to swim this way. Thank you for your support in trying something different, we will be analysing the progress made by pupils after their last assessment and make a decision on whether we continue to use this form of swimming tuition in future years. The swimming pool will be taken down next week, so please ensure that you continue to keep your children away from the marquee at drop off and pick up times.

Remembrance and Poppy Work

Today, Friday 10th November 2023, we held a two-minute silence in the hall at 11am to remember those that gave their lives for our freedom. All of our children participated in the silence and we looked at how this was a key way of following one of our school rules - 'Show Respect'.

In the afternoon, every class carried out learning and a variety of activities around the different types of poppies that are available at this time of year.

Red - Memorial to World War One and following conflicts

Purple - To remember animal victims of war.

Black - Commemorates the contributions of black, African and Caribbean communities to the war effort.

White - Remembers those who died in conflict with a focus on an end to war.

They will not grow old, as we that are left grow old.



What did your children find exciting in their recent learning?

Nursery

This week we have been learning about Guy Fawkes and why we have Bonfire Night. The Nursery children said "We played outside. We had a bonfire for fireworks and we had marshmallows . . . The houses, blew them down." We also did firework science experiments. The children noticed "they explode ... they are bubbling and fizzing ... it was amazing!"

Reception

This week we have been reading 'Pumpkin Soup', and we made our own delicious soup. We learnt how to cut with a knife safely. "Our soup is delicious and yummy"
Rosa.

We also went to the Wildlife Area and made a campfire with Miss Evans. "She had magic to change the flames blue!"
Alessya.

Year 1

"In History, we have been learning about toys from the past. My favourite toy was the horse."
Charlotte

"We have been learning about Stanley's stick in English and we made our own fishing rod. I caught a rainbow fish."
Arison

Year 2

In History, we have started learning about the great fire of London. "We enjoyed fitting the pieces together that looked into what might have caused the fire and what roles some people played"
Orla-Willow, Liz and Poppi.

Year 2 have also started to learn and practice the songs for the nativity.

Year 3

In English we wrote a description of the horrid, evil Miss Hardbroom. She makes cruel jokes and laughs when the children are disappointed.
EMILYC-M

In Science we investigated about rocks. We poured a weak acid on the rocks to see if they bubbled. We scratched the rocks with sandpaper to see which were durable.
Hriyaan

Year 4

In History we've been learning about Anglo Saxons and Vikings. We've been learning about raids and legions. In Guided Reading, we've been reading a poem called 'Firework' by Enid Blyton. We've been learning about the narrator who was a dog or maybe a cat...
Amelia and Antonia

Year 5

Year 5 have really enjoyed the start of our novel 'Boy in the Tower' in English lessons-

"Just one more chapter" has chorused around the classroom more than once this week! Ask us what it's about- it is thrilling and we can't wait to find out what happens next!
Year 5

Year 6

In English we are looking at the 'Letters from the lighthouse' and we have just written a postcard addressed to mum. I liked learning about different features that I can include to improve my work.
Olivia

'In D.T we looked at different fairground rides, how they move and what functions they have.'
Kuba.

Upcoming Dates

Date	Event
14/11	Year 2 Multi-Sports
15/11	Author Visit - Olaf Falafel
16/11	Active Literacy - Year 4
17/11	Anti-Bullying and Children in Need Day
21/11	Kittle Individual and Sibling Photos
24/11	Occasional Day - School Closed
29/11	No Pens Day
07/12	Glow Christmas Disco
13/12	KS1 Christmas Performance 9:15am
13/12	Grandparent Craft Afternoon
13/12	KS1 Christmas Performance 6pm
14/12	Christmas Fayre
19/12	EYFS Christmas Performance 9:15am
20/12	Carols Around the Tree 9:15
20/12	Christmas Dinner Day
20/12	Christmas Jumper Day
20/12	School ends at 1:30pm
08/01	Children Return to School

Celebrating Cultures Day

On 'Celebrating Cultures' day, we came together to celebrate the cultural diversity and different traditions that make up our school community, and inspire our students to explore and appreciate different cultures and to continue to celebrate and honour their own cultural heritage. A big thank-you goes out to everyone who volunteered and helped make the day a success. It was lovely to see so many of our school community sharing things from their cultural heritage and learning about the cultural heritage of others. We're already looking forward to building on this next year!



SEND and Family Support Information

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



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

DSPL8 will now produce newsletters **once per half-term**, instead of fortnightly. Their last newsletter included:

- SEND Surgery: 21.11.2023
- DSPL8 EBSA Coffee Morning: 23.11.2023
- DSPL8 Dacorum Families SEND Information Fayre: 07.12.2023. Register attendance on Eventbrite: <https://dspl8sendinfofayre071223.eventbrite.co.uk>
- Autumn Term DSPL8 Parent/ Carer Support



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

- HPCI Parent/Carer Survey
- Children's Wellbeing Practitioner Workshop: Autumn 2023
- Families Feeling Safe Online Courses
- Up on Downs Autumn 2023 Newsletter
- NESSie In Ed: Parent/Carer Chat & Connect Session & Free Online Parent/ Carer Workshops
- SEND Drop-in sessions
- Parenting Courses and Support in Dacorum Autumn Term 2023



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

Facebook: www.facebook.com/dspldacorum

Instagram: www.instagram.com/dspl_dacorum

AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

TRIXIE PICKLE

Olaf Falafel

is coming to our school
with his new books on

WEDNESDAY 15th NOVEMBER



BLOBFISH



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.

