



Micklem Primary School

Newsletter 9th May 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

We've had a busy start to our half term and we are very much back in the swing of things. Next week we will be re-starting our enrichment offer with a wide variety of clubs for the children to enjoy. Thank you to all the staff who are happily giving up their time to provide these..

Next week is 'Taking Science Outdoors' week. The clue is in the title and all year groups will be having a focus on learning outside and particularly linking this to science. We would like to invite parents into school on Thursday 19th May (which is a national Outdoor Classroom Day). We would like parents to arrive for 2pm. There will be a short talk on how we teach science in school and then you will be invited to see this in action. I hope you will join us. If any of our parents are scientists or are connected to scientists we would love to hear from you. The following week, prior to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, every year group will be focussing on the popular culture of each decade the Queen has been on the throne - right up to the current decade. Any parents who could contribute to this - either with 'artefacts' or who would be willing to share elements of their own experiences - please get in touch. The decades have been shared out as follows - Fifties - Y6, Sixties - Y5, Seventies - Y4, Eighties - Y3, Nineties - Y2, Noughties - Y1, Teenies - Reception, Present - N

We have signed up for the Jubilee 'Big Lunch' and will be inviting parents to join us on Friday 27th May to join in with our community celebrations. We hope that (weather permitting) we will be able to enjoy a community picnic together. We are planning activities and will be holding open classroom sessions to share our learning from the week. Specific details will come in a separate letter so please look out for it. Year 6 children will be on a different adventure at Sky Studios, this was the only day available for the trip, children were given the choice and overwhelmingly wanted to learn about how TV news was produced at Sky Studios.

Thank you for the efforts with school uniform. Now children are bringing PE kit into school, standards have risen and everyone looks much smarter. Please do not send your child into school in PE Kit unless specifically invited.

Attendance

This continues to remain a priority for us. We are working extremely hard to support the children to overcome the impact of the last two years on their education. We will continue to be relentless in our challenge to poor attendance. After such disruption please support your child by making sure they are in school every day and on time! There is a buzz in our school at the moment - now life is returning to normal we are returning to the excitement of trips, visitors, workshops and the opportunity to share all this with you. Don't let your child miss out.

Best wishes

Miss Ormonde



'Wellies in the wood' - our Micklem Toddler Group has started in our Forest School. Every Tuesday from 9:15 at our Hawthorn Lane entrance - all welcome. Babies and Toddlers have a fantastic area to explore with lots of activities if they want to 'have a go'. Come and give us a try - for further information speak to Miss Ormonde or Clare Cavenagh-Mainwaring and Caroline Hogan (both linked to Year 1).

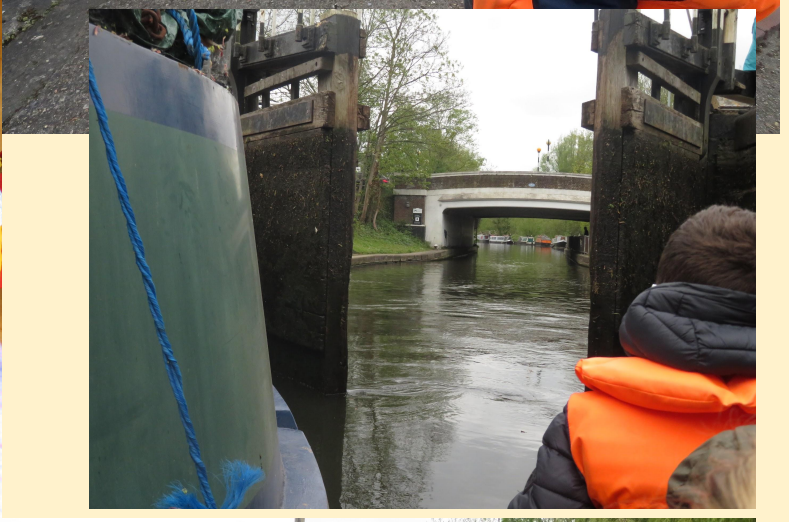


Lots of life skills were developed in Forest Schools last week. Linked to our Design Technology curriculum, children prepared and cooked a ratatouille as part of a Forest School session with Miss Evans. Most importantly this included clearing up after themselves. I hope the children enjoyed this healthy and tasty vegetable dish.

It is our ambition that every year group completes a half term session of Forest Schools this year. The aim of the initial 6 weeks is to introduce children to the expectations, safety rules and the joy of being outdoors. This will be built upon next year with the aim of every year group experiencing two terms of learning through Forest School. **Congratulations to Miss Evans on achieving her Forest School Leader accreditation. In a short period of time Miss Evans has set up our Forest School and enabled many children to enjoy the benefits.**

At Forest school we teach skills such as fire lighting. We are also very clear to the children that these skills are only to be used in a controlled environment with adult supervision.

Week Commencing / date	School Events
9th May	Year 6 SATS
w/c 16th May	Taking Science Outdoors Week
16th May	Dance Through the Decades workshop for Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4
18th May	Year 5 Geography Field Trip - exploring the local area
19th May	Parents invited into school to share Science learning
w/c 23rd May	Jubilee Theme Week
26th May	Urban Strides motivational assembly
27th May	Jubilee Big Lunch (parents invited)
27th May	Year 6 visit to Sky Studios



Curriculum visit to Batchworth Lock

Year 3 children have had an exciting start to their upcoming Geography topic on transport. They spent the day in Rickmansworth at Batchworth Lock - learning about why canals were built and how important they were to the transport network. It was a fantastic day of first hand experiences, including a ride on a canal boat. Children experienced going through a lock - operated by their own classmates! As well as enjoying new experiences children had a chance to review some of their history learning from key stage 1. When exploring every day life on the barges, dressed as canal people from the Victorian days the children recognised and remembered how to use the Victorian washing equipment.

Covid-19 updates and information on vaccines for children

Our school policy

We are now living with COVID and there are many respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19. It is impossible to tell which germ someone is infected with, based on symptoms alone. Just like we have a policy for sickness and diarrhea (48 hours clear of the last bout) this is our current approach to a child who has a respiratory illness. Whilst I am sure that all our parents would never send a child to school with confirmed or suspected symptoms of an infectious illness, if this were the case the decision can be made to refuse the child if based on a reasonable judgement it would be necessary to protect staff and other children from possible infection.

- Children with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or mild cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education or childcare setting.
- Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and where possible avoid contact with other people. They can go back to education or childcare setting when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough.
- If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home. Where possible avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day they took the test. The risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower after 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature.
- Children and young people who usually attend an education or childcare setting and who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend as normal.
- Any staff who have a positive COVID-19 test result should try to stay at home for 5 days after the day they took the test.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-protection-in-schools-and-other-childcare-facilities>

Covid Vaccination for all 5-11 year olds

From this week parents and carers of children aged 5 to 11 can book their child's first COVID-19 vaccination.

Bookings can be made at the national booking service for some pharmacies and GP surgeries as well as weekend appointments at vaccination centres. Some GP surgeries will also be offering bookings directly.

Vaccination centres have been made child friendly with a range of fun activities available and staff have decorated the centres to make them welcoming for children. Appointment slots have been made longer so that parents and carers have plenty of time to talk to vaccinators and ask questions.

To find out more, go to <https://covid.healthierfuture.org.uk/vaccine-information-for-young-people>

