



# Micklem Primary School

## Newsletter - Friday 17th June 2022

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Dear Parents and Carers,

This term is already running away with us. In the two weeks since we returned from half term we have already packed in curriculum trips, sports competitions and lots of learning. Children in year 1 have been taking their phonics screening tests along with some children in year 2. Children in year 4 have been completing their multiplication test check. Teachers are also carrying out general assessments which will support their own teacher assessments. This information will be shared with you through their end of year reports. There will also be informal opportunities to talk to your child's teacher about their report if you wish to do so.

### **Staffing**

We are still completing our staffing structure. You will have heard a lot about shortages of skilled workers in the press. Many schools locally are struggling to recruit teachers and support staff. Thankfully we have are now fully staffed in terms of our teaching team so we will look forward to introducing the children to their new teachers and teaching assistants on Thursday 14th July.

### **Uniform expectations**

Please continue to support our uniform expectations. More and more children are wearing jewelry such as necklaces and bracelets. This is not part of our uniform policy so please make sure they are not worn in school. Earrings are allowed but should be studs - hoops and dangly earrings are not allowed. Hair that can be tied back, should be tied back - this is partly to help prevent the spread of head lice. The key reasons for studs and tied back hair are health and safety. We encourage children to enjoy playtimes playing sport, using our apparatus and to be physically confident so we don't want hair to get caught or earrings to be ripped out of ears accidentally.

### **PE kit**

Parents were asked to provide children with an 'in-school' PE kit rather than coming to school on PE days from the beginning of the summer term. This is to ensure our high expectations and standards are maintained. It is also to support the children in developing independence, self-help and organisation skills. Coming to school in PE kits was a temporary measure during the pandemic. The only exception is if your child's class are invited to come to school in PE kit because they have an early start to a sports event and time is of the essence.

### **Attendance**

We continue to focus on attendance and punctuality as a key area to improve in school. Thank you for the increasing number of parents who inform us if their child is unwell via our absence line. This saves lots of office time and also re-assures us that your child is safe. We monitor absence through ill health. If we feel your child is having more time away from school for similar reasons (such as sickness) in comparison to their peers, we are advised by our Attendance Improvement Officer to request permission from you to contact your child's GP. This is so we can alert the GP to unusual patterns of illness in order to support your child and help improve attendance.

### **Upcoming events**

Many of our children will be performing in our musical soiree - **Micklem's Midsummer Music**. Music is an important part of our school and we are delighted to be able to showcase our music offer once again. The concert will consist of performances from year 3 children - all of whom are learning the ukulele, our year 4 children who are learning to play the cornet, our clarinetists, our brass players, our guitarists and the school band and choir. Entrance is by ticket only so please use Arbor to book your tickets. All parents are welcome whether your child is yet learning an instrument or not (subject to ticket availability). The PTA have also kindly offered to provide the drinks and nibbles.

**Sports Day** is taking place on Friday 8th July and will be preceded by a week of sporting activities. Our KS2 production performances will be taking place on Monday 18th July (pm and evening) and Tuesday 19th (am)

The Leavers assembly will be held on our final day of term Wednesday 20th July

These weeks will fly by - please support your child to make the most of the exciting learning and enrichment opportunities coming up by getting them into school every day!

Best wishes

Miss Ormonde

## Congratulations to us!



We are extremely proud to have been awarded Inclusion Quality Mark Flagship school status. This follows an intense day of scrutiny, including talking to staff, children, parents as well as looking through large amounts of evidence. Our assessor came to the conclusion that our work as a whole school demonstrated that inclusion is at the heart of all we do. The following is a statement from our assessor **"The Headteacher and current Inclusion Lead, Deputy Headteacher and SENDCO, ultimately taking on a role of Inclusion Leader, and a wider team have worked together to ensure that the inclusive ethos prevails and that the pupils remain at its centre. They have high aspirations combined with a clear understanding of the whole school community and challenges that the school faces. Leadership gives unwavering support towards inclusive practice because they believe that through inclusion all children have equal access to increase life chances"**

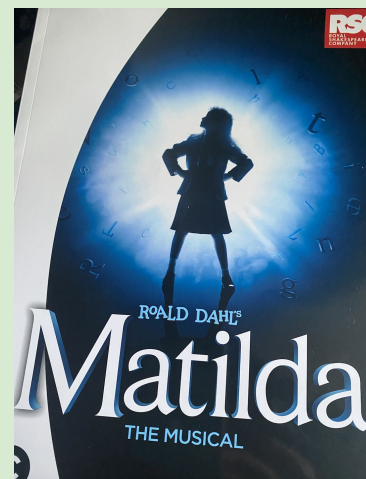
### Science

Children around the school continue to explore, ask questions and investigate in their science lessons. Here are some of the exciting activities that have taken place this week. These include exploring the power of magnetics, understanding how bees communicate through vibrations and learning about the structure of a heart through real life dissection.



## We are very proud of.....

Isla, one of our year 6 children who is starring in the West End production of Matilda .....as Matilda! We are equally proud of all our year 6 children for being so excited and supportive of their classmate's success. We were lucky enough to be able to travel to London to watch Isla perform. Isla was absolutely captivating as Matilda and even if she hadn't been a Micklem pupil we all agreed her performance was stunning. It was a magical experience for us all. Thank you very much to the PTA for their contribution to the transport.



Production of  
ROALD DAHL'S  
**Matilda**  
THE MUSICAL JR.

Book by Dennis Kelly  
Music and Lyrics by Tim Minchin

This amateur production is presented by arrangement with  
Music Theatre International (Europe).  
All authorized performance materials are supplied by MTI Europe  
www.mti-europe.co.uk

22nd - 26th August 9am - 4pm  
Performances 27th August  
Ages 7 - 16  
www.hhtheatreco.com

On a more local level - The Boxmoor Playhouse will be showing a production of Matilda the Musical in August. Contact [www.hhtheatreco.com](http://www.hhtheatreco.com) for further details

## Preparing and inspiring our children for the future

In a recent assembly we watched a TV news show that was written, presented and produced by our year 6 children. This was the outcome of their visit to Sky Studios to learn more about the world of broadcasting. We thought about all the subjects that we learn in primary school and then looked at how these linked into a range of roles and careers in the broadcasting industry. We talked about the personal skills needed to work in teams and to lead teams - linking this back to our learning powers. Year 6 made an excellent job of their broadcast and I hope this has inspired some of them to see what an exciting career could be had in this area.



## Year 1 and Year 2 children visit Kew Gardens

We had a lovely visit to Kew Gardens earlier this week. The children explored the different plant environments both indoors and outdoors. The trip as well as being a new experience for most children will also help them in their science, art, geography and writing topics for this term. We were all fascinated by what we saw - especially the giant lilies. What was lovely were the comments from members of the public about how well-behaved our children were.

