

Muswell Hill Primary School

[www.muswellhillprimary.co.uk](http://www.muswellhillprimary.co.uk)

2014/15

*Newsletter No. 2*

December 15th 2014

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have enjoyed a really successful Autumn term at Muswell Hill Primary. The children have made excellent progress, continued to win sporting accolades across the borough and made significant progress in music. The latter has been evidenced in recent orchestral performances and our participation in Fortismere's recent concert.

This term we have fully introduced P4C (Philosophy For Children: <http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/>) which is taught across the school from Reception to Year 6. This subject is taught alongside PSHE. I am delighted to hear that children have been discussing issues and questions raised in these sessions with their parents and carers. P4C makes up a part of the broad and balanced Creative Curriculum that we offer at Muswell Hill Primary. As you may know, there have been changes to the National Curriculum which have been planned into the work that the children are accessing this year. Our Senior Leadership Team has put an overview together for children, parents/carers and governors so that all our stakeholders can see what is being taught each term. We have mapped the skills, knowledge and understanding that are required across the key stages to ensure there is clear progression as children advance through the school. Whilst there are changes to the statutory curriculum we believe that there is plenty of space for creativity and integration of subjects within this new curriculum and the teaching staff are excited by the freedom that they will have to continue to teach imaginatively. The overview of our curriculum is available in two places on the school's website:

- 1) Please visit your child's class area of the site to see the curriculum across each term: <http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/classes/>
- 2) To see a strategic overview of the entire curriculum, please see the 'curriculum' area of the website: <http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/about-us/creativity/>

On a different note, I would like to thank the entire community for supporting Violet Class and their teacher, Mr. Summers, as they raised money for Teenage Cancer Trust. The Ham and High reported on the story of Mr. Summers shaving his hair in support of the charity. More can be seen on the following link: <http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/clipping.jpg>

Mr. Summers and Violet Class raised a massive **£1557** for the charity! I thank you on their behalf for your incredible generosity. I wish all of our families a safe and happy holiday break this winter and look forward to seeing the children back in school on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January at 8:55am**. Please remember that Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January is a teacher training day.

Best Wishes,

James Wiltshire,

Headteacher

## Staffing Changes

After many years of dedicated service we say goodbye to Chris Guy on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2014. Chris is leaving our school to pursue other interests in Musical Education. On behalf of the children, staff and parents, I would like to thank Chris for his hard work and dedication. Many musicians who work in partnership with the school talk about the musical rhythm of the children at our school. Thank you to Chris for his huge contribution.

We have employed Karen Stead to continue the tradition of having a music specialist to deliver on teaching and learning from Reception to Year 6. Karen begins her work with us on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January. Karen has taught in both Primary and Secondary schools and is currently the head of Music at Parliament Hill Secondary in Islington.

## ITV's Text Santa 2014

Muswell Hill Primary was asked to participate in the filming of Text Santa back in October 2014.

As you may have seen on ITV recently, Text Santa is raising money for 6 very worthwhile charities in 2014:

- 1) Alzheimer's Society
- 2) Guide Dogs
- 3) Marie Curie Cancer Care
- 4) Teenage Cancer Trust
- 5) Together For Short Lives
- 6) Well Child

Year 6 raised over **£30** for the charity by making and selling Christmas wrapping paper. ITV have sent us the film clip where our children starred alongside presenter and classical musician, Myleene Klass. Congratulations to Year 6 for supporting these charities. The film clip can be viewed at: <http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/#prettyPhoto/0/>

There are photos of the event which were taken by Yvonne Chakraborty. Many thanks to Yvonne for supporting us – again! These photos can be viewed in the 'events gallery' at: <http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/gallery/itvs-text-santa/>

## J4 Media

J4 Media have launched a magazine called 'The Buzz.' This covers content from the new National Curriculum 2014 and has a number of articles that have been contributed to by our children and teachers. Our Assistant Headteacher, Liz McMullen, is the teacher-consultant who proof reads the articles. The pilot copy of 'The Buzz' was available on Parent Pay at MHPS for 2 weeks in November. Many of the children (and teachers) have been reading the magazine. We have been contacted by a number of schools in the area and in neighbouring boroughs, who have heard about the magazine. After a successful trial we will continue our partnership in the spring and summer terms. So far we have raised **£85** for the school through this means of income generation.



Further details of this initiative can be found at: [http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/WEBSITE\\_Magazine.pdf](http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/WEBSITE_Magazine.pdf)

### Abel and Cole

Parents, carers and staff have supported the Abel and Cole scheme this academic year. We have raised over **£100** since the launch of this in September 2014. If you wish to make a purchase, please select the fruit and vegetable bag you wish to purchase on Parent Pay. The bag will be available for collection from the School Office the following Monday. Purchasing in this way makes the produce cheaper for customers and the school benefit too!

### Mary Poppins

Parents and Carers from our previous Year 6 have been given an extra gift this Christmas! The 2014 Year 6 production of Mary Poppins was filmed by Marco's father and is available to view on the school website: <http://vimeo.com/112611625>

The password is: **MARYPOPPINS**

Our grateful thanks on behalf of the school, parents/carers and children to Dan and Analy Reed for making this available to the community free of charge.

### Attendance

Our whole school attendance from September 2014 to 15<sup>th</sup> December 2014 is **96.80%**. This is incredibly high particularly as there has been considerable illness recently. Thank you to all parents and carers for getting the children to school and in good time for the start of the day. School starts at 8:55am and finishes at 3:30pm. The top 3 classes for high attendance are:

- 1) **Violet - 97.85%**
- 2) **Indigo - 97.73%**
- 3) **Green - 97.66%**

As last academic year, there will be a reward for the highest attendance across the year. Last year we visited the Emirates Stadium with Cobalt Class. We are searching for something just as exciting (if only we could get to Anfield...)

### Sporting Achievements

This year we have continued our proud tradition of attending external tournaments. Most of all we are proud of our children for the number of compliments the coaches receive for their children's behaviour and sportsmanship. We are also immensely proud of their skill and dedication. It is no coincidence that we continue to win tournaments; it is down to the coaching and the ability of our children who practice conscientiously to refine their skills. Please see the following link for all of our recent achievements which have been archived: <http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/sports/>

A report on our most recent success, table tennis, is written here: <http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/sports/>



I would like to thank our PE coordinator, David Howes, and the rest of his team for leading sporting excellence in our school. David has also instigated taking a pupil from Year 6 to write reports for the website. The children have really enjoyed this responsibility.

## Winter Fair 2014

Many thanks to all of our parents/carers, staff, children and governors for supporting the Winter Fair 2014. I would particularly like to thank the SPA (Staff Parent Association) for their hard work in making this event such a huge success. The proceeds raised will support our school improvement projects. A huge total of **over £6000** was raised. Many thanks again to all involved. If you would like to join the SPA and support such events, please contact the Chair, Lorraine Pond, for further details: [lorrainepond@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lorrainepond@hotmail.co.uk)

## Fundraising Stalls

As you know, we currently have regular after-school Fundraising Stalls (sometimes known as 'Cake Stalls.') Firstly, I would like to thank parents and carers for their contributions – as a school we raise a lot of money this way; this is used to the benefit of our pupils. These stalls run seamlessly and the children, in School Council, have discussed their gratitude for the organisation that goes into this. They have also discussed some of their favourite foods to support adults in knowing what to bring in. We have compiled a list so that we get a good balance of foods at these events.

Some of the children's (and staff!) favourites include:

- 1) Pizza slices
- 2) Fruit salad
- 3) Cous cous
- 4) Samosas
- 5) Spring rolls
- 6) Quiche
- 7) Salted popcorn
- 8) Fruit kebabs
- 9) Strawberries and cream – in the Summer
- 10) Watermelon slices – in the Summer

Please remember that we are a **'no nut'** school.

Thank you again for your support. It is greatly appreciated.

## Lost Property

The lost property collection box is situated in each of the playgrounds. These are yellow containers. At the end of each half term, these are emptied and the contents are given to charity by depositing them into the TRAIID bin which is located opposite the school office.

All lunchboxes, which are stored in the KS2 playground cages will also be disposed of, for hygiene reasons, during the Christmas break.



### Joe Magdich – Art Award 2014

The annual art competition inspired by Joe Magdich, yielded some very strong entrants this year. The theme was ‘Dreams.’ Congratulations to all those who took part. All the prize winners can be seen at: <http://muswellhillprimary.co.uk/gallery/joe-magdich-art-award-2014/>

We would like to thank Joe’s father for coming to MHPS to lead the award ceremony.

### Tubs 4 Tablets!

This Autumn Flora and Stork, in partnership with Tesco, are running a scheme called **Tubs 4 Tablets** which aims to help our school bring cutting edge technology into the classroom.

The scheme gives primary and middle schools in Great Britain the opportunity to collect tokens from special tubs of Flora and Stork on sale in Tesco.

We need to collect as many tokens as possible. These can be found on promotional 500g tubs of Flora Original, Light and Buttery and Stork (subject to availability of course). Please hand in your tokens to the school office and remember that just 50 tokens will get our school one brand new Samsung Galaxy Tab 7.0” Wi-fi 8GB tablet. Friends, neighbours, work colleagues and family can help too. There is no limit to the amount of **FREE** tablets we can claim for the school!

Thank you for your support.

### Jam ‘n’ Jelly

Some of our children across KS2 have formed a school magazine called Jam ‘N’ Jelly. The magazine has been set up with the aim of raising money for Teenage Cancer Trust. So far, our young entrepreneurs have sold the magazine at Fireworks Night and the Winter Fair. To give you an example of their success, they raised £51.82 for the charity at the latter alone!

### Dates for the Diary

#### Spring Term 2015

	Starts	Ends
<b>TAD</b>	<b>Monday 5 January 2015</b>	<b>No School</b>
Spring 1	Tuesday 6 January 2015	Friday 13 February 2015
Holiday	Monday 16 February 2015	Friday 20 February 2015
Spring 2	Monday 23 February 2015	Friday 27 March 2015
Holiday	Monday 30 March 2015	Friday 10 April 2015

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[www.muswellhillprimary.co.uk](http://www.muswellhillprimary.co.uk)  
 Entrance: 26-28 Dukes Ave, N10

### Summer Term 2015

	Starts	Ends
Summer 1	Monday 13 April 2015	Friday 22 May 2015
Holiday	Monday 25 May 2015	Friday 29 May 2015
<b>TAD</b>	<b>Monday 1 June 2015</b>	<b>No School</b>
Summer 2	Tuesday 2 June 2015	Friday 17 July 2015
<b>TAD</b>	<b>Monday 20 July 2015</b>	<b>No School</b>
Holiday	Tuesday 21 July 2015	Monday 31 August 2015

### Autumn Term 2015

<b>TAD</b>	<b>Tuesday 1 September 2015</b> <b>Wednesday 2 September 2015</b>	<b>No School</b>
Autumn 1	Wednesday 3 September 2015	TBC by Haringey

