

Muswell Hill Primary School

Newsletter No. 8 – 13 November 2020

Academic Year
2020-21



Lots of information inside the newsletter this week, we are seeking your views on a couple of issues so please read on and complete the surveys which are reached by clicking on the links. Thank you for supporting Children in Need and helping your children wear something spotty today – it has been lovely seeing everyone embracing the cause.

Haringey Heroes

In May this year, the Mayor of Haringey – Sheila Peacock – announced a new 'Haringey Heroes Award' to celebrate Haringey's unsung heroes. Residents are encouraged to come forward and nominate someone who has helped them the most during the coronavirus outbreak. The Mayor explained:

"Throughout these unprecedented and uncertain times, we have seen our community step up to support each other like never before. We have never been prouder of the goodwill of our community – that's why we created the Haringey Heroes Awards.

Through these awards we can recognise and thank those unsung heroes – whose generosity and support for helping others has shown no bounds.

Our much-loved NHS is at the forefront of the battle against coronavirus, but our unsung heroes are also making a difference to people's lives at a local level. To them, on behalf of Haringey, I send a heartfelt thank you."

We are delighted that Joseph and Muriel, our Year 6 teachers, and Rachel who has worked in the kitchen throughout the pandemic to ensure the children have lunch, were nominated for these awards and they have now been awarded a certificate confirming they are officially 'Haringey Heroes'. Of course, we already knew this and we are so proud of them.

You will be able to see Mandi surprise them on SeeSaw.

This year on 20 November 2020 the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child is 31 years old!

To celebrate our amazing children, we are asking them to dress up next Friday.

We would love to see the children show their uniqueness and represent their identity.

You may have a family traditional dress, clothing or costumes that represent your religion, culture, or heritage. Alternatively, the children might prefer to wear their favourite green leggings. Who knows - lets 'just celebrate their uniqueness and wonder'!

Other contents:

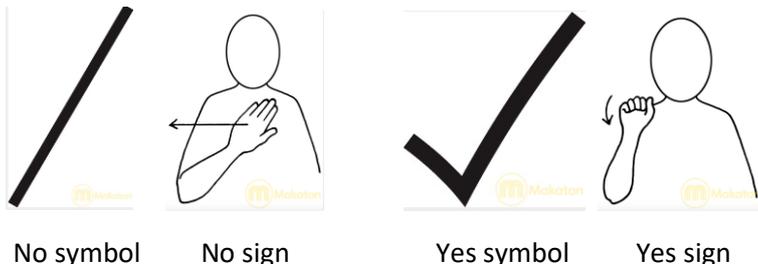
- Makaton Sign of the Week
- Head Lice
- Friday Review and Survey
- National Anti-Bullying Week, Odd Socks Day and Survey
- Blue Class Photos
- OFSTED Parent View Link
- Vaccination Catch-Up Clinics
- Online Safety Information
- Remembrance Day – Mayor's Video
- Chargeable Event
- Golden Learners

To all children and adults – it would be great if you could wear Odd Socks on Monday 16 November to support Anti-Bullying Week – read on for more information.

Makaton Signs of the Week

Here is the YouTube link for the MAKATON Signs of the Week video. The signs are "Yes" and "No".

<https://youtu.be/yvKDlylk-GU>



Head Lice

These very unwelcome visitors are unfortunately starting to make a reappearance in school.

In order to try and stop them in their tracks it would be great if everyone could check their child(ren)'s heads this weekend and if any eggs or lice are found, please treat or take preventative action before sending your child(ren) back to school on Monday.

The NHS website has a wealth of information on how to get rid of head lice.

Thank you very much for your support and cooperation.

Friday Review and Survey

The decision to close the school early on a Friday and adjust the learning week was made to meet the demands of the impact of COVID-19 on the school. The decision was a difficult one but it did allow us to not only support the children in developing their remote learning skills but also to give the teachers their legally entitled PPA time (10% non-contact time) in one session, for which we don't need to provide cover. This has enabled us to reduce the number of supply staff in school which is beneficial not only in terms of finance but also in safety. Additionally, we can start the deep cleaning of the school premises, sports, play and learning equipment earlier than normal.

We would like to know the impact of the early closing on you and your family and so ask you to complete the following survey, do please be honest in your responses.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MHPSFridayReview>

We want to reassure you /reduce any anxieties you may have by letting you know that our recent assessments of the children have shown that a large majority of the school have lost very little ground in their learning and many have progressed. We know that learning is not the only measure of how well the children are coping but hopefully it goes some way to reassure you. Mandi will be sending more information on this in due course.

Thank you to many of you who have recognised and acknowledged how this new way of working has placed a strain not only on staff well-being but also on the school finances and the workload of the staff and leadership team. Your kind words and emails have made us feel very supported and appreciated.

National Anti-Bullying Week – Mon 16th to Fri 20th November 2020



The theme for this year's Anti-Bullying Week is: United Against Bullying. To mark the start of Anti-Bullying Week, **Monday is Odd Socks Day** – we would love your support with this. It would be fantastic if all the children and adults could wear odd socks to school or work to celebrate what makes us all unique.

Last year 75% of schools in the country took part in Anti-Bullying Week reaching well over 7 million young people.

Below is the Anti-Bullying Week 2020 manifesto for change:

“This year, more than ever, we’ve witnessed the positive power that society can have when we come together to tackle a common challenge.

Anti-Bullying Week is no different. Bullying has a long-lasting effect on those who experience and witness it. But by channelling our collective power, through shared efforts and shared ambitions, we can reduce bullying together. From parents and carers, to teachers and politicians, to children and young people, we all have a part to play in coming together to make a difference.

“We’re all a piece in the puzzle, and together, we’re united against bullying.”

Over the course of next week and the week after, we will be reviewing our anti-bullying policy by consulting with the children and staff on support for victims of bullying behaviour, support for those whose behaviour is identified as bullying, restorative conversations, and the involvement of school leaders. We will also be asking them ‘What else should we be doing?’. We would like your views too, as parents and carers. Please follow this link which will give you the opportunity to tell us what you think.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/MHPS-ABReview>

We look forward to hearing from you.

Blue Class Individual Photos

The school photographer can come in again next Friday, 20 November, to take the class individual photos as Blue class were unable to have them taken last week.

Please remember your blue t-shirts/sweatshirts if you want your child to wear them for the photograph - children will not be allowed to swap clothing with each other.



Just a reminder that you can tell OFSTED what you think about the school at any time by following this link and completing the OFSTED questionnaire:

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Flu Vaccination Catch-Up Clinics

Another reminder that Vaccination UK are currently running catch up clinics in the community for children who missed the flu immunisation at school due to being absent, unwell, or if a child refused on the day. They are also inviting parents who did not hand in a consent form but would still like their child to have it.

We are sending the clinic dates again with this newsletter for your information. **Please note that these clinics are currently being run on an appointment basis only.** Parents/carers will need to contact Vaccination UK on 020 8017 7925 to book their child in for the clinic they would like to attend. Anyone who goes to a clinic without an appointment will be turned away.

Online Safety Information

Online Tutors – Keeping Children Safe (LGfL) Guidance for Parents & Carers

Every year, private tutors help children catch up with missed work or address areas they are struggling with, or with extra-curricular activities like music. Lockdown has led to major growth in this area, especially online, and this is expected to continue with further bubble and possible school closures.

Anyone can set up as a tutor and there are no registration procedures. They don't even require an Enhanced DBS check.

To help parents, LGfL has prepared a leaflet supporting parents to select the right tutor, establish clear rules and help the child understand what they should know too.

You can download the guidance leaflet here: <https://static.lgfl.net/LgflNet/downloads/online-safety/posters/LGfL-DigiSafe-Online-Tutors-Safeguarding-Guidance.pdf>

Remembrance Day - Wednesday 11 November

We acknowledged Remembrance Day on Wednesday with a whole school silence and assemblies across the school creating opportunities for children to discuss the reasons for the day in an age appropriate way. Haringey's Major, Cllr Peacock has sent us a video with an introduction and a short history for the children about why we commemorate Remembrance Day.

The Mayor speaks about why we have poppies, where they came from and the significance of wearing them on and around 11 November. Children are encouraged to be friends with one another no matter their background or ethnicity and come together.

She tells the children how the history of the world wars and lives lost was devastating throughout the world and how we use this day to show that we remember and will never forget all those who we have lost fighting for their country. Lest we forget. View at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TvRDAmkNiys>

Chargeable event which may be of interest

We are not promoting the GP practice private enterprise, but some families may be interested in the workshop below which many parents and carers have previously recommended.

Dr Wendy Isenwater and Dr Mattison are two highly experienced Clinical Psychologists offering an online workshop for parents in supporting their child with anxiety during a pandemic.

Please find the link with details of the workshop and ticket information below.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/supporting-your-child-with-anxiety-during-a-pandemic-tickets-124395920547>

Our Haringey Heroes



Golden Learners of the Week

RED CLASS – LUCY'S SHOUT OUTS

This week's Golden Learners in Red Class are **Grace** and **Luibo**. They have been going around the classroom labelling things and have really impressed us with their phonic knowledge as well as their letter formation.

RUBY CLASS – GRACE'S SHOUT OUT

Our Golden learner this week is **Elvin**. He carefully counted how many bones we have in our hands by looking at an x-ray. He worked really hard making his own hand x-ray using paint and art straws for the bones. It was wonderful! Well done Elvin.

AMBER CLASS – ROISIN AND TOBY'S SHOUT OUT

Artin is Amber Class Golden Learner of the week. Artin is new to the school and has shown remarkable resilience, not only in learning a new language but also by initiating new friendships and staying happy and positive.

ORANGE CLASS – JENI'S SHOUT OUT

My Golden Learner this week is **Leo**. Leo has shown great resilience in his learning this week and is able to become completely absorbed in any task he is set. He always works hard to learn from any mistakes.

YELLOW CLASS – GEOFF'S SHOUT OUT

Natnael is our Golden Learner this week for always reflecting upon his work. By identifying past mistakes, he continuously moves his learning forward. Well done Natnael!

GOLD CLASS – NATHAN'S SHOUT OUT

Alexander is my Golden Learner this week for showing great perseverance in maths. He went back over some learning that he had found difficult, and he used the equipment at his table to figure out how to add by bridging ten. Well done Alexander!

GREEN CLASS – KATH'S SHOUT OUTS

Green Class Golden Learners are:

Lucas - For showing great resilience when working out maths challenges. He kept trying even when he thought it was beyond him. Fabulous. He was also totally absorbed in his creative writing this week. Well done Lucas!

Evie - For fabulous creative writing this week. Full of super vocabulary and feeling. She always manages distractions well and gets totally absorbed in her writing. Well done Evie!

EMERALD CLASS – LARA'S SHOUT OUTS

Emerald Class Golden Learners are:

Mykel for his amazing resilience in English. He has shown excellent determination and has written a brilliant version of 'The Bear and the Piano'.

Bea for her focus and dedication to all her learning. Bea is always able to manage distractions and absorb herself in her learning. Bea has also written a wonderful version of 'The Bear and the Piano'.

BLUE CLASS – RITU'S SHOUT OUT

I could have chosen anyone this week as every member of Blue Class has been outstanding in their remote learning tasks. However, as hard as it was to choose ... **Zach** is this week's golden superstar!

He has remained focused throughout the week and made a huge amount of effort with all his learning. Zach has shown great enthusiasm during our Zoom sessions too. Very well done.

SAPPHIRE CLASS – SOPHIE'S and MISS FRYER'S SHOUT OUTS

Golden Learners for Sapphire this week are **Farrah** and **Mia**: for huge improvements in their spellings, handwriting and a fantastic attitude to learning, especially when editing their recent setting descriptions! Well done.

Miss Fryer's Golden Learner is **Vanessa** for persevering and having an excellent attitude to her learning. She took the challenge and extended her writing. The result was incredibly descriptive. Well done Vanessa.

INDIGO CLASS – HADLEY’S AND ELENA’S SHOUT OUT

The Golden Learner for Indigo class this week is **Timofei**. Timofei has impressed us with his focus, enthusiasm and contributions to class discussions. Well done Timofei!

COBALT CLASS – MEABH’S SHOUTS OUT

This week my Golden Learner is **Maya**. We have been learning about our inner coach and our inner critic in our PSHE lessons and how to use our self-talk to help us. Maya, with the support of her peers, has been trying to use her inner coach to help her when she finds a task difficult. In an English lesson this week, we were looking at lots of grammar techniques to include in our writing. At first, Maya said that she couldn't do the task but we talked about what motivating things our inner coach could say and Maya then showed great perseverance in getting on with the task, even asking if she could spend some extra time on the task at playtime. Well done Maya!

AMETHYST CLASS – JOSEPH’S SHOUT OUT

The Golden Learner in Amethyst this week is **Corrado**. While Corrado has impressed me throughout the year so far with his kind nature and good sense of humour, it is his greater determination with learning that has struck me this week. He has worked hard, taken on board feedback and persevered when he was stuck. Well done, Corrado.

VIOLET CLASS – MURIEL’S SHOUT OUT

Embodies resilience through and through,
Leaps and bounds of progress,
Attitude to be reckoned with.

Ela, you are the Golden Learner of the week - hooray!

Looking forward to seeing all those odd socks on Monday!