

Muswell Hill Primary School Newsletter – February 2020

Academic Year 2019-20

Issue No.8



It's half-term and we wish all parents/carers and children a restful break if you are having one. We look forward to seeing the children again at 8.55am on Monday 24 February 2020.

MHPS UNPLUGGED

Huge thanks to Bianca, Jessica, Hugh and Emily who organised an amazing children's music event last Friday. The programme included, amongst an incredible variety, drumming, singing, piano, violin and guitar – everything from classical music to hard rock. The children performed to an exceptionally high standard and entertained a packed house.

Thanks also to the staff band – Lara, Geoff, Laura, Toby and Simon - for their interval entertainment and to class teachers, Lara and Geoff, for compering the evening as well.



Chinese New Year – Year of the Rat



To celebrate Chinese New Year, the Year of the Rat, the children were given a show to remember by members of the Confucius Institute. It included Kung Fu, dance and music demonstrations and the children were transfixed.

Thanks so much to Alex's mum in Red Class and Miles' mum in Indigo class who gave fascinating presentations about Chinese New Year to Reception and Year 5 children.



Premier League Primary Stars Football Tournament 2019/20 Tottenham Hotspur Qualifiers

Our Year 6 Girls' football team will be competing on 14 February in this Tournament; results in the next newsletter.

Good luck girls!



Chess Success



Congratulations to the school's U9 chess team who have qualified for the semi-finals stage of the prestigious National Primary Schools Chess Championship.

The team – Yr4s Christopher A, Tristan S, Felix M, Freddie B, Finlay G and Yr3 Howie T – finished in fifth place ahead of local rivals Coldfall and Rhodes Avenue.

The team will compete in the national semi-finals in May against some of the top chess schools in North London and the Home Counties.

Kamlesh Karia who runs the after-school chess said: 'This is a fantastic feat. The children played in a particularly strong tournament up against St Paul's Juniors, Wetherby and Highgate School'.

Sadly, the U11 team narrowly missed out on qualification to the next stage.

The team – Yr6s Eddie P, Joshua N, Calum K, Noah R, William S and Max C – had tough opponents in each of the five rounds.

The children played some good chess and it was great to see their sportsmanship when the results were not going their way.

Head Lice and Threadworms

There have been an increasing number of reports of both head lice and, recently, threadworms, throughout the school.

We would really appreciate it if you could check your children this half term for both these conditions and if any evidence of lice or threadworms are found, **please treat the entire family** so we stand a chance of stopping the spread of these most unwelcome visitors. The NHS website has useful information on both these parasites so do have a look if you need further information.

This might be a good opportunity to remind your children of the need to wash their hands thoroughly after every visit to the loo and before eating. Very many thanks in advance for your help.

Dates for your diaries

Parent consultation meetings and My Plan/SPC meetings

Mid-year reports will be sent to parents/carers on Monday 9 March and on **Tuesday 10 and Thursday 12 March** there will be parent consultation meetings providing an opportunity to discuss them. We will send you a link to book an appointment shortly after half-term. For children with a My Plan or a Structured Parent Conversation (SPC), parent/carer meetings will be scheduled during the following week - beginning Monday 16 March - you will be advised of your appointment by letter.

Parent workshops in March and April

Mon 16 March	Reception and Year 1 parents and carers - Phonics Screening – what's it all about? 9.10am and the same workshop repeated at 5.30pm – location to be confirmed
Tues 24 March	Year 2 parents/carers KS1 SATS at 9.05am in the KS1 Hall
Thurs 26 March	Year 6 parents/carer KS2 SATS at 9.05am in the KS2 Hall
Tues 21 April	Maths Workshop for Year 1 and Year 2 parents/carers at 9.05am (KS2 Hall)
Thurs 23 April	Maths Workshop for Year 3, 4 and 5 parents/carers at 9.05am (KS2 Hall)

Website

The website will be redesigned during the summer term – many thanks to parents/carers who have offered their help and input.

Please visit the current website for updated information on the improved curriculum, School Improvement Priorities, and our new vision and 5-year plan. Go to the **About Us** tab and click on the various pencils on the left hand side of the screen. Visit the **Parents** tab and you will find the latest homework and home learning projects when you click on the relevant pencils. Click on the Behaviour and Communication pencil to view our Behaviour principles and read about our journey to becoming a Rights Respecting School. A reminder of our anti-bullying and behaviour concern/incident procedures is reproduced below.

ANTI-BULLYING AND BEHAVIOUR CONCERN/INCIDENT PROCEDURES

We take any reports of bullying and concerns about behaviour very seriously at Muswell Hill. The children are actively taught to understand what bullying is and report it to adults immediately. Here are just a few reminders for parents if you feel your child is being bullied:

- Take time to listen to your child and stay calm.
- Write down what your child has said. If it involves cyberbullying, keep any evidence of emails and texts.
- Encourage your child to talk to their teacher or someone at the school.
- Never intervene with other children or children's parents, but let the school know.
- Contact your child's class teacher as soon as possible to let them know your concerns.
- Staff will update parents and carers about what they are doing to resolve the issue and when it has been resolved.
- If you are not satisfied with the response you get and any action taken, you should contact the Headteacher with your concerns.
- If you remain dissatisfied, you should follow the school's complaints procedure, as detailed in the school website.

School Logo

After half-term the children will be taking part in a challenge to design a new school logo! They will be given further information soon.

School Attendance

Congratulations to Year 4 and Year 6 classes on achieving above 97% attendance since the start of the school year in September; Sapphire class has a current attendance of 98.22%! We are working towards an attendance target of 97% for the whole school this year (2019-20) so we're off to a good start.



We now have 92 responses on Parent View which is great, thank you to everyone who has completed the survey. If you would like to see these results or complete the questionnaire, visit:

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

We will be conducting our own 'Parent Voice' survey on the Parent Consultation afternoons and would be grateful for your participation then.

Latest government advice on Coronavirus for your information

Below is the latest Department of Education advice on Coronavirus:

The government is monitoring Coronavirus and taking action at home and abroad. The risk to individuals remains low.

Advice to those who have travelled recently

Public Health England has changed the advice for individuals who have travelled recently as follows:

Travellers from Wuhan and Hubei Province

If you have travelled from Wuhan or Hubei Province to the UK in the last 14 days you should immediately:

- › stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with the flu
- › call NHS 111 to inform them of your recent travel to the area

Please follow this advice even if you do not have symptoms of the virus.

Travellers from other parts of China and other specified areas

This advice applies to travellers who have returned to the UK from the following areas:

- › Elsewhere in China
- › Thailand
- › Japan
- › Republic of Korea
- › Hong Kong

- › Taiwan
- › Singapore
- › Malaysia
- › Macau

If you have returned to the UK from any of these areas in the last 14 days and develop symptoms of cough or fever or shortness of breath, you should immediately:

- › stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with the flu
- › call NHS 111 to inform them of your recent travel to the country

Encouraging good hygiene

As always, if you have symptoms of a cold or flu, then there are measures you can take to stop germs:

- › always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze. Then bin the tissue, and wash your hands, or use a sanitiser gel.
- › wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after using public transport. Use a sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available.
- › avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- › avoid close contact with people who are unwell.

Latest information

Updates on Coronavirus:

- › <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Travel advice for those travelling and living overseas:

- › <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>

Public Health England blog:

- › <https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/01/23/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-what-you-need-to-know/>

Please keep on reading for the latest PSA news

PSA News

Please also see the letter sent with this newsletter about PSA recruitment, mentioned below.

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PSA NEWS

- YOUR MHPS PSA NEEDS YOU!!!!

Are you interested in a role on the PSA committee and/or leading some key activities?

We are looking for people who would like to lead some key activities such as Jumble Sale, Environmental Champions, BBQ Lead, Bake Sale coordinator and more. If that sounds interesting to you then come and speak to us. See attached letter for more details.

- Shopping at Alexandra Park Garden Centre
Keep your receipt and leave a copy in a red box at the school reception.
20% of the amount will be donated to school!

Join us for our Quiz Night!
A great opportunity for parents to have fun and socialise!
When: Sat 28/3/20 @ 7.30pm

 <p>JUMBLE SALE PLEA</p> <p>Please keep any good quality children's clothes, toys, books and bikes to donate for the jumble & bike sale.</p> <p>Will be held on Sat 25/4/20 at 11-2pm. Put the date in the diary!</p>	 <p>HAPPY BAG PLEA</p> <p>Please keep any reusable and pre-loved adult clothing, shoes and accessories for the Happy Bag collection. Put away in the Happy Bag or any bin bag and bring to our school w/c 19/4/20!</p> <p>http://www.happyschoolbag.co.uk/</p>
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E-mail: mhps.psa@gmail.com Visit our website for more information, including how funds are spent, dates & pics <https://sites.google.com/view/mhps-psa/>

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