



Dear Families,



Newsletter



Malvern, 2017



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How this year has flown by! At the end of it, it seems that so much has happened, from trips to London and the Black Country Museum to topic events in school, such as the Indian Festival and Sport's Day. Here we are with a school full of hard working children who are developing day by day into the motivated and dedicated learners that we hope they will be. I wish to thank all of the school staff for their excellent contribution to the children's welfare, development and learning this year. Thanks to Mrs Bailey, Mrs Hargreaves and Mrs Cain who work so hard behind the scenes in the office, keeping the school running on a daily basis. We are grateful for the support of you as parents, our collaborative schools Charford and Millfields and to the Governing Body for their contribution to the leadership of the school. We are particularly grateful to Mrs Wilson, Chair of Governors, and Dr Evans, Vice Chair, and thank them for their superb dedication to the school. Particular mention must be made to our Year 4s and their families for their support to the school over the years. Please see the attached reviewed school development plan that shares with you the progress that we have made this year.

This year our results show that the children have again made very strong progress with more working at levels expected for their age than across Worcestershire and nationally. When they leave us in Year 4, they have developed into individuals who are often working securely at or above expected standards and who have life skills of independence, communication and an excellent sense of moral purpose. This group has been an enjoyable group to watch develop over the years and the progress that they have made from Red Class to Blue Class has been excellent.

The school works hard to fulfil its role as a real community school and remains at the heart of the village. The work we do supports children in developing that sense of community and their own role within a community and as part of the UK. Developing the children as local and global citizens is an important aspect of our work as could be seen during our 'Indian Festival' and work on Egypt and the Romans and our Collective worship themes on values. We look forward to developing this further next year. Please see next year's topics on the website over the holidays, which we know will inspire the children on their return in September.

Can I finally say, on behalf of everyone at school, thank you for your support and your kind words throughout the year. Good luck to adults and children who are moving on, we wish you well and hope that you come back to see us. Have a good Summer break and we will all meet again on 6th September when we welcome our new Nursery and Reception intake and new staff members.

Marvellous Malvern- a finale for all children when they reach Year 4

What a super trip we have had with the Year 4s! We feel privileged to be able to watch your children grow and develop whilst they are with us and when we take them away in Year 4 we really see the product of the team work that is home and school. They made us proud this year. They were polite, well behaved, enthusiastic and were so very kind towards each other. There were a number of children who had never stayed away from home before and the children were so supportive of each other. The staff at Malvern always comment on the children's ability to manage their own behaviour and how they can be trusted. We could ask for nothing more.

Below are some images and captions that we thought you would appreciate and that summarise some of the highlights.



Resilience when trying to light a fire.



Teambuilding skills during den building.

...I want to stay, but I am a bit worried (Wednesday)...I am so glad I stayed because I would have been disappointed if I had not... (Thursday)- Y4 child

...I find heights tricky, but I knew that you wouldn't ask me to do anything dangerous so I had a go!...- Y4 child

...I didn't think I would like the zip wire, but even though I cried coming down, I want to have another go!...- Y4 child

We only wish you were there to watch them on these days that make us so proud. All of the work we put in on developing the children as rounded individuals by developing the children's behaviours, skills and attitudes come to fruition in Year 4 and we know that many go on to use these skills when they leave us and go on to Middle School.

Reports Last week, you received your child's report and there was a covering letter to help you understand how your child is achieving in line with the relatively newly introduced higher national standards. It is most important that you look at the children's progress comment as this indicates whether they are working well. Whilst some children do reach this high national standard, it is important that you do not feel that your child is unsuccessful if they are not currently working at the new standard. Many children are not, and most of these children would have previously been described as working within national expectations. It is also important to remember that children develop at different rates and that many children who may be described as not working at the new expectation when they are very young, will go on to reach expectations later on during their primary school years. It is also important to note the general comments and skills development sections as these indicate your child's development in areas that are crucial to their future as learners. If you have any concerns or have any questions about your child's report, please come and see me. If you need to discuss any aspect of it with your child's class teacher, please ask for an appointment.

Collective Worship

During this last week, we will be concentrating on 'Freedom' as a theme and discussing the freedom that comes from living in the UK and the associated rights that we have. With such rights come responsibilities, and we talk (as part of British Values) about the need to follow the law and what this means.

As part of this work, we discuss the lack of freedom for some people across the world and discuss this in terms that the children understand, such as a lack of freedom to go to school, have friends, wear what they want, choose a job and have beliefs that are different from others.

A recent pupil discussion that Miss Kuriger carried out with children of all ages, demonstrated that the work we carry out on Universal values and British values shines through as children progress through the school. Their understanding of the principles of: Liberty; Democracy; Tolerance and Rule of Law is well developed by the end of Year 4 and their understanding of their place in society has been established.

School Council

Thank you to the School Council for supporting the school link with Anderton Primary School in Birmingham. They have supported our work on Reading this year, by allowing us to visit their school and see how they develop reading. Anderton Park children also visited us to see how we support children during lunchtimes. We look forward to sharing more learning next year. Thank you to all school councillors for their hard work this year.



Arts and Sport

Red Class enjoyed a super Athletics trip to the Ryland Centre, learning about the skills and sportsmanship involved in taking part in athletics events.

Piano players will take part in a concert this week- remember to practise! We look forward to hearing how you have all progressed.

Red Class Assembly

It was a treat to watch the Red Class assembly and find out about their super 'Circus' learning. Watching them sing, perform in front of others and proudly show their art skills was a delight. They have come so far in a year. We look forward to seeing how they develop next year.

- Music tuition payments needed asap- piano, recorder and violin.
- Extra curricular and after school club bookings needed asap with payment.
- Lunch orders needed asap with payment- NB last two days on Autumn term order are Teacher training days- no children in school.
- Uniform collection asap for those who have been notified.

Thanks for using P4S online payment, it is really helpful to us!

TESTS! – The Year 1 children took a national reading test in June and the Year 2 children sat SATs tests in May. We do not call these tests 'tests' with the children and we make them as much a part of everyday classroom practice as we can. The children have all worked well and showed great resilience when taking part in these tests. It is thanks to their teachers that they have not found them too challenging. They performed well and you received the outcomes reported to you with the children's reports. It will indicate whether the children have met the standard for Year 1 in reading or not and whether the children in Year 2 are working securely at national expectation or not. If you are unsure of the documents explaining the national tests for Year 2, please ask me.

PFTA

We owe a huge thanks to the PFTA for their excellent summer fair and for raising over £2,200. All of the people involved have worked extremely hard to ensure that they raise as much for the children as possible. This year, the PFTA has donated £7,000 for children's books and another £5,000 will be provided to purchase new laptops. Thank you to all involved.

With the kind donation of the new glass doors by our neighbour Mrs Allcott, and the donations from friends, Parish Council and neighbours of the school towards the gargoyle fund, this will be renovated over the summer holiday.

At a time of ever decreasing budgets, this support is invaluable and the funds that school is able to raise through our Before and After School and Holiday Club provision as well as fundraising events, supports the school on its journey.

Thank you for supporting PFTA events as without you attending, the PFTA would not be able to contribute as much as they do.

Arts Day

Well done Year 3s for super Drama work at South Bromsgrove High School. Mr Sugars and Miss Steele said you were stars and showed your ability to participate and engage with children from other schools brilliantly.



Early Excellence staff training

In anticipation of the opening of our Nursery in September, the Early Years team has taken part in training to support Early Years practice.

The themes running through the training emphasise the importance of strong play provision that develops children's language acquisition and personal and social skills. For our new little learners in our Nursery, Mrs Mander, Mrs Allen and the team will be supporting the development of these areas through the use of the outdoor play areas and Forest School. They will encourage the children to develop their independent learning skills, all leading to children who are school ready for next year.

We have been successful in gaining a bid for some funding to support a research project into the impact of the outdoors on early learners and during next year, we will run this research project as part of our work, completing a case study at the end of the year.

Autumn term dates

24-28.7.17 – Holiday Club

29.8- 1.9.17 – Holiday Club

6.9.17- School opens- welcome back

29.9.17 – Scarecrow festival after school- families welcome

2.10.17- Blue and Yellow- Viking trip

5.10.17 – Purple and Green- Viking trip

6.10.17 – Red – Viking trip

18.10.17- Open Evening for families- Viking theme

18.10.17 – Half term ends for children

Mrs A Moss (Headteacher)