



Care Imagine Believe Strive Achieve

A message from Mrs Foxton



Good afternoon and welcome to the final newsletter of 2020 - what a year it has been! It doesn't seem too long ago that we were partially closed and open to key workers only. Much time and guidance has passed since then and we now find ourselves in the fortunate position of being open for all of our wonderful children. This has been no easy task – staff and children have had to

adopt completely new ways of working to ensure that our school can run safely and effectively. I would like to extend my sincere thanks for the hard work and commitment the Melbourne team demonstrate on a daily basis - I am privileged to work with such a dedicated group of people. I would also like to thank you, as parents, for your ongoing support and cooperation. I understand that the staggered starts and picks can cause difficulties. I am also grateful for your understanding when tricky decisions have to be made and for your excellent communication – thank you.

Finally, I would like to update you on some staffing news. It is with great sadness that I have to inform you that Petra Newbound, our amazing Office Manager, will be leaving during February next year. Petra has been with us here at Melbourne for almost two years and will certainly leave 'big boots' to fill. We also have some very happy news to share – Miss Taylor is expecting her second baby! I am sure you will join me in sending the warmest congratulations! As such, Miss Taylor will be finishing her work within school around February half term. We will be advertising both positions over the Christmas holiday and in to the early New Year. On behalf of myself, staff and governors I would like to wish both members of staff the very best for the future ahead.

All that remains is for me to offer my warmest wishes to you for a peaceful Christmas and New Year.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Back to School	5th January 2021
Half Term starts	11th February 2021
Back to School	22nd February 2021
End of Term	26th March 2021

Covid

A polite reminder that if your child tests positive for Covid before the 25th December, please email kfoxton@mcps.org.uk. Thank you

Note from Governors

Melbourne Primary School governors wish all our staff, pupils and parents a very Happy Christmas in these difficult times and hope that 2021 will be a better year than 2020. Thank you to Kelly and all her staff for ensuring that the children are being educated and enjoying themselves as safely as possible. We currently have two vacancies on the governing body. If you know anyone who might be interested in joining us please let school know. If you would like further information again let school know and one of us will get back to you. The current governors are parents or grandparents and we really need new members who are not either, to give us a greater variety of skills and outlook. Governors do not have to live in the school catchment area.

Our role is to be a critical friend to our school. We have two meetings a term. The last one was held on 17 November 2020 on zoom. We discussed a whole range of matters including operational priorities like pupil progress, risk assessment and finance, and strategic priorities after the school closure because of Covid, like attendance, contingency plans, maintaining a broad and balanced curriculum and safeguarding. Particularly we looked at strategic planning with Kelly giving a full report on monitoring the progress of children and maximising their time in school.

Mrs Jane Henley

(Chair of Governors)



We finished the term on a high 97.8% attendance rate! Thank you for your support.

Last week's highest attendance goes to Dragonfly Class for their rate of 99.5%!



MELBOURNE CHRISTMAS COMMITTEE – ART & CRAFT COMPETITION

We hope that you are enjoying the Christmas tree outside the Village Hall and that it is introducing some festive cheer even though we are unable to hold a fair this year. Well done to all those children who took part in the Art & Craft competition. There were 103 entries and the standard was extremely high across all age groups. The task set for the judges was incredibly difficult as so many children had been amazingly creative with their pieces but the judges thoroughly enjoyed looking at the children's work. Every child who entered will receive a small selection pack and the judges are awarding special prizes in each category to the pupils below.

Coloured Stockings:

- 1st - Lucie
- 2nd - Sophie
- 3rd - Olivia

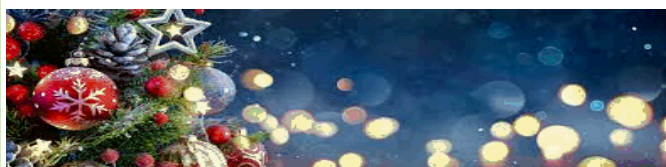
Fabric Stockings:

- 1st - Vincent
- 2nd - Isabelle
- 3rd - Henry

Wooden Penguins:

- 1st – William
- 2nd – Poppy
- 3rd – Martha

Congratulations to all of the pupils and a big thank you to the school staff for their help with organising this. Let's hope that in Christmas 2021 we will be able to gather together for a communal celebration.



Swimming—Y4—Heron Class

All being well, swimming lessons for our Y4 children will start on the 7th January. They will need to get changed at school before going and need to change quickly after swimming so please send them in PE kit (or tracksuit bottoms) for the duration of the day. Many thanks.

Award Winners

This week's award winners are:



Worker of the Week:

Cygnets & Swans— Ronnie
Mallard— Ruby R
Otter— William
Dragonfly— Peaches
Heron— The Whole Class
Kingfisher— Laythan

Our Value awards winners:

Care— Noah
Creativity— Emelia
Belief— Eliza
Effort— Amelia
Achievement— Alice B

Congratulations to all our weekly award winners—a fantastic effort from everyone!



Nativity 2020

We are proud to present our 'virtual nativity' 2020.

The whole school have been working hard and singing their socks off!

Thank you to EYFS and KS1 parents for providing some fantastic costumes as always! The Sleepy Shepherd awaits! Well done, to Otters for their fantastic acting and Cygnets, Swans and Mallards for their beautiful singing. Merry Christmas!!

We also have to commend our KS2 children on their enthusiasm and their professional performance!

We hope you enjoy the performances. The link to watch both the nativity performances can be found on the home page of our website.

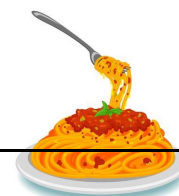
You will need your 'my learning' password for access.



Menu B - week commencing 5th January



MONDAY:		
TUESDAY:	Burgers in a bun Chips Beans/Peas	Jelly & Ice-cream Fresh fruit Yoghurt
WEDNESDAY:	Ham Yorkshire Pudding Carrots/Broccoli Roast Potatoes Gravy	Melting Moment Fresh Fruit Yoghurt
THURSDAY:	Meatballs & Pasta Sweetcorn/Mixed Veg Crusty Bread	Muffin Fresh Fruit Yoghurt
FRIDAY:	Fish Chips Beans/Peas	Shortcake & Custard Fresh Fruit Yoghurt



Wishing all our families and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! See you in 2021.

WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO THIS WEEK?

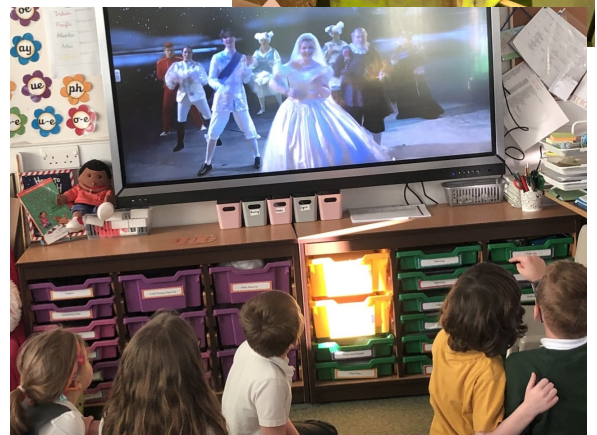
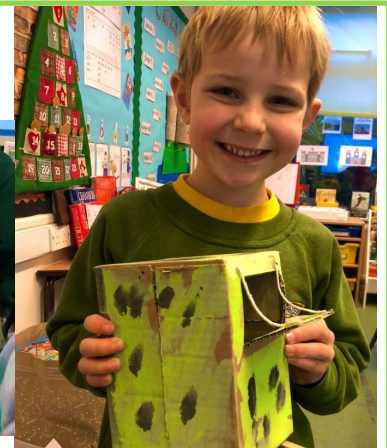
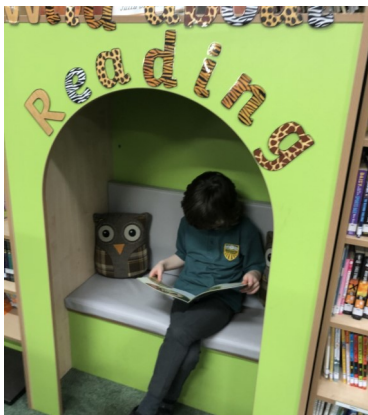
Cygnets & Swans



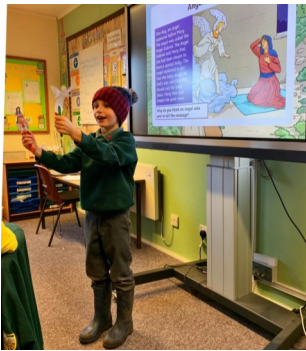
Mallards



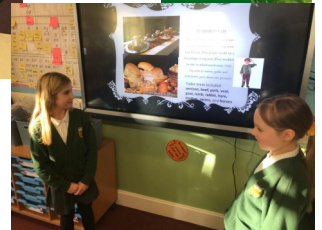
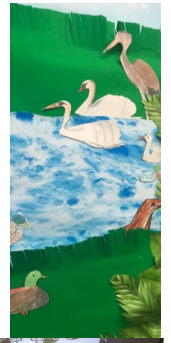
Otters



Dragonflies



Heron



Kingfishers

