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Payments

Drum roll...the good news is that SIMS Agora is once again operational and online payments are being made as we speak -Hallelujah! Letters regarding registration went home on Tuesday evening. Anyone who used Agora before will have to use the new registration number. If you have never used Agora before it will allow you to make online payments for music lessons (not Mrs Wilson piano/guitar), educational and residential visits, meals & nursery fees and other activities. We are, of course, still happy to take payments by cash or cheque (made payable to Melbourne School) but this will give you another option.

The bad news is that invoices and reminders will now be sent out for overdue accounts! We appreciate your patience during this time but we would be very pleased to see any back payments being made as soon as possible.

The only childcare voucher provider that remains outstanding is the .gov.uk site as we are still waiting guidance from HMRC.

Headlice

This has been a recurrent problem throughout this half term so far – affecting both upper and lower school. Please can we ask that all parents check children's hair over the weekend - we do understand that this is not a pleasant problem but it can affect anyone and is very treatable. Headlice are not picky about their hosts and, unfortunately, it only takes one child or adult not being treated to start the whole process again, so please be vigilant. Please remember that conditioner only immobilises lice – it doesn't kill them, or their eggs. There are many effective treatments available at chemists or via your local GP surgery. Many thanks for your consideration with this matter.

<u>Football</u>

Football teams have been very busy this week. Our team of Edward, Joe M, Danny, Gabriel F, Charlie R, Nicky, Ruben & Freddie

went to Pocklington Prep School on Wednesday afternoon to take part in under 11's 6 a side tournament. HOSM, Read, Pocklington Prep, Minster & Ackworth Schools all sent teams to compete. Our super 6ers had wins against every team, except the overall winners and therefore came in a very creditable second in the tournament. Well done boys! Then, on Thursday after school our Football Club of Danny, Edward, Eddie, Charlie R, Joe H, Gabriel F, Blake, Ruben, Jacob H & Freddie had a home fixture in a new local tournament involving teams from Wilberfoss and Stamford Bridge. Melbourne won their first game and lost the second. A rematch will take place at Wilberfoss next week. Many



thanks to parents for help with transport and touchline encouragement. Thank you Mr Dowson for his enthusiasm, training support and marking out a pitch! BIG thanks to Mrs Lawrie for organising the events and extending opportunities for our children to take part in competitive activity.

Melbourne Festive Frolics

On Sunday 2nd December at 4pm - 5:30pm, there will be a grand switch-on of the Christmas lights on Melbourne's first communal Christmas tree which will be positioned outside the Village Hall. The Festive Frolics will also include stalls and refreshments in the Hall, songs around the tree by school children from Melbourne School (more details later) and hopefully Santa will appear! In addition to this there is going to be a colouring and art competition and children will have brought home details of how to enter in their bag. All completed entries should be sent back to the school office for submission before 23rd November. Prizes will then be presented to the winners during the afternoon of the 2nd. The competition is open to all pupils (except Nursery) and we hope that many of the children will enter. All entries will be displayed in the Village Hall so the whole village can enjoy the children's work! This should be a really enjoyable, communal occasion for the village so save the date!

Flu vaccine

All children (who have been given parental permission) will be taking part in the Flu vaccination programme on the afternoon on Monday 5th November. Children will be supported by school staff throughout the procedure and will bring home a certificate to acknowledge that they received the nasal spray. Any parent, who has yet to submit the form, must now enquire via their own GP surgery as it will be too late include their child in this round of immunisations.



<u>Harvest</u>

The Rev Neville & Mrs Simpson came to school on Wednesday and led our Harvest Festival. Rev Simpson delivered a short service of thanks through verse, and his now traditional jokes. The children were challenged to find "things to be thankful for", from A-Z...this proved entertaining, with nits coming out as something to be thankful for beginning with N! The service was interspersed with songs from each Key Stage, and a whole school song complete with accompaniment from our home grown orchestra! A lovely morning was ended with refreshments and cakes. We would like to thank the Rev & Mrs Simpson and all parents and friends for coming, FoS for hosting refreshments, and parents and friends for providing cakes and donations of produce for our harvest table. All produce was donated to our friends at Stoneleigh Home for the Elderly, at Bielby.



Half term

Half term commences for the week on 29th October but please remember that next Friday (26th) is a training day therefore, our half term starts a day early! If your child is attending Holiday Club on at Melbourne for Friday 2nd November please ensure payment is made to Miss Welch before next Friday (26th) in order to guarantee a place. Please contact the office if you wish to book or email <u>lwelch@mcps.org.uk</u> directly. Thank you.

Text to parents

Unlike some other schools we very rarely use texts as a means of communication – our weekly news is full of any up to date information that we think you may need, and is sent out by email and some paper copies. There are occasions, however, when texts can be very useful and avoid the need for more paper to be used. The current texting system we have in place is adequate, but we are meeting with a company next week to see if we can invest in a more efficient way to send out messages quickly without resulting in more paper being used. We will plan to continue to only use this as a means of communication in event of changes to plans, or school closures.

Maths Challenge - Year 6

This afternoon, Mrs Knight took Joe H, Joe M, Poppy, Holly, Ryan, Jacob W & Danny to the KP Club to take part in the annual Woldgate Maths Challenge. This is always a great opportunity for the children to make friends with pupils from other schools, whilst drawing upon their numeracy and problem-solving skills. Children from Bugthorpe, Stamford Bridge, Pocklington Juniors, SUD, Barmby Moor, HOSM, Woldgate & Warter all attended. We hope the children had a great day. We would not be able to do these activities without the support of parents, and enthusiasm and encouragement from the teaching and support staff at school, so a big thank you to all concerned. Well done everyone!

School Dinners

All our dishes are homemade. Fresh fruit and yoghurt are available every day. Vegetarians and all children with special dietary requirements will be catered for. If your child is having the sandwich options during the week please let us know at the office and we will be able to supply you with the information you require. School dinners are priced at £2.40. School dinner menu - week commencing 22nd October

- Mon Pepperoni Pizza served with Potato Wedges, Baked Beans & Peas Vegetarian Cheese & Tomato Pizza Marble Sponge & Custard
- Tues Classic Lasagne served with Crusty Bread, and Winter Salad Vegetarian Roasted Vegetable Lasagne Chocolate Crispie Slice
- Weds Roast Ham with Yorkshire Pudding, Mashed Potato, Cauliflower & Peas Vegetarian Quorn Roast Fruit Platter
- Thurs Chicken wrap served with Baby Carrots, and Sweetcorn Vegetarian Jacket Potato with Cheese & Coleslaw Orange Shortcake
- Fri Fishcake served with Steak Fries, Garden Peas, and Sweetcorn Vegetarian Cheese Pasta Bake Apple Flapjack



