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<u>Brr!</u>

It has been a particularly cold week this week and we have been kept busy making sure paths and ground surfaces are clear and safe. Please can we remind you that, due to the size of the playground, there will always be potential for some untreated icy patches - so please take care around the grounds.

Library Launch

We are very pleased to announce that we are ready to launch our beautiful new library! This has only been possible due to **your** generosity at fund raising events – all arranged and coordinated by our wonderful Friends of School. The library is now equipped with new high capacity bookcases which allow us to store the wide range of books we have available. The new curved book units



can be both securely locked in place and moved due to the dual wheeled castors. This allows us to reconfigure the space as needed for learning and school performances for example. The reading nook is a real hit with the children and provides a comfortable, quiet place to retreat with a friend and a good book. There are two new study pods which will allow pupils to access a chrome book for internet research and to complete tasks electronically. The library area also includes a dedicated circular table and chairs and Friends of School have also kindly committed to fund a soft seating and carpet area, further investment in reading materials and potentially an interactive screen to allow pupils to access Ebooks and have stories read aloud to them or facilitate small groups of pupils to work with an adult.

Every single book has been catalogued and arranged in such a way to allow easy access whilst remaining interesting and stimulating for the children. We would like to thank Mrs Knight for her devotion to this cause who has worked tirelessly for many months to sort and log all books onto the Reading Cloud – a library management system which we hope will continue to improve literacy and a love of reading at Melbourne Primary School. We would also like to thank our Chair of Governors, Mrs Jane Henley, for giving up her time to come into school to help with the process – her support has been invaluable. In summary it has been fantastic team effort and we are thrilled with the results.

To celebrate the culmination of effort we will be hosting **a "Where's Wally" Day on the 14th February.** At this launch, Staff will be dressing up in "Wally" ish clothes and we would like to invite the children to do the same. This is not compulsory – if your child does not wish to dress up there is no requirement for them to do so. If, on the other hand they would like to take part, any combination of "Wally" type accessories would be fine – any stripy jumper and/or bobble hat and/ or glasses. During the day there will be activities for the children to complete - all linked to "Wally" - as well as a tour of the new library and teaching sessions on how to get the best from the resources. You will receive a letter which will explain how parents can access the system at home – this will allow your children to read a variety of books online and maybe even critique a recent book they have read! All the details will be on the forthcoming letter via the pupils' book bags. If for any reason it does not arrive home please let us know at the office and we will be happy to provide another copy.

Many thanks again to everyone in our School Community who have contributed/supported the cause to make the new library a reality for your children.

Exit from Side Gate

Please can we remind parents to use the round green button to exit the side gate. Anyone using the emergency square button will disable the system and it will not be functional until it is reset. This means that potentially the gate could be open without our knowledge and unauthorised access gained to the school grounds. Many thanks.

Layby parking

We are still having reports from parents and duty staff that a minority of family members continue to park in the layby, or between the layby and the school gate at drop off and pick up times. These areas have yellow hazard lines and as such, should not be parked on. **Please can you refrain from parking in these areas at all times** as it causes congestion, reduces visibility and means the accessibility to and from school transport is jeopardised. We all have a duty of care to keep the children in our school community safe - particularly near roads. Thank you to the vast majority of our parents and carers who follow this rule and set a good example to the children by parking responsibly. We would be grateful if you could relay this message to wider family members if they drop off and collect. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Reminders

Please can we remind parents again to inform the office if your child is not coming to school. Staff are in the office from 8.30am so are available to take messages from that time. It is of primary importance that we account for all children at registration and, therefore, we must follow up any children who are not present. We cannot accept messages which are sent in by friends or siblings. Also, please can we remind you to phone school if you have any messages which are urgent or time sensitive. We cannot guarantee that emails will be picked up in the afternoon and could lead to 'end of day arrangements' being compromised. Many thanks for your attention with these matters.

Newsletters

If you would rather receive the newsletters (Class One News and/or Newsletter) by email please let us know in the office as we can easily add you to our mailing list.

Half Term

Just a reminder the last day of this half term is Thursday 14th February. We shall NOT be in school on Friday 15th February.

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 4th February

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





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