



Livingstone Newsletter

9th September 2022

Welcome back to all of our families and a special welcome to all the new members of the Livingstone family, both in Nursery and Reception and to those in other year groups.

Star of the Week:

In our Star of the Week assembly today, all class teachers made a point of saying what a super start to the year all classes had made and how hard it had been to choose their Star of the Week. Well done to everyone.

Nursery: Nancy
Year 3: Evan

Reception: Lucy
Year 4: Lilly

Year 1: Anna
Year 5: Luke

Year 2: Jack
Year 6: Joseph

Also in our assembly today, we held a moment of silence to remember Queen Elizabeth II, her remarkable life and her devotion to duty over her incredibly long reign.

Start and finish times:

All children should arrive at school between 8.45am and 8.55am. The end of the school day is 3pm for Nursery, 3.10pm for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and 3.15pm for children in Years 3-6.

Welcome to Year session:

We are holding welcome to Year sessions on Wednesday 14th September. These sessions will be held in the classrooms and will last 20-25 minutes. We will deliver the sessions twice – once at 3.30pm and once at 4pm. This means that you will be able to attend two different year group's presentations. These presentations will give you a chance to meet the teachers, find out about routines and expectations and about any official assessments that happen in this year group. We hope as many people as possible will attend as it will provide lots of useful information.

Dogs:

Please could we ask that when bringing dogs to school, you move a little away from the gate. We had a lot of dogs around the gate at one point and this makes it hard for children who are scared of dogs to come into school and there is always a risk of over-excited dogs biting. Thank you for your help.

Nut and Sesame free school:

Please can we remind parents and carers that we are a nut and sesame free school. This means that children should not bring to school items for their lunch that contain nuts or sesame. This includes peanut butter or chocolate nut spread sandwiches, cereal bars with nuts in them and the one that has been catching a few people out recently is hummus as this generally contains tahini which is sesame seed paste. If we see children with these items in their packed lunch we will substitute the item. Snacks should just be fruit or vegetables. Thank you for your help in this matter.

Free School Meals:

If your financial situation has changed, and you are now receiving some benefits, please contact the office to see whether you might be entitled to Free School Meals. Eligibility is defined through the benefits that you claim but we can check eligibility at school with just a little bit of information. Once we have entered this information on the system, it will check regularly whether you have become eligible and will notify us automatically. It is worth doing this even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and already gets a universal free school meal because it also brings additional funding in to school to support learning and can qualify you for other support.

Clubs:

We are aiming to get more clubs up and running. These will be added to School Spider hopefully on Monday for parents to log on and book and will start next week. With the current cost of living, we will aim to not charge for these clubs where at all possible.



Little Stones Holiday opening:

Unfortunately, Little Stones will no longer be able to offer a holiday club as take up over the summer was not high enough.

School Dinner Price:

I made a mistake with the message sent out about school meal prices. The cost to parents for children in Nursery and Year 3-6 for a meal is now £2.68. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will still get free school meals through the Universal Free School Meals scheme.

Attendance Policy

We always aim to work closely with parents and carers to support the attendance and punctuality of our children; to build personal resilience, and to enable children to achieve their maximum potential. Poor attendance and punctuality at primary school can often lead to bad habits and poor attendance at secondary school leading to students not achieving their best. A child who has an attendance of 95% will have missed 9 days learning during the year which will begin to impact their achievement and may also start to impact their friendship groups. At 90% attendance, classed as persistent absence, children will be missing 19 days of school and so the impact will be much more significant and potentially detrimental. The below points give you a summary of our attendance policy:

- Parents/carers will be asked to attend an attendance meeting with the Attendance Officer when attendance falls below 95% and / or where attendance appears to be deteriorating or if patterns of absence are emerging
- Any unauthorised absence of 10 sessions or 5 school days or more will be referred to the Education Welfare Service in line with Tameside's Code of Conduct for the use of Fixed Penalty Notices
- Wherever possible, doctor /dentist appointments should be made outside of school hours unless it is an emergency. Any appointments made during school hours will require evidence.

The Local Authority and school are committed to providing the best possible future for your child. If you have concerns about your child's attendance at school or if you are experiencing any difficulties, please contact the school and ask for help. Thank you for working with us to improve attendance this year.

Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 13th September: First Brass session for Year 6

Wednesday 14th September: Welcome to Year Group Parents' and Carers' sessions 3.30pm & 4pm

Tuesday 27th September: Mossley Hollins Open Evening for Year 5 & 6

Thursday 6th October: Individual and sibling photos

Tuesday 11th October: Year 3 to Harvest experience at the Methodist Church

Monday 17th October / Tuesday 18th October: Year 3 Spanish Day @ MHHS

Thursday 20th October: Hallowe'en Disco EYFS & KS1 5.30pm – 6.30pm; KS2 6.45 -8pm

Friday 21st October: End of Half term 1

Monday 24th October – Friday 28th October: half term holiday

Monday 31st October: Start of half term 2

Wednesday 2nd November: MCSP Maths Virtual challenge for Year 6

Thursday 3rd November: MCSP Debate meeting

Tuesday 8th November: Livingstone Open afternoon / evening for new Nursery and Reception September 2023.

Wednesday 16th November: Parents' evening 3.30pm – 6pm (in person)

Thursday 17th November: Flu vaccinations; Parents' evening 4.30pm – 7pm (telephone and Zoom)

Monday 21st November: Year 6 to Mossley Hollins for Mayan cookery session

Thursday 8th December: Year 6 Safe Squad at school

Monday 12th December: EYFS nativity 10am; Year 1 & 2 nativity 2pm & 6pm

Tuesday 13th December: EYFS nativity 10am; Year 1& 2 nativity 2pm

Thursday 15th December: EYFS / KS1 party am; Y3&4 party pm

Friday 16th December: Carol concert 9.10am; Y5&6 party pm; end of term 3.15pm

Monday 19th December – Monday 2nd January 2023: Christmas holiday

Tuesday 3rd January 2023: Inset Training Day for Staff

Wednesday 4th January 2023: Children return to school

