



5 October 2016

## MENGHAM INFANT SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's certainly been a busy start to our school year and we're really pleased that all our new entrants have settled so well and our school is already a calm and happy hive of activity.

We are currently awaiting the report from our recent OFSTED inspection and as soon as we have it we will make sure we pass it on to parents. Many thanks to all the parents who took the time to fill in our Parents View questionnaire. Your comments were much appreciated.

### Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

Thank you all for your support at our recent Macmillan Coffee Afternoon. It was fantastic to see so many of our school community turn out to support this cause, raising an impressive £700.

### Around the World

As part of our work on developing children's understanding of the wider world we are building up our "Around the World" board. If you have a photograph of a family member who lives in a different country then please send a copy into school and fill in the form included in this newsletter and we will add it to our world map. The children love looking at this board and tracing the different members of our wider school community to their different countries.

### Early Years

Thank you to all our Year R parents for your support with encouraging your children to be independent coming into their classroom. This helps to make the start to the day a little less busy in the unit and allows your child to start to manage their own morning routines. If you have any concerns that you need passing on in the mornings please talk to the member of staff on the door and they will make sure they are passed on. If you need to talk to your child's teacher we strongly recommend catching them at the end of the day once the children have left. As I'm sure you all understand, once we have children in school they become our priority, which can make it difficult to give parents our full attention.

### Facebook Group

Just a quick reminder that in order to access our closed group school facebook page we must have received your signed user's agreement in the office. Please let us know if you need another copy of this form.

### Important Date Change

Unfortunately the training we had planned for staff on our INSET day on Tuesday January 3rd has had to be rescheduled by the training provider to Friday January 27th. This means that the children will now return to school on Tuesday January 3rd and school will be closed for staff training on Friday January 27th.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.



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### Tesco Bid

We have received the following update from Tesco. Unfortunately, due to a shortage in voting equipment outside of Tesco and Groundwork's control, it has become necessary to delay the customer voting until 31 October to 13 November (originally planned to take place 26 September to 9 October).

We are starting our improvements in our Early Years outside area on Saturday morning (8th Oct) from 9am-12pm. Parents and carers are invited to join our team as we make improvements to our mud kitchen and wilderness areas. We are offering tea and snacks as an incentive to get involved and look forward to seeing some of you there!

Best Wishes

Lindsay Rebbitt

Headteacher

### **Governor's Comment**

Four governors attended a meeting with the OFSTED Inspector last week. He asked very searching questions about the school and the Governing Body and we await his judgement in the coming weeks. Meanwhile, the governors are beginning to monitor the work of the school and our first round of Governing Body meetings take place next week. The Resources Committee, which monitors standards of teaching, personnel issues, Health and Safety and Buildings, meets on October 4. The following day the Curriculum and Improvement Committee meet to look at standards of learning, achievement, welfare and attendance of pupils and curriculum content and delivery. As you know, we need a parent governor to join our team, so please give it serious thought. Monitoring of standards in English and Health and Safety have been carried out since the beginning of term. 3 governors attended the Coffee afternoon in aid of Macmillan and were delighted to see so many of you there. It was a joy to see the children rise to the occasion with such enthusiasm.

### **REMINDERS**

#### **Food**

We do have some children in the school community who have severe nut allergies. Our Policy for food in school is not to have any products with nuts, so would ask that all parents check that any items going into their child's lunchbox do not contain any nuts.

#### **Gates**

Please remember to use the **pedestrian gates** only - even if the vehicular gate is open! During the day, the gate next to Childsplay and the gate between the library and fire station will be locked between 9.30 am and 2.50pm, so the only access to school will be through the pedestrian gate next to the vehicular gates.

#### **Play equipment**

Please remind all children that the play equipment is not for use before or after school. The equipment is only covered by insurance during the school day when being supervised by the school staff.

#### **Labelling clothes**

Please make sure your child has all their items of clothing labelled - correctly.

#### **Lateness and absence**

If your child is going to be late to school due to an appointment, please let the school office know. If they will be in during the morning and will need a lunch, lunch orders need to be given to the Kitchen by 10am. If your



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child is going to be absent from school, please remember to telephone, or text, the school office to let us know the reason for the absence. We are able to deal with children with coughs and colds, but would ask that you keep any child at home who has had sickness or diarrhoea, for a period of 48 hours from the **last bout of sickness or diarrhoea**.

Thank you for your co-operation with the above.

### **Year R**

Year R children have settled in really well. We have been doing lots of exploring within our classroom, our outside area and the school grounds. Walking to the woods and collecting conkers underneath the Horse Chestnut Tree have been thoroughly enjoyed by all children. Just a reminder to parents that we do go outside in all weather, so if you haven't done so already please can you send a pair of wellies in for your child to keep at school. Even if it is not raining when you walk to school, the ground outside may be muddy and it may start to rain again!

From Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October we would like to encourage parents to say goodbye to their child at the classroom door. Mrs McNally and Mrs Smith will be in the classroom from 8:45am now so there will be plenty of adults around to support any children who are still a bit worried about coming in by themselves. Mrs Topazio-Collis will be at the door to support where needed.

Finally, a big well done to all children for settling into school life so well. ☺

### **Year 1**

In Year 1 we are really enjoying our topic on pirates. In English we have learnt the story of 'The Night Pirates' and have written some super sentences from the book. We have learnt how to use adjectives to make our writing more interesting to the reader.

We have had some emails from the Rough Tough Grown Up pirates this week and are helping them search for the sea monster that bit their ship. We will then be writing some instructions for them to read to help them catch the pesky sea monster.



This week we have decorated the sea monster drawings sent to us from the Rough Tough Grown Up Pirates. We think they look amazing but very scary!

In maths we have solved problems given to us from the pirates, such as: All of the pirates have 3 pieces of gold each but Captain Patch gets one more, how many does he have? This meant we learnt how to find one more and one less than different numbers which we practised in lots of different ways. We have practised our counting and have written our numbers carefully. We are now learning how to measure different things using lots of resources to help us.



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## Year 2

In Year 2 our topic is going very well. In English we have innovated the original Traction Man story into a Wow Woman story. The children are now inventing their individual stories and we can't wait to hear them. When finished they will be reading them to Year 1 to demonstrate their use of expanded noun phrases which we have been working on.



Drama to retell the Traction Man story

Well done to all those who have been learning their weekly spellings - this is having a great impact on children's work.

This week the children have begun to make their vehicles for their superhero. Many thanks to those parents who sent in boxes etc. When you come into class during art week you will be able to see the children's amazing work.

In maths we have now completed 2D and 3D shapes, symmetry, money, pattern and measuring and fractions. Any work you can do with your child around these topics will further reinforce their learning. We are now going to be moving on to number and place value, addition and subtraction, and multiplication and division.

If you wish to receive this newsletter by e-mail please ensure we have your up to date e-mail address. It is also available on the school website.

Visit our updated website at: [www.mengham-inf.hants.sch.uk](http://www.mengham-inf.hants.sch.uk)



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Child's name \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Class \_\_\_\_\_

This is a photo of \_\_\_\_\_

They are from / work in \_\_\_\_\_

An interesting fact about this country is \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_