



Autumn Term Newsletter No.11 (29.11.19)

This week it has been a busy time for our school governors. On Tuesday, our Vice-Chairperson Jamie Cree joined us to explore the progress we are making with the changes to our curriculum and the quality of support we give to those pupils who qualify for the pupil premium. He met with Miss Wooldridge who is our Pupil Premium Champion and Mr Robinson who leads on our curriculum to challenge and support their work. He also enjoyed one of our lovely school lunches with myself and the children.

On Thursday evening, the Full Governing Board met to explore school data and trends. We looked at our school strengths and at the areas where we need to improve. Understanding this picture enables governors to ask the right questions to hold us to account.

As an Academy Trust we have two layers to our governors. Sitting at the top and meeting once a year we have three members: Jonathan Dickson (the Chairperson), Myles Key and Ray Hill. Sitting below them is the main board of governors (also known as trustees) who are more actively involved in school improvement across the year. Jonathan is also a governor as well as member. This main board meets four times a year. It is also divided further into different committees who meet across the year for finance & audit, pay & staffing and educational standards. Other committees can be convened on a needs basis. In addition each of our governors has a 1:1 role linked to a school improvement priority like Jamie Cree's work mentioned above.

There have recently been a few changes to the governing board. Myles and Ray moved to become members while Lisa Phillips, one of our parent governors, stepped down this term after over 6 years of service. Lisa has been proactive in providing support and challenge with her characteristic warmth. We are particularly grateful for her commitment to SEN and Safeguarding where she has worked closely with Mrs Pike to support us in these two important areas. She will be greatly missed and we would like to express our gratitude for her time and commitment to St Margaret's. Because of this we have a vacancy for a new parent governor which we will be advertising in the new year. If you are interested in this role please look out for further information in January.

On Thursday we welcomed three new governors to the board: Tom Brookman-Skirrow, Lyndsey Kane and Simon Kane, each of whom bring skills from their day jobs that will help support us. Simon works in the health and safety / building industry while Lyndsey and Tom are both in education. Tom was a pupil here himself and recognises many of the staff on our photographs.

On Monday and Tuesday we had the second round of workshops from Bullies Out. Steve, who ran the groups commented, "*All of the children were amazing and are a credit to the teachers. Well behaved, polite and embraced all the workshops with enthusiasm*". Have a look in our Mental Health and Well-being Blog to read about [Year 3's workshop](#).

On Thursday we were joined by Phil, Sandra, Pam and John from Dunboyne Court who came to look at the local history projects children had done. They enjoyed lunch with the children and it was very successful trip for both us and them and they were very impressed with school. You can read more about it on our [SMSC Blog](#). We look forward to them coming again in the spring term when we will focus on a science project.

Loving Maths?! Follow this link <https://www.theschoolrun.com/3-times-table-learning> for some top tips to support learning the 3 times table at home. Look in the [Maths Blog](#) for a particularly tricky maths challenge this week - 20 Golden Rings! Take your solutions to Miss Wooldridge in Hazel Class on Friday at break time.

Token Collection for Collins Big Cat Reading Programme

If you are a reader of The Sun or know someone who is, we'd really like your help. We're aiming to collect 3500 tokens which are printed in The Sun every day starting from Saturday 23.11.19 and running until Saturday 18.1.20. If we reach our target we have a chance to claim a whole school reading scheme from Collins called *The Big Cat Reading Programme*. This would really help boost our reading collection so if you think you can help please do collect those tokens and send them in.

Polite Prompt for Polite Parking Please

Please can I again ask for your help with parking around school. Local residents regularly write to me with concerns about their drives being blocked and access for emergency vehicles being restricted. It must be very frustrating for them. Please can I appeal to you again for your consideration about this. Thank you.

Miss Palfrey and the Reading Ambassadors' Weekly Book Choices



Suitable for all readers: *The Snowman* by Michael Morpurgo

Suitable for older readers: *The Fate of Fausto* by Oliver Jeffers



Weekly Attendance Award

Congratulations again to **Willow** Class for winning the School Attendance Award with **99.3%** attendance. School target: 96% The whole school achieved **95.8% last week**



Stars of the Week

Beech	Livia - for simply being a lovely member of our class. Always in the right place at the right time trying her hardest in everything she does!
Pine	Ruby is an amazingly kind, caring and considerate young girl. She puts great effort into all of her work and we are lucky to have her in Pine class.
Oak	Toby - for showing responsibility by always being one of the first to start the early morning jobs and for supporting others by explaining what to do.
Apple	Myo - an amazing trolley model in DT we were so impressed by the wheel mechanism that you came up with as it was different to everyone else
Birch	Charlie M - For an exceptionally brilliant week!!!! You have completed all of your learning tasks and you have been a model student! A huge well done!
Rowan	Amelia K - for consistently following our school values and contributing lots to lessons, especially our writing sessions.
Cherry	Poppy always tries her best in everything she does, not just in the classroom but also at football club where she has shown amazing improvement in her skills as a result of listening to advice. We love your super attitude - well done!
Maple	Vaughn - for producing aspirational work and for embracing challenge in all areas of the curriculum.
Willow	Gemma has approached her work with a great attitude this week and has been incredibly responsible about how regularly she has participated in class.
Holly	Leon has made a real effort to make great choices in both his learning and behaviour this term. Well done! We are all really proud of you.
Hazel	Toby - for fantastic participation and such a mature, responsible attitude towards learning. You're making excellent progress! Well done!
Hawthorn	Marco- for his incredible effort in all aspects of his learning. His energy and enthusiasm brighten up our classroom.

Diary Dates

Tue 3.12.19	KS1 Nativity at the Princess Theatre—2.00pm (siblings of a child in the show are welcome to attend if collected from school—please notify the office)
Fri 6.12.19	Christmas school dinner day—yum! Plus, <i>Wear a Christmas Jumper Day</i> —in aid of <i>Save the Children</i> —suggested donation of £1 PTA Christmas Fair after school
Mon 9.12.19	3.10pm in the school hall—PTA Mega Christmas Draw
Tue 17.12.19	6.00pm KS2 Carol Concert at Upton Vale Baptist Church
Tue 7.1.20	First day back for the children after the Christmas break

KINDNESS

RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY

ASPIRATION