



Mayflower Primary School



Evington Drive, Leicester. LE5 5PH

www.mayflower.leicester.sch.uk
office@mayflower.leicester.sch.uk



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

Weekly Newsletter – Edition 9

Well, that is yet another week behind us and I cannot believe it is only 5-weeks until Christmas. For those that are celebrating, there is always so much to do, and with schools going all the way through until the 22nd, there isn't going to be too much time to do it. Never mind, and I always like things to be busy. This morning, I very much enjoyed hosting an assembly with all of the children in Key Stage 2 where we talked about some of the world events that are taking place at the moment, our duty to stand up for what is right, and also the amazing learning that has taken place in all year groups. I am always proud to be the Head Teacher at Mayflower, but never more so than when I can celebrate learning with the children.

The Numbers are in....

Okay, make sure you are sitting down before you read this paragraph, because we have been able to calculate what is likely to be our final total for the fundraising that has been taking place in school for the last few weeks. Warning, it is a large amount, so make sure there is someone in the room before reading on. Here it comes, the suspense is too much, but, the full and verified total is **£5,255.00!!** Very well done to everyone, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart for the generosity you have shown. I have also been very struck by the way the children have engaged with all of our events, and special thanks to those that have continued the fundraising at home. Just this week, I received a tin containing over £150 that a family had raised. It is attitudes such as these that me so grateful to work at Mayflower Primary School.

Trips and Enrichment Everywhere!!

As a school, we try to enrich lessons with real experiences that create wonderful memories for all of the children. This week has seen a preponderance of such opportunities, and my thanks to staff for working so hard to embed such high quality learning experiences that illuminate the curriculum. KW spent a day at Nottingham University learning some more about the Stone Age, and next week, it will be the turn of 3SH. Maybe, in the years to come, when our children are thinking about the university they would like to attend, these wonderful memories will come flooding back, encouraging them to choose Nottingham! 2AJ also had an exciting day out at Avanti Fields, where they took part in a Sports Festival. Luckily, the weather was amazing, but what a wonderful opportunity to deepen our links with one of the newest schools in the City of Leicester. For Year 5, a very special person came into school to talk about what life was like in London during the Blitz. Rapidly, the children worked out it was actually my mother!! Her father, my grandfather, was a senior officer in the RAF. After the war, he was stationed in Pakistan and helped to set up what is now known as the Royal Pakistan Air Force. Indeed, the whole family relocated to Karachi, and was there at the time of the partition between India and Pakistan. Living through such tumultuous times in history is truly awe-inspiring, and it was so good to see the children showing such a deep interest in history. How sad, also, that with the end of World War 2, there was a global commitment to end all wars, but now, in 2023, we can see that there is still so much to do to make this aspiration a reality.

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Chair of Governors: *Mr K Bhogaita*

Chair of FOM: *Mrs. R. Debar*
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The New Building

More exciting news on the way, and this time it is about our new buildings on the Ethel Road Playing Fields. Sadly, I was not able to join Miss McKenley-Ballantyne and Mr. Wilkinson, but for the first time ever, staff have actually been allowed into both our new buildings!! To say they were impressed and inspired would probably be the understatement of the year, but it was brilliant to see them coming back with such a positive view. Reds10 have really pulled out all the stops, and I think you will also be impressed once the children move in. Finally, the timescale has slipped a little, but now we have seen the quality of our new school, we are not too concerned about this. The target date is the February half-term, and I again take this opportunity to remind you that may we need to close for an extra few days at this time, just to make sure that all of the classrooms and ancillary spaces are properly set up to welcome the children back.

A Grand Opening Event

Given the excitement there has been about the new building, staff are currently considering what kind of special event we can put on to officially announce we are open. As parents, you also have amazing, creative ideas, so if anything inspirational comes your way, just let me know. We are also aware that children at the younger end of the school will benefit from doing some pre-visits during Termlet 3. This will help to prepare them for the many changes that are ahead.

A Marquee and updated Safety Advice

At school, we are very conscious that the colder weather will soon be upon us and that the amount of shelter for the bus children is extremely limited. With this in mind, and with the support of the DfE, we are exploring the possibility of putting up a very large marquee on the main school playground, big enough to accommodate all of the children. This will give a safe, dry space, making the whole process easier, and can also be used as a PE hall during the school day for the children based at the Mayflower site. Next, I would like to issue a request about bikes and scooters on the playground at the end of the day. Luckily, there have been no accidents, but it can be a very busy space, so it might be best if the children **did not** ride around as they wait. Finally, please could great care be taken when crossing Evington Drive? It has been brought to my attention that this week, some families were crossing between the buses. Our crossing patrol is almost always there, and he will keep everyone safe. Thank you.

Attendance

Some very pleasing figures yet again this, week and my thanks for all the great efforts you go to each day to bring the children into school:

| Week Beginning Monday 10 th November 2023 | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Early Years | Key Stage 1 | Lower Key Stage 2 | Upper Key Stage 2 |
| Chestnut: 98.4% | 2AJ: 97.3% | 3KW: 97.3% | 6RK: 98.6% |

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Wow Moments in School

Here is a small selection of some of the amazing things that have been happening in school this week:

| | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |
| Phonics – Y1 | Clever maths – Y1 | PE – Y3 | Teamwork – Y3 |
|  |  |  |  |
| More teamwork – Y3 | Creative writing – Y4 | More writing – Y4 | Problem-solving – Y5 |
|  |  |  | |
| Special Visitor – Y5 | Special Visitor – Y5 | Special Visitor – Y5 | Reports – Y6 |

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