

MICKLEOVER PRIMARY SCHOOL

September 2017

NEWSLETTER

Free School Meals

Some children are entitled to free meals at school. Please read on for further information.

Changes to school meals for Infants from September 2014

From September 2014, all children in the infants (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) will automatically receive a free school meal. If you are entitled (see below for criteria) it is important that you complete a free school meal application form, as registering could mean extra government funding for our school.

Even if you don't want your child to receive a free meal, **it is important to register** so that the school gets as much money as possible. This extra money could go towards things like extra tuition, additional teaching assistants and after-school activities. Signing up for free school meals does not mean that your child must have a school meal five days a week. You can choose to provide a packed lunch on some days, if you prefer. Please advise the office on which days of the week they will be having a school meal. If you wish to change the pattern of lunches.

How to apply

To sign up for free school meals, please see the school office for an application form.

Free school meals for Junior pupils

Free school meals are available for all school-aged children whose parent(s), carer(s) or guardian(s) receive one of the following benefits:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under part six of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- Child Tax Credit only (provided you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and your annual income does not exceed £16,190)
- Pension Credit Guarantee
- Universal Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit).



Harvest

We felt it would be nice to support the elderly in our own community at harvest time, so are once again partnering up with the 'Live at Home' scheme here in Mickleover / Littleover. As you are always so generous in your donations, we will also be sending surplus

donations to The Padley Centre in Derby.

We will be holding our harvest assembly on Monday 9th October. We will be asking the children to bring their harvest gifts into school on this day, and if possible, to put them in a small, decorated shoe box, as this will make transportation easier. Also, please send non-perishable donations as they last longer, eg tins, tea, coffee, biscuits, long life fruit juice etc, as we won't be able to deliver the gifts until later in the week. Alternatively, if you know an elderly person in the Mickleover area (within walking distance of school) whom you feel would appreciate a harvest gift from the school, please fill in the slip at the end of the letter, return it to school and we will ensure that it is delivered to them at some point during the week of the 9th. Thank you for your support.

Christmas Dinner

I am pleased to be able to tell you that once again, we will be opening Christmas dinner up to all children in school. It will take place on Thursday 14th Dec. If your child would like Christmas dinner, please fill in the slip below and send back to school along with £2.00 (KS2 only need to pay), by Friday 20th Oct.

Please note that all children need to bring a slip back if they would like Christmas dinner.



Absences from School

On the first morning of your child's absence, please ring school to let us know that your child is poorly; you can leave a message on the office answer phone. When your child is well enough to return to school, please send a written note in addition to the phone call, as we need these to keep in our records.



Welcome to all our new staff this term:

Miss Garner who is our new Year 5 teacher; Mrs Bramall who manages the before and after school club and is also a teaching assistant in Year 6; Mrs Makwana who is a teaching assistant in Year 4 and the before and after school club team: Mr Morten, Mrs Burman and Miss Whittaker.

Who do I talk to?

If ever you have anything you are concerned about, regarding school, your child's class teacher is always the first port of call. As the children now come into school at 8.45am, unfortunately your child's class teacher won't be able to speak to you at this time of the day, although messages can always be passed onto them through the school office. The end of the day is always the best time to catch them - if you work, a quick phone call to the class teacher will enable you to arrange a mutually convenient time to meet.

There may be occasions when you would like to speak to Mrs Halliday (KS2 Assistant Headteacher), or Mrs Jones (KS1 Assistant Headteacher); again, a quick phone call to discuss your concern or make an appointment to come into school is best rather than trying to catch them at the beginning or end of the day.

As you know, I am always at the gate first thing in the morning and most afternoons and can pass messages / concerns on to relevant staff members, so come and chat to me.

Mrs Coyle, our Safeguarding and Inclusion Manager, is available to speak to if you feel your child is struggling at school eg due to family break-up, illness or bereavement. She can be contacted via the school office. If you feel your child has additional needs then Mrs Goozee is our SENCO.

Whatever your concern, there is someone in school who can help you. If you don't feel that the issue is solved initially, please let us know so that we can try a different strategy. It's through working together that we will be able to keep your children happy and safe at school.



Term Dates 2017-18

Term dates for the current year and future years can always be found on the Derby City website: www.derby.gov.uk



Thurs 19th Oct 2017	Break up for half term
Mon 30th Oct 2017	Return to school
Tues 19th Dec 2017	Break up for Christmas
Wed 3rd Jan 2018	Return to school
Fri 16th Feb 2018	Break up for half term
Mon 26th Feb 2018	Return to school
Fri 23rd March 2018	Break up for Easter
Mon 9th April 2018	Return to school
Fri 25th May 2018	Break up for half term
Mon 4th June 2018	Return to school
Wed 25th July 2018	Break up for summer

Private Access Road

Please could I ask parents who are waiting for their children, to wait on the school grounds rather than on the access road as I have had complaints from residents that they are not able to access their garages, get to their houses etc. At this time of day, the gates are shut, so you are able to wait on the car park.



Also, you may not be aware, but the road that many of you use for walking along to get into school, is not a public footpath but is a private access road, owned by the houses and not a public right of way. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.



Bikes/scooters

It's great to see so many children cycling and scooting to school. (Please make sure bikes/scooters are named.) Just a reminder that within the school grounds, the children **must** walk their bikes and scooters; this also applies to the car park.

Home-school diaries

Please remember to sign the home-school diaries when you have listened to your child read. You can also use the diary for any notes or messages to the class teacher.

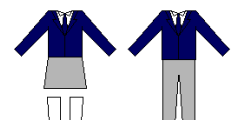
Parking

When dropping off and picking up your child from school, please try to avoid parking on the pavement or across residents' driveways.

Uniform

You can now buy our embroidered uniform from the Tesco clothing website. Please visit Tesco F & F website and choose our school from the 'embroidery service'. There is a link on our school website you can use. The school will receive cash back rewards for all uniform purchased.

If you have any uniform queries, the school brochure is available on the website or you can ask in the office. Here's a brief overview: grey trousers/skirt, white polo shirt/blouse, maroon sweatshirt/cardigan, white/black/grey socks/tights, black school shoes. Please name **all** uniform, shoes, coats, PE kits etc. As the weather becomes colder and wetter, you may wish your child to wear boots to and from school and at playtime/lunchtime. If this is the case, please send your child with their school shoes to change into when inside. Whilst jewellery and nail polish are not allowed, children may wear a watch and a pair of small, plain stud earrings if they wish. Please note that earrings **must not** be worn for PE. If your child is unable to remove their own earrings, please do this for them on PE days, before coming to school. We also ask that girls wear **plain clips/headbands** - no large flowers or bows.



Inset Days

Inset days this year are on the following dates:

Friday 20th October, Monday 29th January, Friday 15th June and Monday 18th June. The children will not be in school on these days

Murray Park School Open Evening for years 5 & 6 on Thursday 28 September, 4.30pm-7pm. The Head teacher will be speaking at 5pm and 6.15pm. We look forward to meeting you and your child and showing you our school.

Parents' Evening (17th & 19th Oct)

A letter will be coming out soon to invite you to parents' evening, between 3.30-6.30pm, to meet your child's class teacher and discuss how your child has settled into their new school year.

Creative Technology Workshop, Mickleover Library

This workshop offers children, aged from 8 to 14 years, an opportunity to get creative and have fun using a range of programming software to draw machines and robots, create games and animations; and learn about LEDs and electronics and more. The workshop will take place on Saturday 16 September from 2:00pm-5:00pm and will be held at Mickleover Library.

There will be lots of practical activities and participants are invited to bring along their own laptop to install free programming software to take home.

Booking is essential. Book and pay online on Eventbrite or at any Derby library. Places are limited and already selling fast, so early booking is recommended. For more information call Mickleover Library on 01332 718926 or email. This event is organised by Derby Libraries and delivered by Interact Digital Arts.



Christmas Dinner

I would like to book Christmas dinner on Thursday 14th December. I enclose £2.00 payment for the dinner (**KS2 only**)

My child will bring a packed lunch

Child's name: _____

Class: _____

Child's name: _____

Class: _____

Child's name: _____

Class: _____

Child's name: _____

Class: _____

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Harvest Gift

Child's name: _____ Class _____

We would like to nominate the following person for an MPS harvest gift:

Name _____

Address _____

Signed: _____ (Parent)