

November 2024

Mere Green Primary School

'Making a difference'



Acting Head Teacher Update

It is a pleasure to write to you again as we reflect on an eventful and successful half term. With Christmas fast approaching, preparations are well underway across the school, but before we immerse ourselves in the magic of the festive season, I'd like to take a moment to celebrate the wonderful achievements we've shared so far.

We began the half term with fantastic Diwali celebrations. A special thank you goes to our wonderful parent volunteer who dedicated two full days to apply henna designs for over 150 children. The celebrations were further enriched by an engaging assembly, where we learned about family traditions, followed by a delicious celebration lunch. It was a memorable start to the term, bringing joy and cultural learning to everyone.

We also celebrated a significant milestone with a successful parents' evening, accompanied by overwhelmingly positive feedback. As a school, we are committed to providing the highest levels of care and opportunity for your children, and it is heartening to see this reflected in your responses. Thank you to everyone who took the time to share their thoughts. We are always eager to hear your suggestions for improvement, so please don't hesitate to reach out to us in person or via message.

This half term has been filled with exciting events, including Anti-Bullying Week and Nursery Rhyme Week. A particular highlight was the captivating performance from BBC Future Makers, which left children and staff alike inspired and entertained. Additionally, our most recent SEND Coffee Morning was a great success. We were delighted to welcome guest speakers who provided valuable insights and support, and it was wonderful to see so many parents and carers engaging in this event.

As we move towards the end of the term, the excitement is building for our Christmas events. We're thrilled to kick off the season with our Lichfield Cathedral Concert on Tuesday evening.

This year, in response to your feedback, we've ensured that every year group is involved in a Christmas performance. Staff have been working tirelessly to prepare the children, and their enthusiasm is infectious! We can't wait to welcome you into school to share the joy of the season and celebrate the children's hard work and talent.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we've achieved so much this term, and we're looking forward to creating even more wonderful memories in the weeks to come.

Lucia Wilder (formerly Lucia Thornton)
Acting Headteacher

Reverse Advent Calendar

This year, we are thrilled to partner once again with our local food bank, Hope, to take part in a reverse advent calendar. Instead of receiving a gift each day, participants are invited to donate one item daily to support those in need. Last year, Hope Food was overwhelmed by the generosity of our school community, and we are delighted to continue this tradition of giving. To see the list of requested donation items, please check the calendar shared on Class Dojo. Together, let's make a difference this holiday season!

Parking

We kindly remind everyone to prioritise safety and consideration when parking near the school. Please avoid parking on pavements or areas close to the school gates, as this can create hazards for children and pedestrians. Instead, we encourage you to make use of the ample parking available in the nearby car parks. This helps ensure the safety of all in our community.

School Dinner Money

To ensure your child's school meals are covered, we recommend topping up your account on My Child at School (MCAS) based on the meals you plan to order.

Sutton Theatre: Nativity Performance

Exciting news! Sutton Theatre's Nativity Performance is just around the corner, and tickets are still available. We're especially proud to announce that one of our very own talented pupils, Olly M., will be starring in the production! Don't miss this festive treat and the chance to support Olly as he shines on stage. Tickets are selling fast, so be sure to grab yours soon!

Dropping items Off during School Hours

Just a friendly reminder to please keep item drop-offs during school hours to a minimum. Since we experience busy periods throughout the day, we can't always guarantee that items will reach your student promptly and want to avoid disappointment.

Nursery Rhyme Week: The Ridiculous Rhyme Show and Workshop

Thank you for your contributions towards The Ridiculous Rhyme Show which helped kick-start National Nursery Rhyme Week across the school. Children from nursery to year 4 enjoyed an energetic performance from the CBBC actor, Joe Chambers. It taught children phonetic awareness and rhyming skills, all whilst having lots of fun. You could hear the children's roars of laughter from outside the building!

Years 5 and 6 participated in an engaging and purposeful workshop, learning about behind-the-scenes production of television shows, particularly CBBC's, The Rhyme Rocket.

Throughout the week, children performed and explored the meanings behind traditional nursery rhymes in greater depth.

Nursery rhymes have many benefits, especially for developing language and communication skills. The repetition of words and ideas plays a vital role in early brain development.

How many nursery rhymes does your child know off by heart?



Pastoral Team

A little about our wonderful pastoral team and the brilliant work they do for our students!

Pastoral Team

Do you know.....

This half term the pastoral team have worked with over 80 children and have provided 9 different intervention programmes.

Thinking and Concentration

Cherish KS1 and KS2

Confidence/ Self Esteem

Friendship

Anger/Rage

Well-being checks

Attendance focus groups

Bereavement

Emotional Regulation

Intervention sessions consist of weekly group sessions and are carried out over a full term. Children's progress is monitored via a Motional Assessment and is reviewed throughout the intervention.



Mrs Cartwright
Pastoral Leader



Mr Wilkes
Learning Mentor



Mr Smith
Pastoral Asst



Mrs Hill
Learning Mentor

The Reader's Roundup, ready for Christmas

Look out for Issue 2 of our reading newsletter, The Reader's Roundup, where you will find book recommendations for Christmas, for both YOU and your child. Keep Christmas simple this year: Something they want, something they need, something to wear and something to read. Father Christmas knows how special books are.

Person of the Month



As part of our partnership with Aldi, we had the privilege of meeting our Key Person of the Week, Nick Cummings, a remarkable Rugby Paralympian. Nick is known for his dedication, resilience, and incredible achievements in sport. During his inspiring presentation, he shared valuable lessons, including the importance of never giving up, which resonated deeply with all of us!



Important Dates



Friday 29th November: School Closed Training Day

2nd December – Friday 20th December: Reverse Advent Calendar launch Donations for Hope Food Bank

Thursday 12th December: Nursery Nativity

Friday 13th December: Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Fair (3pm-5pm)

Monday 16th December: Year 3 Oasis Performance

Tuesday 17th December: Reception Nativity & Year 4 Caribbean Nativity

Wednesday 18th December: KS1 Cheesy Tunes Nativity & Shush Room (organised by the PTA)

Thursday 19th December: Years 5 & 6 Carol Concert

Friday 20th December: Breakfast with Santa (ticketed event) & Last Day of School (3.15pm finish as usual)