

MERE GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

‘Making a difference’

Head Teacher Update

As we approach the end of term, it is a very exciting time in school. Children have been busy decorating Christmas trees and rehearsing for their Christmas performance. Two experiences linked to our MAD Guarantee went ahead this week; a group of children from Year 5 and 6 had the amazing opportunity to perform at Lichfield Cathedral and Year 6 enjoyed a visit to the Hippodrome in Birmingham to watch the Nutcracker. In addition to this, Year 3 staff, children and parents enjoyed a community sing along in Dugdale Crescent.

Kristal Brookes
Headteacher

Staffing Updates

We are delighted to confirm that Miss Whately will be returning to school next Wednesday following her maternity leave. Miss Whately will cover classes across the school and will lead our computing curriculum.

Congratulations to Mr Anderton who will now work full time in his role as 'Digital Transformation Lead' within ATLP. Mr Anderton joined Mere Green in 2015 and has taught across Key Stage 2. Although Mr Anderton is leaving his teaching role at Mere Green, he will still be working with us through the Learning Futures project, supporting teaching and Learning using iPad.

Mrs Ashmore will also be leaving at the end of the term, I am sure that you will agree that Mrs Ashmore has been an amazing early years practitioner and has truly made a difference to the lives of our reception children. We wish Mrs Ashmore the best of luck with her new venture.

Cost of Living Crisis Support

With the rise in the cost of living, it is clear that this winter may be challenging. That's why Birmingham is working with the local community and a partnership of voluntary and community sector organisations to expand a network of warm spaces. There are several existing Warm Welcome Spaces within local communities across the city. Warm Welcome Spaces are:

- inclusive and non-judgmental heated and free to access
- The services at each space will vary but may include:
- information on further support and available guidance
- opportunities to participate in activities and learn new things
- free internet access, computers and charging points
- a friendly environment to connect with others within the community

For further details, please visit https://www.birmingham.gov.uk/directory/73/warm_welcome_spaces_in_birmingham

A huge thank you

A huge thank you to local company, **F.C. Christmas Trees, Tennis Club, Highbridge Road, Sutton Coldfield** for generously donating eight real Christmas trees so that each year group can celebrate Christmas in style and decorate their very own tree. These trees are now in situ and are starting to be decorated by the children's own decorations. We are sure you will love seeing the end results when you attend your child/ren's Christmas performance.



If a member of the Mere Green community would like to receive one of our Christmas trees at the close of school on Friday 16th December, please contact the office, who will put your name down on our list.


Hope Food Bank


Thank you to all the families that have started bringing in donations of food to support Hope Food Bank. This week children have been encouraged to bring in tinned fish and biscuits to mark the start of December and next week we are asking for: tins of soup, small Christmas cakes, toiletries, pasta and tea bags. (To see the full list, please see our previous letter introducing the Reverse Advent Calendar initiative.) These items are either everyday essentials or small treats that may make a real difference to families in the community trying to celebrate Christmas this year. We thank you again whole heartedly for your continued support and compassion for others.

Key Dates



Event	Date
Year 5 & 6 Christmas Performance—9.30am & 2.30pm	Monday 12th December
Nursery Nativity— 9.30am	Tuesday 13th December
Year 1 & 2 Christmas Performance—11am	Tuesday 13th December
Year 3 & 4 Christmas Performance—2.30pm	Tuesday 13th December
Reception Nativity— 9.30am & 2pm	Wednesday 14th December
Flu Vaccinations	Wednesday 14th December
Year 3 & 4 Christmas Performance—9.30am	Thursday 15th December
Year 1 & 2 Christmas Performance—2.30pm	Thursday 15th December
Last Day of School	Friday 16th December


 **Head Teacher**
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