

# MERE GREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Making a difference'

## Deputy Headteacher Update

I'm delighted to connect with you this week as we approach the final week of the half term. Spring 1 has been filled with numerous enriching opportunities and immersive learning experiences for our students. Last week, forty KS2 children had the honor of performing at the Resorts World Arena in the Young Voices Event, entertaining thousands of attendees. Additionally, this week, another 10 pupils showcased their talents at a local talent show held at Sutton Town Hall. We are immensely proud of all our students for their courage and participation in these memorable events.

On Wednesday, we welcomed back our Year 3 pupils from their first school residential trip to Ingestre Hall. Engaging in various arts and crafts activities, they forged lasting bonds with students from one of our partner schools, Scotch Orchard. The memories and friendships formed during this experience will undoubtedly last a lifetime. Thank you to our fabulous staff members who gave up their time to provide children with this experience.

This week's assembly focused shifted to celebrating National Story Telling week. Regularly promoting a love of reading is vital for children; stories serve as a powerful tool for education, entertainment and personal growth, leaving a lasting impact on children's lives. If you haven't already joined our local library based at Mere Green Community Centre, why don't you pop over in half term and explore the fantastic array of books with your children (all of which are free to loan).

As we approach the half-term break, our focus turns towards celebrating Chinese New Year. We eagerly anticipate welcoming parents into our school to share their traditions with our community. Stay tuned to our X (former Twitter) page for further updates and announcements.

Have a safe and relaxing weekend

**Lucia Thornton**  
Deputy Headteacher

## Mrs Brookes Update

Thank you for your continuous care and concern regarding Mrs Brookes' absence. It's heartwarming to have so many of you ask about her on a regular basis. Whilst school life continues, I'm sure you'll agree that her presence is certainly missing and we eagerly anticipate her return to Team Mere Green. I'm pleased to report that her chemotherapy treatment is well underway and she is responding positively to this. Her resilience and optimistic attitude continues to shine through, serving as an inspiration to us all.

Mrs Brookes would like to extend her thanks to our community for the well wishes, cards and care shown. It has certainly been a great support through challenging times.

## Inclusion

This term we have launched our new programme Motional. Motional is an assessment tool which assesses every child's Emotional Wellbeing & Mental Health. Motional offers guidance, activities, and resources for intervention work with individual pupils or whole classes, alongside data to provide a 'whole school' approach. The Pastoral team will make contact should your child/children be identified through the assessment process.



## Staffing Welcome

### Mrs Aston


Hi! I am Mrs Aston and I have had the privilege of teaching at Mere Green since 2016. After teaching across the school over the years and serving as Assistant SENCo prior to maternity leave, I'm back in the classroom, driven to Make A Difference! Outside of teaching, I'm a proud parent to Lottie, Ted, and Evie, and we enjoy family walks with our dog, Murphy. In my free time, I like to play hockey and explore DIY projects at home. I'm thrilled to be teaching 1M for the remainder of the year, ready to make every moment a memorable learning adventure!



### Mrs Clarke

My name is Mrs Clarke and I am looking forward to starting at Mere Green Primary School as a Year 1 teacher. My teaching career began in 2015 when I worked as an English Teacher in Madrid, Spain. Since then, I have worked in a number of schools across the West Midlands teaching children of all ages. I love my role as a teacher because I find it really rewarding watching my students grow and develop as they learn new skills. I enjoy the creativity that education provides and the fact that no two days are ever the same! In my spare time, I enjoy taking my daughter swimming and going for long walks in the park. I try to travel as much as I can as I love exploring new places and learning about different cultures. I am really excited to join Mere Green and look forward to meeting you all!



 **Head Teacher**  
Mrs Kristal Brookes

 0121 308 1384

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 Mere Green Primary School  
Mere Green Road  
Four Oaks  
B75 5BL

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## Safeguarding

### Safer internet day is on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Safer internet day is a great opportunity to focus on online safety with your child, whatever their age. This year's theme is all about change and influence online.

UK safer internet centre have created a range of pages to help you talk about these issues and ideas with your child, no matter how much time you have and, in an age, appropriate way.

For information please use link for details: [Parents and carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

For further reading regarding keeping safe online please use following link: [Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#)

West Midlands Violence reduction team are also delivering a **NSPCC Online safety workshop on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2024, 2-3pm aimed at frontline workers, parents/carers, grandparents, community.**

This webinar will teach you how to help children and young people explore their favourite apps, games and sites safely. The workshop will:

- Help you understand how children experience the online world
- Show you resources and tools that could help keep them safe
- Empower you to guide them on their journey

To register please use link below:

[NSPCC Online Safety Tickets, Tue 27 Feb 2024 at 14:00 | Eventbrite](#)

### Safer School England

As part of our efforts to keep children safe online, we have access to Safer Schools. This initiative includes essential advice about how to keep children safe online at home. Please download the app from your App Store, and use the access code 6695



## Year 3 Ingestre Hall

Year 3 enjoyed a fantastic experience at Ingestre Hall, engaging in activities such as drama, dance, and art. Witnessing their growth in mental strength, independence and confidence over the course of three days was truly remarkable.



### Making A Difference

Class	Attendance 06/09/23- 26/01/24	This Week's Attendance
RBM	96%	95%
RD	95%	96%
1J	95%	97%
1M	★ 98% ★	★ 98% ★
2S	96%	96%
2W	95%	97%
3B	96%	★ 98% ★
3D	94%	95%
4H	93%	92%
4S	96%	95%
5P	96%	95%
5S	95%	94%
6H	95%	93%
6HQ	95%	94%
6L	95%	96%

Whole School Attendance (YTD)	<b>95.2%</b>
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## Nursery Admissions— September 2024

If you have a child or know of anyone who has a child that will be age 3 by 31st August 2024 and requires a nursery place for September, please apply for an application form from:

[admissions@meregrnn.bham.sch.uk](mailto:admissions@meregrnn.bham.sch.uk)

Offers will be made at the end of March/early April.

## MAD Award


Congratulations to this week's MAD nominees:



These children have been nominated by their class teacher for 'Making A Difference', this is either through demonstrating our school values or school rules.

## Key Dates

Talent Show (15 children)	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> February
Year 2 Art Day	Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February
Children's Mental Health Week	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February
Chinese New Year	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February
Year 1 Phonics Workshop	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February
Safer Internet Day	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February
CBSO Symphony Hall Concert – Year 5	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February
Year 5 Maths Workshop	Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February
Year 5 Art Day	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February
Las day of term	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February
HALF TERM	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February


 **Head Teacher**  
Mrs Kristal Brookes

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