



Headlines

Summer Term Week 1

www.melthamceschool.co.uk

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Good morning everyone.

It has been a wonderful week here at school and great to welcome the children back and see them all learning happily. It's been a pleasure to see children speaking and listening in Circle Time outside in the sun, and this morning I have had the absolute delight of leading a Reception Celebrations assembly in the hall with our youngest children who are doing so well with their learning and their social development. This week I have also seen Year 3 working with visitors from Hand-to-Mouth with the Godley Plays, conveying important Christian messages and stories, also I've seen Year 2 battling some tricky looking fractions (and all with a smile on their faces!). In addition to this, Year 1 have enjoyed a virtual visit from Steve and his dinosaur museum workshop, who showed us a huge Allosaurus skull and an enormous T-Rex foot. George in Class 3 told Mrs. Turner that, "we saw a T-Rex tooth! It was very sharp." Noah set us straight and said that, "Argentinasaurus is actually the biggest dinosaur!" Who knows? Certainly not me, but I'm glad they enjoyed it. This week it was also nice to see the return of a few small and COVID-safe after school clubs in the afternoon sunshine. It gave the sense that in some small way, school is starting to feel a little like its old self again.

I hope you all had a lovely Easter and you are enjoying the fine weather. Hopefully you were able to see some of your friends and loved ones that you have not had the chance to meet for a little while. Let's hope the sunshine and the progress made continues.

Covid

As you may be aware, I have unfortunately had to close a large section of our Year 4 due to a positive case of COVID-19. While the national picture looks brighter, it's important to remember that it hasn't gone altogether. The impact upon our children's education is undoubtedly one that we will all be working with for a long while to come, in terms of their emotional wellbeing and their learning.

Please continue to work hard to keep yourselves fit and well and also help our school to stay open by making sure children get tested if they display any of the three main symptoms of COVID. Remember that if you, or anyone in your household, have symptoms you must book a test and isolate until the results come back.

I would also like to make a plea to everyone to follow the government's guidelines on social contact as we follow the roadmap out of lockdown. Please forgive me if you feel I am overstepping the mark, but I am desperately passionate about ensuring that our classes remain open and as many

of our children are in school as possible (and not at home continuing to learn remotely).

Parents introduction to children and young people's mental health

On Thursday 6th May at 6:30pm Mrs. Watson and the lovely people at Northorpe Hall, have organised a session to cover a general overview of good mental health and outline resources to support poor mental health. It is also an opportunity to understand what services are available and how to access these. If you are comfortable, there may also be an opportunity to discuss concerns with professionals in a safe *virtual* space. After many long months of the global pandemic, many of us are feeling the effects of an altered world. This session might just be the help some of us need! There is no charge and I hope lots of you will join. I'll put further details of how to join the session on Headlines next week.

New starters

Today, parents with new starters for September 2021-22 will have been informed if they have spaces. Our transition program will begin over the next few weeks and we are already very excited to welcome 60 new faces to school in September.

Plant and share month

As you may (or may not) be aware Mrs. Pearson, one of our very talented support staff, has for many years offered all of our children a wide variety of opportunities in gardening, growing and cooking. If your children have ever cooked at Meltham CE, chances are they did it with Mrs. Pearson! This year, we would like to take part in Plant and Share Month which is run by Food for Life and takes place between 19th April and 19th May 2021. It's all about growing your own and sharing it with those around you. After all, sharing fresh home-grown produce in such a brilliant way to celebrate local, healthy food that's good for us as well as the planet.

And it's easy to get involved...

- 1) Plant your seeds—can you find an unusual container to grow them in? Let's upcycle!
- 2) Help them grow (your children should know how!)
- 3) Share the seedlings, cuttings or plants with family, neighbours or friends, or even bring some in for Mrs. Pearson and the school garden.

Please encourage your children to share their crops and send us a photo via twitter using the hashtags #plantandshare #ffgettogethers and #melthamgrowing

High School Transition

This week our Year 6 staff have begun transition conversations with both Honley and Holmfirth High School . Next week Heidi Halliday from Honley will be visiting the children informally at school in the next part of the transition process (I'm sure there will be opportunity to ask her lots of questions). For those children who are off to Holmfirth, Mr. Stitchman will be speaking to the children via Zoom on Monday 12th May. As you will already know, the Year 6 common transition day is scheduled for July 6th, although I'm unclear as of yet whether this will ultimately be virtual or physical due to the uncertainties that the coronavirus pandemic brings.

Woven Festival and the Big Rainbow Knit

This is both exciting and fun and I have attached a flyer to this week's news letter for any of you who would like to get involved. There's also a Zoom meeting link below for Thursday 26th April at 4pm where artists will be demonstrating simple techniques children can use at home.

<https://zoom.us/j/97413374101?pwd=Z2QzN2x6dFVlK2EvUkltR3gvVVFmUT09>

Meeting ID: 97413374101

Passcode: XzErd8

Any problems please email:

Kathy.coates-mohammed@pentlandinf.co.uk

Charity collections

I neglected to let you all know last term that with your help, we raised £355 for the Comic Relief appeal! Thank you very much.

Wellbeing links

We have a fantastic Wellbeing and Support section on our website. Take a look:

- <https://www.melthamceschool.co.uk/page/wellbeing/93763>
- <https://www.melthamceschool.co.uk/page/back-to-school/94156>
- <https://www.thrivingkirklees.org.uk>
- <https://www.triplep-parenting.uk.net/uk/hot-parenting-topics/my-child/parenting-during-covid-19>
- <https://youngminds.org.uk/supporting-parents-helpfinder>