

NEWSLETTER

15th October 2020



MESSAGE FROM MRS HORN

Dear parents and carers,

I am so proud of how the children have adapted to the new routines and expectations we have put in place to keep us all safe whilst we live through this pandemic. They have settled well in to their new classes and the leadership team have been very impressed with the work the children are producing and the progress they are making. We are very mindful that some children may have fallen behind where they should be and we are working very hard to ensure the children are able to fill gaps in their learning.

You will be aware of a letter that was sent to you regarding absence. This letter is mandatory and we have to send it all families. It highlights that attendance is now monitored and your child is expected to be in school. Please note that if you are asked to isolate then we will not count this absence in our monitoring of your child's attendance. We will monitor any late arrivals (as this counts as an absence), absence due to sickness that is not covid related, and unauthorised absences. We will contact you individually if we need to discuss your child's absence. May we remind you that if you have children at other schools who are asked to isolate, they cannot be out of the house and they cannot come with you to drop off siblings at Mount Street.

School breaks for half term on Thursday 22nd October 2020 and term begins on Monday 2nd November 2020.

Mrs Horn

PARENT HUB

At Mount Street Academy we use an app called Parent Hub to send out all communications with parents. Please download this on to your smart device and follow the instructions on the link below in order for you connect to our school. <https://mountstreetacademy.com/assets/uploads/files/Parent-Hub-Letter-and-Flyer.pdf>

Unfortunately we are unable to send out paper copies due to the current situation therefore this will be mainly how we communicate with parents. If you have any problems with downloading this, please get in touch with the school office.

NURSERY NEWS

Life in the Nursery has continued to be extremely busy and happy as the Nursery Children are now doing their full allocated hours.

Each of the Nursery key groups have spent time learning how to use the different inside and outside Learning Areas and many of them are quickly becoming accomplished artists, builders, sand diggers, trike cyclists and home makers.

The children have noticed that the world around them is getting ready for Winter and they have had great fun collecting, examining, counting, threading and weighing conkers, acorns, leaves, fir cones and other Autumn objects.

Now that the weather is getting colder please make sure that your child always has a coat, spare clothes and a pair of wellies in school. The children are trying amazingly hard to put on their own shoes and coats and are eager to show you how they can do these things independently at home too. Please encourage them to develop these skills, even though you might have to allow a few extra minutes at "getting ready times."

We are now looking forward to a very exciting Term 2 and all the seasonal festivities which are to come. We are also looking forward to talking to you about how your child is settling during our telephone parents evening on either Tuesday November 3rd or Wednesday November 4th between 3:30-6:30pm. If you have any questions before this then please talk to your child's Key worker at drop off and collection times or arrange for them to phone you at a mutually convenient time.

Mrs Hunt & Mrs Betts

RELIEF STAFF

We are looking to recruit relief staff, to cover on an as and when basis, to meet the needs of our schools. We are looking for Teachers, Teaching Assistants, Cleaners and Midday Supervisors. Please visit the school website for further details and an application form—<https://mountstreetacademy.com/information/vacancies>

RECEPTION NEWS

We could not be more proud of the Reception children and how they have settled into their classes and the routines of the day! They are engaging in indoor and outdoor provision and learning to 'choose it, use it, put it away'. They are forming wonderful relationships with their peers and the adults in their classrooms and it has been brilliant to watch the children learning together. We have also been so impressed with their attitude to phonics lessons and learning their new sounds and tricky words. Thank you so much for your support with this at home. We hope that the weekly video we have been sending to you, sharing the sounds learned and how to support your child at home, are helpful. Please ask your class teacher(s) if you need any further guidance. Our Talk for Writing text this term has been 'The Little Red Hen' and the children have been orally retelling the story with actions and the key language and phrases in the story, as well as drawing story maps independently or as part of a group to show the order of the story. We are sure they would really enjoy sharing this with you if you ask them to retell you the story.

Now that the weather is getting colder please make sure that your child has their coat with them every day as we learn outside in all weathers. May we also ask that you ensure that your child has spare clothes and a pair of wellies in school every day (we would prefer that these stay in school all of the time rather than be taken home each day to minimise the risk of spreading the virus).

Mrs Oaten

PARENTS EVENING

Parents evening will be taking place via telephone calls on **Tuesday 3rd November** and **Wednesday 4th November**.

If you have not already completed the form to book your appointment, please do so by 4pm on Monday 19th October.

forms.gle/BdJ3PUB7CqxNJr757

PUPIL PREMIUM

Following the introduction of Universal Credit, the way that we can establish whether school is entitled to extra funding for your child has changed. This extra funding is known as Income and Benefits Based Free School Meals – IBFSM (not to be confused with the free meals provided for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2).

It is very important that every parent/carer completes this for all their children in school, even if you do not think you are eligible.

Are you in receipt of any of the benefits below?

Free school meals are available to pupils in receipt of, or whose parents are in receipt of, one or more of the following benefits.

Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods).

Income support – Income-based Jobseekers Allowance – Income-related Employment and support Allowance.

Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999.

The guarantee element of Pension Credit.

Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190).

Working Tax Credit run-on – paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for working Tax Credit.

Guidance – Create an account using your email address on the online Parent Portal: <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schools-and-education/free->

Dates for the Diary

End of Term 1: Thursday 22nd October 2020

Start of Term 2: Monday 2nd November 2020

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WEBSITE

www.mountstreetacademy.com
