



Mawsley C.P School

Autumn 2 End of term Newsletter

A message from Miss Harris...

This term has felt considerably more 'normal' than last year. When I reflect, the successes of the term bring a smile and a feeling of gratitude for the Mawsley team of parents, children, governors and staff who every day work to ensure everyone feels safe and works towards achieving their personal best.

Successes to celebrate:

- Skateboard and Scooter taster days
- Year 6 History day
- Phase 3 Graduate Programme launched
- Year 6 Bikeability Courses
- Year 5 got to enjoy their residential...finally!
- Phase 3 swimming lessons
- Competed in 11 sports competitions, some of these resulting in qualification at county level finals
- Participation in Children in Need 2021, raising in total £476.10 for local charities
- Phase 2 Christmas performance to parents at the Centre – funded by the Mawsley Village association
- Participation in Christmas Jumper day
- Foundation Stage Christmas performance to parents at school

Whatever your Christmas looks like, I hope you find time to relax, see friends and enjoy family time.

See you all in 2022!

Tuesday 4th January 2022 is a training day for staff.

We look forward to welcoming the children back on Wednesday 5th January 2022.

Today, we said goodbye to Mrs Mann who moves on to new challenges.

Mrs Mann has been a member of our team for 5 years, we will miss her greatly and thank her for the care and support she has shown staff and children through her time at Mawsley.

Friends of Mawsley School (FOMS)

The FOMS has always been of amazing support to our School. Their fundraising allows us to gain resources that we would otherwise be unable to fund.

This term has seen a new team take over the helm and we very much look forward to working with them during this year and many more to come.

Thank you to those committee members who this term stepped down, your unwavering support during the pandemic still meant a significant amount of funds were raised, your creativity was phenomenal. Thank you for the time, effort and support you have given the school during your time as a member of FOMS, we really appreciate it.

Reception

What a wonderful term we have had in Reception! Our focus has been looking at festivals and celebrations. We made beautiful art during our bonfire night week, and amazing diva lamps made out of clay and sparkles when we learned about Diwali. We also really enjoyed trying some Indian food including poppadoms and a delicious Indian dessert made by Mrs Mann! The children worked really hard to make poppies for remembrance, and we had the most wonderful week learning all about weddings. Our wedding week was a particular favourite as we got super involved with items from real life weddings and even had a pretend wedding celebration in class with confetti and cake! We would also like to thank the parents of our children again for being so supportive during that week by lending us their beautiful wedding albums and memorabilia. We have had a fantastic time learning about winter (with a surprise, secret visit from Jack Frost!) and taking part in winter themed investigations. We have ended the term by looking at one of our favourite celebrations... Christmas! The children have been working so hard to learn their songs and lines for our Nativity and we wish everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year!

Parents' Evening

On Tuesday 18th January and Thursday 20th January our spring parents' evenings will take place.

The appointments will be held virtually. Bookings for these will open early next term.

Children in Need

On Friday 19th November we joined with many people across the country in supporting Children in Need. The children and staff dressed in outfits that made them happy, it was lovely to see the variety. As part of the day, information was shared about three local children's charities Kids Aid, Growbaby and Northants Short Break. Children were asked, where possible, to bring in loose change and once they had learnt a little about these local charities choose which one to donate their change to. I am proud to share that £476.10 was raised in total for charity. With £285 being donated to Children in Need, £78.63 to Kids Aid, £74.80 to Growbaby and £37.67 to Northants Short Break.

Thank you for your support.

Year 1 and 2

What a fantastic Autumn term we have had in Phase 2! We kicked off the year learning about The Gunpowder Plot and The Great Fire of London in our history lessons! Our children were so inspired by this topic and retained an unbelievable amount of facts about these key events in British history! We can't wait to visit Samuel Pepys at Holdenby House to quiz him about his recollection of The Great Fire of London! (Perhaps we can ask him why he decided to bury his cheese!) A very memorable moment in Phase 2 this term was getting to burn down our very own London Street. We made sure we put the houses close together and we watched how quickly the fire spread.

In English, the children have really embraced the skill of being non-fiction writers. They learnt all about Trinidad, inspired by Floella Benjamin and then wrote their own explanation texts about Mawsley.

We have been so impressed with the children's attitude with their reading this term. Children are doing so well building their fluency with the Read Write Inc books and the children who are on Accelerated Reader have blown our socks off! Seven children have already achieved their 20,000 word milestones, which is incredible for such young readers.

Of course, we cannot fail to mention the incredible performance of 'Lights, Camel, Action 2! The Sequin' performed by our children at The Centre. The children's behaviour and respect for the school rules was evident throughout the week. We could not have been prouder of their clear delivery on stage, their courage to perform in front of an audience, and their amazing dance moves! The children (and parents) put in a lot of effort to learn lines, songs and dances and their hard work really shone through!

Year 3 and 4

What a great term phase 3 children have had. The children have really shone in PE lessons. Class 6 children have been amazing Miss Cox with their determination and enthusiasm in swimming sessions, while back in school, the children worked together beautifully to produce amazing balances and improve their personal bests in jumping.

Geography lessons have been a blast (pun intended) and all the teachers have been impressed with the amount of knowledge the children have gained about the geological processes which form volcanoes and cause earthquakes. The children produced some lovely drawings of volcanoes and had great fun using google earth to investigate volcanoes around the world. The children's understanding of volcanoes has been extended through their writing of explanation texts this term. The children were inspired by the wise words of Greta Thunberg to explain how climate change is affecting the planet. The English unit will be culminating in the children writing about how Father Christmas makes Christmas, which has really allowed their imaginations to take flight.

Science lessons have seen the children getting out into the school grounds to collect plant specimens and they particularly enjoyed making classification keys using biscuits, especially as the children got to eat the biscuits. We wish you all a Merry Christmas and we cannot wait to see what these amazing children accomplish next year!

If you are concerned about the safety or welfare of a child during the Christmas closure period, please contact the MASH team on 0300 126 1000 (option 1) or e-mail them at MASH@nctrust.co.uk

If you think a child is in immediate danger or missing, please contact the police and/or an ambulance directly by phoning 999

Year 5

The children of year 5 have been working extremely hard in Autumn Term 2 and they have challenged themselves in many different ways. We have enjoyed building up our balance, agility and dance skills in PE, learning about the water cycle and rivers in Geography and exploring different materials in Science. In English we have been exploring our first non-fiction unit of discussion-based writing. The children have really enjoyed coming up with some excellent topics such as "Should witches need a licence to use their magic?" and "Should there be mixed-gender professional football teams?" This is quite often a difficult unit to explore, but we are really proud of the attitude and attention that the children have shown. Handwriting has been another key focus for years 5 and 6, with some children making amazing progress. We have also taken our first formal assessments in reading and maths this term, data which we shall share with you in the new year, ready for our parent meetings in January.

Year 6

Well it has certainly been a busy half term for our Year 6 children! Firstly, we started the term off with an amazing Maya and Rainforest Day with Simon - a real life explorer! Simon fascinated children and staff alike with his stories, facts, photos, props and activities based on our History and Geography topics. The children have continued to make great progress in their reading, writing and maths, however it has been their writing which has really stood out, with amazing persuasive writing, Christmas stories and WWI stories from our children. One thing that has really impressed staff is the extra responsibilities that lots of our children have been taking on. Many children have volunteered as Young Librarians, Young Leaders within sport, Pupils Parliament and Learning Point Team Captains too! Across this term, our children have really enjoyed their PE lessons, especially Kabaddi, as well as having two sessions with a professional cricket coach! Finally, we are really proud that lots of Year 6 children have represented our school in many different sports this term, with each of them being an absolute credit to our school!