

# Mornington News

Summer 1 edition

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

We are halfway through the summer term and what fun we have had! School has been a hive of activity and, as always, our pupils and staff have given their all to ensure that our school is the very best it can be.

We hope the pleasant weather is here to stay so we can enjoy the outdoor space as much as possible over the last weeks of term. Please remember to keep an eye on the forecast and send children with sunhats, sun cream and their own water bottles. We are very excited to announce work will begin on our nature garden as soon as we return to school. We are going to have a reading area, outdoor classroom, pond refurbishment and sensory trail. We will share updates with you as the work begins!

We are looking forward to the summer term being as magical as it can be. We are excited to have a Y3 trip to Cresswell Craggs, take Y4 on residential to Beaumanor and see our Y5 and 6 children perform in their end of year productions.

Look out for individual event information on Class Dojo.

Mrs Smith

## MATHS MASTERS CHAMPIONS

Well done to our 'Maths Masters!'. Erica, George, Sebastian and Tomisin represented Mornington in the local inter- school maths competition. They really enjoyed testing out their maths skills and they worked so well together as a team. I am pleased to say that Mornington took first place!



## THE KING'S CORONATION

It was wonderful to be able to celebrate the King's Coronation as a whole school. Children came dressed in Royal attire or in red, white and blue to celebrate the occasion.

At lunch we hosted our whole school picnic. Tables and chairs covered the playground as we shared this special day. The meal began with the whole school singing the national anthem and then we enjoyed a quintessential British picnic with special cupcakes made by Mrs Keightley.

The children were all given a Coronation Pin Badge as a memento of the day.



## CROSS COUNTRY



A team of 19 children went to Eastwood on a sunny April morning to compete in the district cross country competition. This was a real test of physical and mental strength; they had to dig in and find their 'N' for never giving up. We were so proud of each and every child that competed – they all pushed themselves to their limits.

We were delighted with both of our teams. Our boys team achieved gold with 1st place in the competition, proudly bringing the trophy to Mornington for the 1st time. The girls team came an impressive 6th place with some fantastic performances.

Well done to James Sisson (Y6) for an individual 2nd place and Manny Morris-Wright (Y4) for an individual 3rd place.

## Communication

This half term we have made some changes to the apps that we use to communicate with you. We were sad to have to remove the My School App, however the cost of the APP was soaring so we had to explore other ways of communicating with home that ensure our school budget can be spent on our children. Thank you for your support with this.

We are now using Class Dojo, Scholarpack App and the school website to share letters and information with our families. Please do not hesitate to ask one of the team if you need signposting to a particular document or are unsure about anything.



## ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance so far, this academic year is 94.9%. Thank you to all those families who are supporting school with good attendance. We know that when attendance dips, it is usually due to an unlucky bout of illness and we completely understand this. It is part of our statutory duty to monitor attendance and will contact parents if attendance dips below a satisfactory level. As well as letters and conversations, we are also hoping to send out text messages to inform parents of any dips in attendances or to thank parents when attendance has improved. Our aim is to work with parents to help support good attendance and ensure our children are in school as much as possible. Every day really does count.

Please follow these tips to help improve attendance:

- If your child is well enough, please send them to school. If they become unwell during the day we will call home.
- If you are concerned you can always give us a call. If your child has been poorly, please send them back to school as soon as they are well enough. Keeping them off one more day, just in case, can lead to a further dip in attendance.
- Remember, we can only authorise a leave of absence in exceptional circumstances.
- Holidays in term time will not be authorised and will have an impact on your child's attendance.
- If you are worried about your child's attendance please come and speak to one of us and we can give you the support you need.



## FOND FAREWELL

This half term we say goodbye to Mrs Keightley out catering manager. She has been ensuring that our children have healthy lunches for the past 26 years. Mrs Keightley has been a key member of the Mornington Team helping us the celebrate Royal occasions, preparing packed lunches for trips and making the best butterscotch tart ever!



In her final assembly she took part in the Big Cook Little Cook Challenge and battled against the children in three culinary activities: pancake flipping, skittle moving and jam sandwich making. We hope these give her some lasting fond memories of Mornington and wish her well as she embarks on her next adventures.



## POSITIVE VIBES

Our Dojo positive point winners this half term were awarded with a trip to the park. The weather matched our mood as we enjoyed some free time together.

The children's totals will stay in place and continue for next half term.



## SNAPSHOTS OF THE HALF TERM

### EYFS

Wow! We have had another very busy half term of learning in Class Robin Hood. We have learnt about the things that plants need to grow. The children have shown wonderful knowledge and curiosity during our unit of inquiry. They have planted and cared for their sunflower seeds and shoots. It has been very exciting to monitor their growth! Please remember to help your child continue to care for their plants as we will need them returning later next half term for our tallest sunflower competition! The children loved being scientists and conducting our bee investigation to understand pollination and the importance of bees and insects (the cheesy wotsits went down well too!). The children really enjoyed the wheelchair basketball sessions and we have some budding drivers amongst us! The children listened carefully to the instructors and were able to navigate the hall brilliantly!

In preparation for learning next year, the children are now working in larger groups to all do their writing at the same time and with more independence. We have been very impressed with their confidence and willingness to 'have a go!' We are now looking forward to next half term's unit of inquiry called 'Commotion in the Ocean' and all the fun activities we have planned for the children to explore! Have a lovely half term break!

### Year 1/2

Yet another half term has flown by as we come to the end of our 'How does your garden grow?' unit of inquiry.

The children have been fascinated watching the growth of the bean plants and the cress. (Some classes it turns out have 'greener fingers' than others!!) The children have recorded their observations in their new book dedicated to science work only and the pride they have taken in both their writing and drawings is clear to see.

Observations about the weather have also been a focus this half term. The children have enjoyed recording these simple observations in tally charts and pictograms on both paper and the computer.

A highlight has certainly been our DT work where we have tasted and evaluated different breads and toppings in order to make our mini pizza as healthy as possible. Maybe the children could try this activity out with you at home and help prepare tea one day?

Our year 2 children have completed their SATs this half term... not an easy undertaking for 6 and 7 year olds. We were proud of their positive attitude and resilience when faced with this challenge.

Next half term, our unit of inquiry is called 'Playing around.' Look out for our curriculum flyer after the holidays to find out more.

We wish you an enjoyable break with some family time and hopefully, some lovely weather to look forward to!

### Year 3/4

Wow, what beautiful weather to finish off the term. We've had yet another busy one with the children working hard. In Geography, the children have been learning about our UK landscape with close attention to hills, rivers and mountains. They have learned about how mountains are formed and how to use a compass for directions. They would sure make confident explorers!

In English, the children have been captivated by our novel this term – the Iron Man. A true highlight has been seeing all the children have a go at acting out scenes from the book and performing their own persuasive speeches. We have some amazing actors in our midst. They have then written their own exciting newspaper articles about the battle between the Iron Man and the Space Bat Angel Dragon!

Finally, Friday afternoons have been an opportunity for the children to express themselves with their art. The children have explored different pencil techniques and the skills of sketching. They've drawn some fantastic pieces to be proud of! Now onto our last inquiry after half term - Tribal Tales. We'll be finding out all about the stone age.

### Year 5/6

What a busy half term Year 5/6 have had! Our unit of inquiry has been 'The rainforest', which has involved us mapping the climate zones, locating the different rainforests of the world, and investigating what lurks inside the four layers of the rainforest. The children were extremely excited to participate in a 'Wild Science' workshop where they had the opportunity to hold various animals of the rainforest including, a snake, a frog, and a

millipede. We are continuing the same unit of inquiry after half term, focussing on tribes, shifting cultivation and ways we can help to save the rainforest.

In English we read part of 'Letters from the Lighthouse' by Emma Carroll and the children produced some fantastic writing in response to the story. In computing, this half term, the children extended their drawing skills to create 3D models using the software SketchUp. They learnt how to create simple and complex 3D models, adding detail, and manipulating them using a variety of tools. The houses that they created were very impressive!

We hope you enjoy the week's break - hopefully the sun will continue to shine!

## REMINDERS:

### Uniform

Please check your child's uniform over the holiday. Remember school shoes need to be worn daily - trainers are only for PE. PE kits need to meet the uniform criteria: white t-shirt, black shorts/joggers/leggings and a black hoody. We have a lot of uniform left around school with no name. Please ensure that items are labelled so that we can return items to their owners.

### Minutes Missed Due to Late Arrivals

This half term there has been **9 hours and 31 minutes** lost due to lateness. This number is much improved from last half term and we thank our families for working with us to get the children into school on time. Please remember if you are late you must accompany your child to the office to sign them in.

### Attendance Matters

As we approach the holiday season we would like to remind you of how important your child's attendance is in school. We have updated our attendance percentage chart to support families in understanding how a few days off of school really does add up.

95%	=	8 days in total or 1 week and 3 day
90%	=	16 days in total or 3 weeks and 1 days
85%	=	24 days in total or 4 weeks and 4 days
80%	=	32 days in total or 6 weeks and 2 days

## ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Percentages based on 190 academic days



## Free school meals

Please do check if your child is entitled to free school meals. We receive additional funding for each child who receives free school meals and this supports us with additional staffing, interventions, and resources for your child. It also helps us to provide activities and opportunities beyond the curriculum. You can find out quickly if you are entitled to free school meals by clicking here and completing the questions. <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-meals/free-school-meals-and-milk>

## SUN SAFETY



## DIARY DATES:

- 6<sup>th</sup> June – Class Photos
- 9<sup>th</sup> June – EMET swimming gala
- 13<sup>th</sup> June – District Sports
- 9<sup>th</sup> June – EMET swimming gala
- 16<sup>th</sup> June – Non-uniform ‘ bring a bottle’

## INSET DATES: 2022-23

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023

21<sup>st</sup> June – Y3 Cresswell Craggs trip

21<sup>st</sup> June – 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Y4 residential

26<sup>th</sup> June – Sports Day

30<sup>th</sup> June – Summer BBQ

7<sup>th</sup> July – New Class Day

6<sup>th</sup> / 7<sup>th</sup> July – The Kimberley School Transition Days (current Y6)

14<sup>th</sup> July – Year 2 Stay Late Event

19<sup>th</sup> July – Year 5/6 production

21<sup>st</sup> July - Break up from school at 3.15

So that you can begin to plan ahead for next year, here are our INSET dates:

**INSET DATES: 2023-24**

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2024