

Melsonby Methodist Primary School Newsletter



Acting Executive Headteacher – Mr R Linsley
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Friday 16th October 2020

A Mars a Day....

Mars was at its biggest and brightest earlier in the week as the Red Planet lined up with Earth on the same side of the Sun. Every 26 months, the pair take up this arrangement, moving close together, before then diverging again on their separate orbits around our star. Tuesday night saw the actual moment of what astronomers call "opposition". A separation of 62,069,570km, or 38,568,243 miles. That's the narrowest gap now until 2035.



It's around opposition that space probes are launched from Earth to Mars. Obviously - the distance that needs to be travelled is shorter, and the time and energy required to make the journey is less. Three missions are currently in transit, all of which were sent on their way in July: The United Arab Emirates' Hope orbiter; China's Tianwen orbiter and rover; and the Americans' Perseverance rover. Hope, Tianwen and Perseverance are all on course to arrive at Mars in February.

Please send in any pictures/models of rockets or planets we would love to see them!

Remote Learning

As we move forwards through the year we have started to look at how we can best support pupils if we have to enter a second phase of lockdown or have to close a bubble. The Government have requested that by 22nd October all schools have a remote learning plan in place. I would like to ask Parents to download the Microsoft Teams app or explore ways of accessing it through their browsers.



The advantage of Teams is that it provides a secure environment for teachers to interact daily with pupils and provide an opportunity for them to have face to face contact. Other methods of communication including phone calls and email will still be available as will paper copies of any tasks set. We would like to trial the Teams app on **Tuesday 20th October** with small groups of children. Login information for your child (email and password) and an indication of the groups they are in have been attached to your child's reading record.

And here's to you, Mrs. Robinson...

I would just like to add my own congratulations to the Governing Body, staff and parents on the successful appointment of Mrs Robinson as the new Headteacher from January. I am looking forward to meeting her and working with her closely to ensure there is a smooth transition process.

Many thanks for your support in keeping our school community safe.

Mr Linsley

Applying for a Primary School place for September 2021

If you have child (born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August 2017) you will need to apply for a primary school place for them to start in Reception in September 2021.

The information you need to apply for a primary school place is available at

www.northyorks.gov.uk/admissions

Applications must be submitted by 15 January 2021

Water bottles

Children are encouraged to bring a water bottle to school every day to keep hydrated during lessons. Your child's water bottle should contain **plain water only**. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Mud kitchens

We are looking for some bits and pieces to add to our mud kitchens and would welcome any donations of unwanted pots and pans. Thank you in advance!

A message from Storehouse Foodbank

Thank you so much to Melsonby School for still doing a Harvest Festival Donation for us during this time.

We love your continued support and we are so grateful.

Suz Gregory

Community Manager



Reminders

School Meals

All dinner monies must be paid in advance via Parent Pay. Lunches are free for children in Reception, Years 1 and 2 and £2.75 per day for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Parent Pay

Please could we remind everyone that your Parent Pay account must be kept in credit. There is an option to click on a box within the system which will alert you when your accounts are running low. Please could we ask everyone to opt into this so that the need for reminders from school is reduced. Many thanks for your co-operation.

PE

On Wednesday's children need to come to school already dressed in their PE kit. Shorts or leggings/tracksuit bottoms, PE T-shirt and school sweatshirt and trainers.

Flu Immunisations

The Childhood Flu Immunisation Team will be in our school on Friday 6th November to administer the immunisations (nasal) to children from Year Reception to Year 6. Please follow the instructions to register your child/ren as per the email that was sent out on 17th September. **The deadline to give your consent is this Sunday, 18th October**

Secondary School Applications – September 2021

All parents of pupils in our current Year 6 were issued with North Yorkshire County Council application letters on 11th September via e-mail. Please note that the deadline for your preferences is **31st October 2020**



Dates for Diaries

Dates	Events	
Sunday 18 th October	Deadline for consent form for flu immunisation	
Friday 23 rd October	School closes for half term	
Saturday 31 st October	Deadline for applications for a secondary school place 2021	Year 6 parents
Monday 2 nd November	School re-opens after half term	
Friday 6 th November	Flu immunisation at 11.00am for pupils who have been registered	
Thursday 10 th December	Christmas Lunch	
Thursday 17 th December	Christmas Party	
Friday 18 th December	End of term	
2021		
Monday 4 th January	Staff Training Day	
Tuesday 5 th January	School re-opens to pupils	