



Wednesday 11 September 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

Autumn Term Newsletter

Hello and welcome back from what was hopefully a great summer break for you all. May we also extend a very warm welcome to all the new students and families that have joined us. We look forward to seeing the students settle back into the routine of school life as well as their new classrooms and peer groups.

We would like to share with you a list of events and activities already planned for the coming academic year, please find these detailed on the final page. On a half termly basis we will also update you on any additional events and trips to be added to the calendar.

New Staff Additions

We'd like to offer a very warm welcome to some staff that have joined us this September.

Mr Spalding has joined us as Primary Phase Leader and Mr Humphreys as Communication and Language Lead and both bring a wealth of experience with them to our school. May we also welcome Mrs Johal who is here as a supply teacher looking after Hedgehog Class.

Congratulations to Mrs Ives and Mr Hill

We would like to offer our congratulations to Mrs Ives, our Head of School and Mr Hill, our Deputy Head of School, who have studied hard over the last 18 months, undertaking two key projects both here in our school as well as at other schools, to achieve the award of National Professional Qualification for Headship. This really is a fantastic achievement and we would like to congratulate them both.

Forest School plans and activities

Back in June, you may remember we announced that Mr Howick had joined our school as our "Lead for Learning Outside the Classroom".

Mr Howick has been very busy making preparations to begin running our Forest School this September, which includes setting up new outdoor facilities including:

- setting up a fantastic storage area in a large container, which has been wood clad over the summer with amazing support from volunteers from RAF Marham and Mr Howick
- arranging for Princebuild, who donated the use of a mini digger and operator for a day, to clear out our pond area so we can rebuild and help promote new wildlife habitats, in that area
- building and setting up a mud kitchen
- arranging for the Woodland Trust to donate 30 tree saplings to be delivered later this Autumn. Mr Howick will be involving pupils in the planting of these trees, when they arrive



**Medeshamstede Academy is part of the Greenwood Dale Foundation Trust
Group of Academies**

- building a pavilion which will provide shelter for outdoor work, especially in wet or hot weather

We would like to offer a very big thank you to the RAF Marham volunteers, Princebuild and the Woodland Trust, who have provided amazing support to help us grow this area.

Mr Howick is busy working on a timetable to ensure that the whole school will have access to some fantastic learning opportunities in the outdoor area. More details about the exciting activities and plans he has in place will be announced over the coming weeks.

Harvest Festival Donations

As part of the Harvest Festival season we will once again be supporting St Mary's, our local church, by collecting as many food donations as possible to support the poor and homeless people of our local community. This year the church are asking for UHT milk and Weetabix, as they already have a good supply of other food. The schools' aim is to reach a total of 250 items this year, which will be donated to the Peterborough Food Bank. I do hope you can support us and help us reach that total and beyond.

Reverend Moore will be visiting the school on Thursday 17th October to co-host an assembly and collect any items that have been donated. Please feel free to start sending in your food donations as soon as possible. We look forward to being able to present our collection to the Reverend and once again show our support to those less fortunate than ourselves.

Snack Provision and Water

At snack time we provide fruit with the option of a carton of milk for all pupils, which is funded for pupils up to the end of Year 2. However, to help fund this for our remaining pupils, we are asking for a £10 voluntary contribution, per term. Please send your contributions in a named envelope for your child to Mrs Edwards on our reception.

Drinking fountains are available throughout the school and pupils are encouraged to bring in their own water bottles each day to ensure they remain hydrated. Fizzy drinks are not allowed in school.

Academy Day and Timings

With the start of a new school year I would like to remind you all about the start and finish times of the school day. Our doors open to students at 8.45am with morning registration beginning at 8.55am. Registration will last until 9.10am and as such, any students arriving after 9.10am will be marked as late in the register.

Our school day ends at 2.55pm and, for those parents who collect their child(ren), please may we ask that you are ready to collect at this time, and no earlier.

2019/20 Term Dates

A quick reminder that our 2019/20 term dates are available on our website and that the **October half term** dates will run from **Monday 21st October – Tuesday 29th October inclusive** and we look forward to welcoming pupils back on Wednesday 30th October.

Student Personal Data and Parental Contacts

We will soon be sending home a copy of our students' personal data. Please check this and inform us of any changes by making amendments on the form and returning to school.

Throughout the year, if any of this information changes (mobile phone numbers, addresses etc) it should be provided in writing to us by emailing admin@medeshamstedeacademy.org We are all looking forward to exciting times ahead!

Yours sincerely



Mrs T Ydlibi
Executive Principal

KEY DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Date 2019 / 2020	Activity
Friday 27th September 2019	Whole School MacMillans Coffee morning
Monday 30 Sept - Friday 4th Oct	Whole School Pedestrian Training
Wednesday 2nd October	Flu Immunisations for pupils in EYFS, Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6
Monday 14th October	Whole School Parents Evening
Thursday 17th October	Harvest Festival Assembly - food donations by this date please
Friday 18th October	MFL Rewards Day
Monday 11th November	Anti-Bullying Week
Wednesday 20th November	Community Café: Secondary Only
Wednesday 27th November	School Photos
Wednesday 18 th December	Primary Nativity
Thursday 19 th December	Whole School Christmas lunch
Friday 20 th December	MFL Rewards Day for whole school
Thursday 16th January 2020	Community Café : Primary Only
Friday 24th January	RE Day
Weds 29th - Friday 31st January	Hilltop Residential
Tuesday 11th February	Whole School Parents Evening
Friday 14th February	MFL Rewards Day
Monday 2 March - Friday 6 March	British Science Week
Thursday 5th March	World Book Day
Monday 9th - Friday 13th March	Sports Relief Week
Wednesday 11th March	Community Café: Secondary Only
Monday 30th March	World Autism Awareness Day
Weds 1st April	Easter Assembly with Reverend Moore
Thursday 2 nd April	MFL Rewards Day for whole school
Thursday 30th April	Community Café: Primary Only
Friday 22nd May	MFL Rewards Day
Thursday 18th June	Community Café: Secondary Only
Tuesday 23rd June	Whole School Parents Evening
Tuesday 30 th June	Year 11 Leaving day
Thursday 16th July	MFL Rewards Day for whole school
Friday 17 th July	Whole School Sports Day