



# Meir Heath Academy Newsletter

## October 2019

### Principal's Message

An eight week first half term, but where has it gone? And a successful one at that! Here's just a few of our achievements : many sporting events, a number of 'Big Art' sessions and Parent Go Outdoors, class assemblies and many school trips have already taken place. I love checking through Twitter at the end of the school day and smile with pride at all of the wonderful learning opportunities provided for our children. What fun we have!

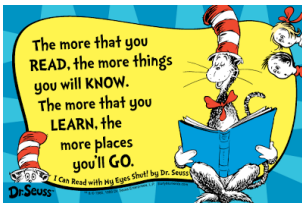
As you all know, we have had a 'special visitor' in school recently. The Ofsted inspection was a 'section 8' which means that it was a lighter touch inspection. This means that we had one inspector looking at a handful of subject areas. It is important to note that the intention of the visit was not to re-categorise, the current judgement of 'good', as this is not possible under a section 8 inspection. Whilst I have not had the official response yet, I was delighted to hear her parting comment, 'I am not quite sure what it is, but there is definitely magic in the air'. Ofsted produce an official letter to parents, and I will add this to the website when it is available and then text to say when it is there.



Prior to our special visitor, our Hub leader, Mr Thomson, visited our academy and carried out our autumn term 'Effectiveness Visit'. He observed teaching and learning around the school with myself, looked at our school developments and was pleased with the progress made towards our self identified 'Key Priorities' (the priorities that I share with you in my September Newsletter). We will continue to self evaluate and network with the schools within the MAT in order to share good practice and, at the same time, magpie ideas and strive to provide your children with the best education that they deserve.



This month, I awarded our Y6 ambassadors with their House Captain badges and Vice Captain badges. These were the successful candidates who were democratically voted in by their peers after presenting a prepared case as to their suitability for the role. School Council children have also been presented with their badges and so too have our St Bart's Pupil Parliamentarians who put themselves forward for their role and were democratically voted in by their peers and staff. Three of our Parliamentarians attended a St Bart's Trust Board meeting this term and spoke eloquently about what it is like to be a child at Meir Heath Academy, and how St Bart's has helped us to develop over the last past 2 years. All of these children have shown that they have the potential to be our leaders of 'the world of the future'!



This term, we will be continuing our whole school drive for 'developing a love for reading'. We have many super ideas that will be slotted in throughout the academic year. We must be doing something right, though, as the special visitor asked a Y6 pupil if she had a magic wand, and could wave it over our school, what would they wish for — the response was — a library!! Well we have certainly cracked it with our love of reading there!

### Parent view.....

Thank you so much for the overwhelmingly positive response on the Ofsted Parent View.

63 parents completed the survey.

It warmed my heart to hear your feedback and to know how happy our Meir Heath Family is! Thank you.



### Casual Work—Crossing Patrol

As you may have noticed, Mr Green has been unable to work for the last few weeks. We wish him well and hope he can return soon. In the meantime, if you are interested in working as crossing patrol on a casual basis, then please contact the school office.

### The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal

We will be Selling:

Poppies 20p

Zip Pulls 50p

Poppy Reflector 50p

Silicon wristband £1

Snap band £1.50

**After half term, if you would like your child to make a purchase, then please send the EXACT change, as the money you send is to be placed into the poppy appeal sealed red boxes.**

Thank you.

### January Workshops led by

### The New Vic Theatre (Y1 to Y6)



We are looking forward to our annual New Vic Theatre led workshops. These give us an insight into the performance, in advance of the trip, help prepare our children by giving them prior learning of the plot, and character information, as well as sharing the theatre techniques that the cast will use. We have found that these are invaluable and allow our children to get the most out of the performances.

A huge thank you to our PFA for funding this wonderful opportunity.

### Morning Breakfast.

Please note that we aim to provide this service for those families who are pushed for time in a morning and therefore aimed at our children who do not eat breakfasts at home, not for a child to have a second breakfast at school.

If you have pre-ordered breakfast, then please ensure that your child arrives at school for 8:45am so that they have time to eat before 9am.

**Thank you for your cooperation.**

### Special Lunches

Sadie's enjoying...

5<sup>th</sup> November

### Bonfire Night

Choose a Main Meal...

Guy Fawkes Pork Sausages  
King James 1<sup>st</sup> Veggie Sausages

On the Side...

Mashed Potatoes  
BBQ Beans  
Peas

For Dessert...

Bonfire Sticky Toffee Pudding  
& Custard

Please contact your Catering Manager for information concerning allergies

Chartwells  
E.C. - FRANK LTD

### Absences and Late Marks

**Please be aware that holiday requests (exceptional circumstances) during term time will not be authorised if your child's attendance is less than 97% or the request totals more than 5 days.**

**Please be aware that the school may issue fines via Staffordshire County Council if your child has an unauthorised absence; or exceeds the number of late marks as set out on the school attendance policy on the school website.**

### Breakfast and Snacks

Polite reminder that orders are required to be paid for in advance and that your Parentpay account will need to be in credit, on the Thursday before, to enable your child to have their snacks for the following week. Please note that these should be pre-ordered via the office.