



Mereside Primary Academy
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Head of School: Ms S. Upton

13th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Wow, what a busy week we have had this week! Maths week has been lots of fun with children everywhere completing practical maths tasks with smiles on their faces as I've delivered certificates for our Sumdog competition. Today the children looked amazing for 'Children in Need' and they have been so chatty telling me what they have been up as I've been walking around school. On a more sombre note, our Remembrance Service took place on Wednesday morning and I can't tell you how proud I am of all our children who were so respectful. They really were a credit to #TeamMereside.

Parent Questionnaire:

Notifications have now been sent out on Parents App about our latest parental questionnaire. The responses will be collated at the end of next week so if you haven't already done so please take the time to complete.

Maths Week:

This week we have been taking part in Maths Week England. Each class has been looking at where they use their maths skills in other subjects and had a 'Practical Only Maths Lesson' to see how maths can be used in everyday situations.

Within FCAT, there has been a Trust Sumdog Competition! Each class from Y1 upwards took part and we are very proud of all the pupils for helping us score points for Mereside. 3/4SP was the top class of the whole trust on Wednesday out of the 72 classes that qualified! Our results were:

School Position	Class	Trust Position	Top Pupil
1 st	3/4SP	7 th	Amy
2 nd	3/4P	11 th	Ellie
3 rd	1M	12 th	Tilly
4 th	3/4KR	17 th	Reece
5 th	5/6M	18 th	Jazmine
6 th	2R	39 th	Jenna
7 th	5/6B	56 th	Logan
8 th	5/6M	58 th	Erin

The following 9 pupils made it into the top 50 of the 1,521 pupils who took part across all the academies:

School Position	Pupil	Class	Trust Position
1 st	Amy	3/4SP	1 st
2 nd	Jenna	5/6B	4 th
3 rd	Logan	2R	16 th
4 th	Tiana-Esmee	3/4SP	19 th
5 th	Tilly	1M	20 th
6 th	Ellie	3/4P	23 rd
7 th	Kian	1M	30 th
8 th	Charley	1M	42 nd
9 th	Ellie-May	5/6B	43 rd

HUGE congratulations to Amy R who was the overall highest scorer in the whole Trust! She scored 973 correct answers out of a possible 1000. You are amazing, Amy, well done!

Bikes and Scooters:

Over recent weeks we have had a few accidents and near misses with children riding their bikes and scooters into school when other children are walking to, or waiting on the playground. With this in mind, for the safety of everyone, we have said that all children must now get off their bikes and scooters as soon as they reach school and walk with them to the bike sheds etc. This is to ensure no-one is hurt. If your child comes to school on either a bike or scooter can you please speak to them about this and remind them not to ride bikes/scooters on the school site.

Can I also remind everyone that children must not arrive at school before their bubble time and children are not allowed onto the MUGA before school, this is a Blackpool Council ruling not ours!

Christmas Cards and Teacher Gifts:

It is with a heavy heart that we have had to make the decision that children will not be able to swap Christmas Cards in school this year due to the current restrictions. We know this isn't an ideal situation but we have been planning many other Christmas activities for the children in school so hopefully it will just be different this year, and not worse! I will confirm in the coming weeks some of the planned activities.

Similarly, all teachers really appreciate the cards and gifts they receive from children at Christmas, however, for this year we kindly ask for this not to happen, again due to the restrictions. Instead we would much prefer you spend your money on your children. Make them smile, give them an extra treat and make Christmas as special as possible for them this year after the changes that have happened during this pandemic. Everyone deserves to smile!

And finally, this week's superstars are...

Nursery – Tine for developing the confidence to speak to adults within the setting and creating some lovely drawings.

RT – James for being an amazing mathematician and **Sienna** for working so hard in our talk boost sessions.

R/1EP- Cody for being an all-round superstar every day and being a pleasure to have in class and **Tina** for being a super kind friend and always using good manners.

1M – Millie Mae for having a much-improved attitude to her work. She has tried so hard in every subject and **Jack** for excellent effort in Maths and Phonics. Miss McGarry is so proud of both of you!

2R – Rocco for always giving 100% effort in every lesson and doing fantastic literacy work and **Evie** for always having a positive attitude and being ready to learn in every lesson.

3/4P – Ellie for being such a helpful and caring friend and Amelia for showing great netball skills in P.E.

3/4SP – Amy for her outstanding performance in the Sumdog competition – you were the top student out of ALL of the schools in our Academy Trust Amy – WELL DONE!! Also, **James** for using some lovely imagery in his dragon poem.

3/4KR – Kyla for always giving 100% and trying so hard in every lesson and **Reece** for putting so much effort into the Sumdog competition both in school and at home. Reece was the top pupil in our class!

5/6C – Kai for an amazing effort to be at school on time and **Ellie-Ann** for some fantastic resilience in Maths this week. Well done both of you!

5/6M – Alice for being a superstar and always being the perfect role model for others and **Sarah** for being so kind and supportive to her peers.

5/6B – Maisie for having a massive improvement in her attitude to Maths work and gaining the belief that she can do it!! You are a star Maisie! Also, to **Reece** for being an amazing defender when playing netball, following all the instructions, rules and advice given – Well done Reece!

A big well done to everyone!!

Upcoming dates for your diary:

Wednesday 25th November – No pens Wednesday in school with a focus on activities involving speech and language.

Monday 30th November – Whole school flu spray

Tuesday 8th December (am) – Early Years production (COVID permitting)

Wednesday 9th December (pm) – Early Years production (COVID permitting)

Thursday 10th December – Christmas Fair (COVID permitting)

Friday 11th December – Christmas Jumper Day
Tuesday 15th December (pm) – KS1 production (COVID permitting)
Wednesday 16th December (am) – KS1 production (COVID permitting)
Whole school Christmas Dinner
Thursday 17th December – Carol Service (COVID permitting)
Friday 18th December – School Closes – times for each bubble to be announced in due course.

Dates for Christmas parties etc will also be announced closer to the time.

Stay safe and thank you for your continued support.

Ms S Upton
Headteacher