



Mereside Primary Academy
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Headteacher: Ms S. Upton

28th May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy Half Term!

Enjoy, stay safe and we will see you all again on Monday 7th June.

Sports Week:

This week we have had a fabulous Sports Week in school with our traditional sports day, carousels activities, long distance running to name but a few. A huge thanks to our PE lead, Mrs Birt, for all her organisation and support this week. After a rainy start to the week the sunshine found its way and the children have enjoyed collecting points for their house team all week.

So, the moment you have all been waiting for... the sports winners for 2020-21 are...drumroll please...

Team Water!

Congratulations to **Team Water** but also to all the children taking part. We are so proud of all of you and it has definitely been a team effort this week. The final points total was as follows...

Air – 1,861

Water – 2,015

Fire – 1,998

Earth – 1,939

Mrs Buffam and Miss Raby:

It is a very sad day today as we say goodbye to Mrs Buffham who is moving on to a new school closer to home. Mrs Buffham has worked tirelessly in the Core and Galaxy and we wish her all the best for her future career.

Miss Raby is soon to have a second baby so will be working from home for the final half term. However, she will still be delivering her lessons into the classroom via zoom. Mrs Foley-Blundell will be physically in the classroom to support the delivery and offer one to one support alongside the other adults who are usually in the room. Mrs Kirkpatrick will be with the class in person Monday-Wednesday.

Connecting stories:

A huge congratulations goes to three of our children in Year 5/6 who have been awarded certificates this week for their entries into a creative writing competition run by Connecting Stories from the Arts Council England. We are very proud of you **Mayzee, Alex and Jenna!**

Swimming:

A plea from the swimming coaches – if your child goes swimming with school could all parents, please ensure that your child does NOT bring deodorant or aftershave/perfumes to the pool. These are being used excessively, which affects those with asthma and also if bottles were broken the pool would have to be closed down for sessions. Please note that children who continue to break these rules at swimming will not be allowed to continue to go with school.

Playground Leaders:

We have now appointed some of our older children into the post of playground leaders. Children often thrive off additional responsibility and the sense of purpose and the chosen children have been an absolute credit to themselves. They are really enjoying their new roles and we hope that we can develop this even further next year.

Mereside in the News:

Alongside this newsletter you have also been sent a copy of an article in this week's gazette from Commando Joe's visit. The children had a fantastic time and again this is something that I am hoping to buy into next year.

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

Nursery – Amelie for being an enthusiastic learner, using fantastic listening skills and being an all-round superstar!

RT – The whole of the class for working really hard in a full half term after lockdown and making so much progress – I am so proud of you all!

R/1PP- Lucy-Ann for showing amazing athleticism at our Sports Week events, jumping 1.55m and running 9 laps of the field and **Kian** for being a great sport this week, being resilient and having a fantastic running technique!

1M – Charley for being a fantastic friend and role model to all children and **Dante** for having a fantastic week in sports week. His smile has made everyone happy!

2R – Lydia for working hard every day and always being ready to learn, and for being a good friend and **Ruby-Blu** for always helping others and working so hard on her handwriting and presentation.

3/4P – Kayden for an amazing effort in his long-distance run as part of sports week and **Gabriela** for having such a positive attitude to her work. Well done both of you!

3/4SP – Willow for having such a fantastic attitude towards learning and **Travis** for being such a superstar in Sports Week. Well done both of you!

3/4KR – Reece for setting such a good example for others and always being enthusiastic and **All of 3/4KR** from Miss Raby to say that you have been a great class and that she will see you all soon on zoom!

5/6C – Erin for being so kind and helpful to all her peers and staff members and **Kai** for having really positive mornings this week.

5/6M – Amy for a brilliant effort on sports day and **Claiton** for showing such a mature attitude in challenging situations. Well done both of you!

5/6B – Fatima for always being an amazing always person who is such a superstar and **Jenna** for being fabulous in all she does and taking so much pride in her work.

A big well done to everyone!!

Upcoming dates for your diary:

(Please note that changes may happen due to Covid and more will be added as the term goes on!)

Monday 7th June – School reopens

Friday 11th June – Whole school History Day

Monday 14th June – Class, individual and sibling group photographs - Tempest

Monday 21st June – World Music Day

Thursday 1st July and Friday 2nd July – Year 6 transition days to high school

Friday 2nd July – Moving up day – Meet next year's class teacher

Thursday 8th July – End of Year reports to be sent home

Monday 19th July – End of Year Awards Ceremony

Tuesday 20th July – Year 6 Leavers Festival

Wednesday 21st July – Leavers Assembly 9.30am (Year 6 parents only)

Wednesday 21st July – School closes for the Summer Holidays at 1.30pm

Stay safe and thank you for your continued support.

Ms S Upton
Headteacher

Thursday, May 27, 2021

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NEWS

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Commando Joe's instructor Romano Betts with Raheem Stove

Put to the test by Commando Joe

By Wes Holmes
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Mereside children put their teamwork skills to the test when they received a visit from a military-style instructor from Commando Joe's.

Former army man Romano Betts paid a visit to Mereside Primary School, on Langdale Road, to teach the children character-building exercises and the importance of R.E.S.P.E.C.T - resilience, empathy, self-awareness, positivity, excellence, communication and teamwork.

Children split up into teams and took part in obstacle courses as part of the day-long training programme, which was won by the school in an online competition.

Romano said: "It was a showcase of some of the things we do with a view to building teamwork skills and resilience. It isn't like a military boot camp.

"The children learned about teamwork, confidence building and putting their trust in one another, learning how to work with each other outside of a classroom setting with children they might not usually work with.

"Communication, teamwork and trust is key to what we teach, and I think that's what they took away.

"I thought they were fantastic, really engaged, polite and

well-mannered."

Mereside Primary School teacher Lauren Richardson said: "The whole school took part. They all got a taste of teamwork from Commando Joe's.

"The children loved it, and have been asking when they are coming in again. I think they were taken aback by how much was covered, and how informative and clear the instructor was.

"As a former army man himself, he was very straightforward.

"They really felt like they were taking part in proper military training."

Self-discipline

Commando Joe's uses the skills of former military personnel to teach children self-discipline, confidence and teamwork.

Romano said: "Usually people tend to place Commando Joe as an additional aid to P.E., which may be the case, but we are a unique company which helps character-building in different ways. What we provide, we tailor to what the school wants. If they want focus groups with a certain year group, that's what we will do. If they want help with team games at lunch times, that's what we will do. I've been in 25 schools nationally, and each school has had its own particular wants and needs."

Wheely good effort from little Henry

Fleetwood RNLi and the town's Ferry Cafe gave a particularly warm welcome to a little boy who cycled all the way from Blackpool's Lifeboat station for the RNLi.

Little Henry James, aged just six, was accompanied by mum Victoria, a keen runner and he managed to raise £250 for the lifesaving charity.

The youngster had already cycled to the Black-

pool station from his home in Lytham in an earlier endeavour.

A Fleetwood RNLi spokesman said: "Henry was pre-

sented with a medal by crew volun-

teer 'Skip' Frith to ac-

knowledge his amaz-

ing achieve-

ments, as well as various RNLi

'goodies' as a thank

you for his fundraising efforts.

"He's done really well for us."

Man arrested over resort fraud claims

A man facing allegations that he defrauded four hotels in Blackpool out of £25,000 has been arrested in Durham after Blackpool Police launched a public appeal to help trace him.

Police had wanted to

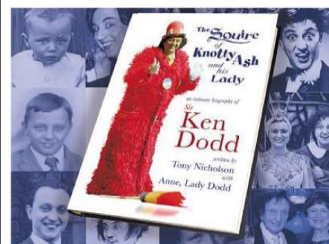
speak to John Allison, 34, originally from Scotland, about the allegations but after an initial interview they were unable to trace him.

Police reported yesterday that he was in custody at Durham.

FREE online event YORKSHIRE POST



Anne, Lady Dodd talks about her husband, the legendary comedian Sir Ken Dodd and their life together.



In this exclusive online event, Lady Anne will be interviewed by *The Yorkshire Post's* Graham Walker