



Mereside Primary Academy
Langdale Road,
Blackpool,
FY4 4RR
Phone: 01253 761531
Email: admin@mereside.fcat.org.uk

Headteacher: Ms S. Upton

4th February 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,
We've had a lovely day in school today for National Number Day. The children looked fantastic so thank you for all your support and donations.

This week our attendance was...

94%

Oh no – let's get 96% next week!

Takeover Day:

This week, the year sixes were interviewed for the jobs they have been applying for in school over the past few weeks. They will 'take over' the school on Monday! The year 6's were interviewed by Miss Platt and Mrs Yu who said they did incredibly well. They have been spending time planning lessons and working on their job-specific skills for next week. Look out on Facebook for pictures of them doing their newly-appointed roles. I can't wait to hand over my job to the new head teacher- I have a list of jobs ready to keep them busy!

Blackpool Beating Bullying:

Next week, there will be a survey shared on ParentsApp which will support us in gathering responses for our Blackpool Beating Bullying Silver Charter Mark. We were awarded our Bronze Award last year and there were just a few tweaks needed for us to reach our silver. We would appreciate your positive responses if you have time to complete it when it goes live - the survey will be accessible for 7 days. I have attached our policy and the information about our strategies and resilience framework with this newsletter.

CYPAD:

We are very excited to announce that our school dinners are going online. This means that you will be able to book your meal in advance so you and your child will know what they are eating for that day. Alongside the details of the meal, there will also be a photograph to help you decide. Further information will be attached to this newsletter and also sent out on ParentsApp. If you have any questions once you've received the information, please ask at the office.

Help please:

We have in the pipeline another exciting project for our children but have become a little despondent when trying to organise a firm to dig and line a hole in the grass due to the quotes we are getting in! It is quite a large space as it would be approx. 20m by 10m. Does anyone know of anyone who may be able to support? Owns a small digger or can recommend a business which can take a look and won't charge us a fortune? Thanks everyone!

Next week:

It will be a busy week next week as we hold our Mental Health Week in school and whilst also taking part in the National Safer Internet Day on Tuesday where we have a very special visitor in school to talk to our children. To top it off, our wonderful Schools Alive members will be performing live on stage at the Winter Gardens in Blackpool on Tuesday evening. We can't wait to see you all shine!

End of half term:

Just a reminder that school closes for half term next Thursday, the 10th February, at 3.15pm and we re-open on Monday 21st February.

Bookworm of the week:

Our amazing bookworms of the week are:

EYFS – Lanie for using exciting story language when retelling the story 'The Gingerbread Man'.

KS1 – Dante for using his phonics knowledge to read well and rediscovering his love of reading with a real passion after a lockdown hiatus.

LKS2 – Alicia for a consistency of high-quality reading and engagement.

UKS2 – Amelia H for constantly reading at home every evening.

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

Nursery – **Cash** for settling in so well, exploring both inside and outside. Well done Cash!

RT – **Bella** for a great effort in phonics and **Lilly-Ann** a fantastic effort with reading at home. You've both been stars – Well done!

RP – **Jack** for asking some interesting questions when learning about the Great Wall of China. Jack made a fantastic sketch of the wall and is able to tell you some interesting facts he has learnt. Well done! **Millie** for being a ray of sunshine in RP. She is a kind friend to everyone and very thoughtful. Thank you, Millie!

1/2S - **Poppy** for producing outstanding results by going the extra mile and taking pride in her work and **Cody** for imaginative classroom contributions, remarkable story telling and producing quality pieces of work in all subjects. Well done both of you!

1/2R – **Aniyah** for being a kind, caring role model in our class who is always ready to learn and **Kian** for always giving 100% effort in every lesson and persevering even when it's tricky. You are both superstars!

1/2M – **Hanna** for improved reading at home and **Donnie** for learning how to write his phase 2 tricky words – Well done both of you!

3/4HP – **Lacey** for being resilient in her maths work and generally working so hard and doing well and **Liam** for setting such a good example with his behaviour and working so hard – Well done both of you!

3/4JP – **Kelsey** for being a good example to all with her positive attitude for learning and **Danielle** for some super ideas in her writing. Well done both of you!

5/6P – **Brodie** for a fantastic analysis of his website and **Harlee** for writing a really persuasive letter. Well done to both of you!

5/6M – **Ellie-Mae** for having a positive attitude throughout the day and at home and **Tayla** for a fabulous interview for Takeover Day. Well done!

5/6B – Vanessa for always going above and beyond, especially with her Chinese New Year work and **Noah** for overcoming challenges in science and coping with changes during the day. Well done!

A big well done to everyone!!

Upcoming dates for your diary:

- Monday 7th February – Mental Health week
- Tuesday 8th February – Schools Alive Performance
Safer Internet Day
- Thursday 10th February – School Closes for half term at 3.15pm
- Friday 11th February – Whole staff inset
- Thursday 3rd March – Coffee Morning – All welcome
- Friday 4th March – World Book Day
- Monday 7th March – Whole School Reading Week
- Wednesday 9th March – Parents Evening
- Friday 11th March – Comic Relief
Year 5 book talk with Konnie Huq
- Wednesday 16th March – Year 3/4 Class Trip to Martin Mere
- Monday 21st March – Our chicks and ducks arrive for hatching
- Tuesday 22nd March – Year 3/4 production PM
- Wednesday 23rd March – Year 3/4 production AM
- Friday 25th March – Easter Class Swap
- Wednesday 30th March – Easter Competitions – Easter hats and egg decorating
- Thursday 31st March – Easter Service
- Friday 1st April – School closes for the Easter holidays at 1.30pm

Stay safe and thank you for your continued support.

Ms S Upton
Headteacher

Coming up next week...

Date	Event	Time
Monday 7 th January P.E. – 1/2M 3/4JP 3/4HP	Commando Joes - Years 1 & 2	8am – start of school
	Times Table Club – Years 3 & 4	8am – start of school
	SATs Club – Year 6	8am – start of school
	Commando Joes – Years 1 & 2	3.15pm – 4.15pm
	Dance Club – Reception	3.15pm – 4.15pm
	Puzzle Club – Years 3, 4, 5 and 6	3.15pm – 4.15pm

	MENTAL HEALTH WEEK – Whole School	All week
Tuesday 8 th February P.E. – 1/2R 1/2S 1/2M 5/6P 5/6M 5/6B	Science Club – Years 3 and 4 Textiles Club (Printing, weaving, sewing) – Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 Dance Club – Years 3 and 4 SATs Club – Year 6 SAFER INTERNET DAY – Whole School SCHOOL’S ALIVE PERFORMANCE	3.15pm – 4.15pm 3.15pm – 4.15pm 3.15pm – 4.15pm 8am – start of school All day Afternoon/evening
Wednesday 9 th February P.E. – 1/2S 5/6P	Film Club – Years 3 and 4 SATs Club – Year 6	3.15pm – 4.15pm 8am – start of school
Thursday 10 th February P.E. – Early Years 3/4JP 3/4HP	Mindfulness (puzzles, games and drawing) Club – Years 3 and 4 Schools Alive – For those performing at the Winter Gardens SATs Club – Year 6 SCHOOL CLOSERS FOR HALF TERM	3.15pm – 4.15pm 3.15pm – 4.15pm 8am – start of school 3.15pm
Friday 11 th February	School Closed	

Mereside Primary School Parent School Meal Pre-Ordering Launch

Dear Parents/Carers

Important School Meals Information – Parent School Meal Pre-Ordering Launch!

At Blackpool Catering Services, we believe and recognise that partnership is the key to the future of a sustainable service, working with children, schools and families to improve nutrition, health and education.

Food plays a significant part in a young person's development and we wanted to support you with a flexible approach to menu selections as well as ensuring children receive the meals they like. To support families and schools in this aim, we are introducing a new meal pre-ordering service as part of your existing ParentPay account.

Pre-ordering of meals can be made from your ParentPay account, allowing you and your child(ren) to select their school meals and manage meal payment easily.

From 11th February 2022 the system will be live at Mereside School to allow you to pre-book your child's school meals for week commencing 21st February 2022

Please read the following information carefully as it confirms all the details you need to know. All school payments, including lunches, must be paid for by ParentPay. ParentPay is a safe and secure website which allows you to make payments online with your debit/credit card.

Free School Meals and Universal Infant Free School Meals - For parents of children in receipt of free meals, you will also need to pre-order your child's meals through ParentPay, but you will not be charged.

Packed Lunch Children - We are also asking all Parents/Carers whose children usually bring their own packed lunch to sign up too - for those odd occasions that packed lunches are forgotten or you want them to have an ad-hoc dinner, for example on a Theme Day, Christmas etc.

Dietary Requirements - Special menus for children with dietary requirements are currently being inputted onto the system. If these choices are not showing on your child's account when you log on, your child will still be able to order from their special menu in class until their choices are updated.

Enclosed are detailed instructions of how to choose and pay for school meals.

As with any new system, there may be some initial teething problems, however, we are confident that once up and running, this new system will be beneficial to all.

If you have not previously activated your ParentPay account and do not have the original activation letter, please contact the school office who will be able to issue you with another letter.

Thank you all for your patience and co-operation.

Yours sincerely

Derek Wright

Catering Services Manager – Blackpool Council

Serving Our Community
and Preparing the Future





The Three Bees...

- Be Safe
- Be Ready
- Be Kind

In our school we follow the rules to 'bee' the best that we can be!



What should I do if I am being bullied?

- SPEAK OUT!
- Talk to a trusted adult
- Speak to the playground PALs or an adult.
- Remember we are here to help.
- Walk away from the situation.
- Use restorative practice principles to help resolve the issue.

What is bullying?

'Bullying is aggressive or insulting behaviour by an individual or group, often repeated over a period of time, that intentionally hurts or harms'.

Types of bullying-

Physical-

Hitting, kicking, pushing

Verbal-

Name calling, making fun of others

Emo

Leaving someone out, hurting someone's feelings



Cyber-

Sending mean messages online, pretending to be someone else online

What should we do if we see someone being bullied?

- Tell a grown up
- Remind others of the school rules
- Try and cheer up your peer

What if I think I am a bully?

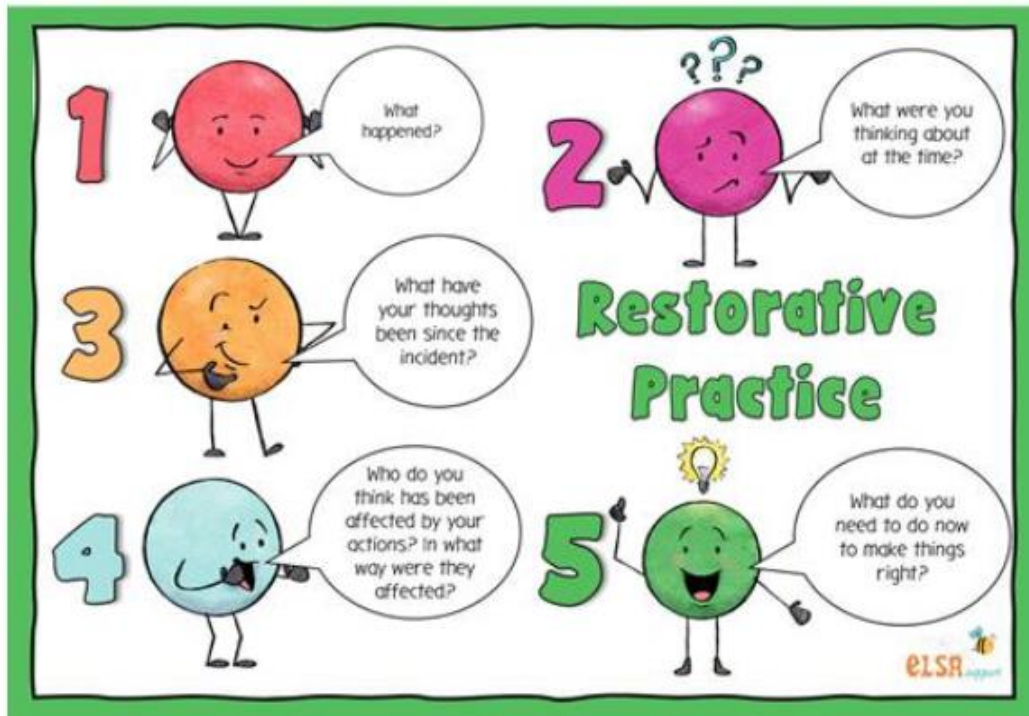
- Tell a teacher
- Say sorry and try to make friends
- Ask for help
- Think about why you have hurt someone else's feelings
- Use restorative practice to work through the issue and mend it!

Adult information:

At Mereside Primary Academy we are part of the Blackpool Beating Bullying Alliance, working hard to beat bullying in our area.

We have introduced the principles of restorative practice to support young people in solving their issues and ensure that they can deal with conflict appropriately. This enables us to be ensure that incidents of reported unkindness are not repeated over a period of time and escalating into bullying incidents.

Below is an example of the restorative practice that we use:



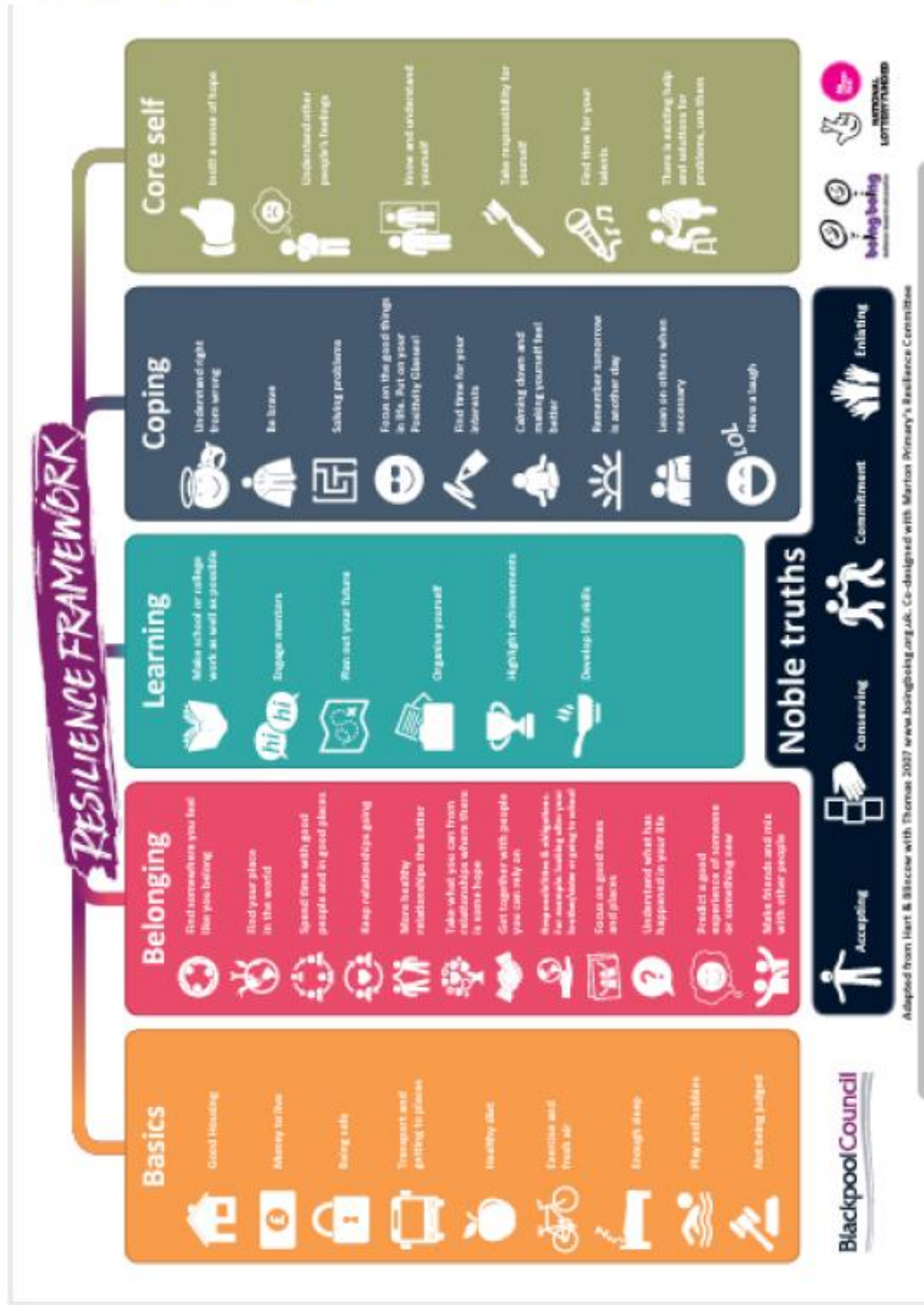
We work with each other, working through these questions to establish how we can move forward from problems we have. All the grown ups in school have been trained to help young people solve their problems using this technique and make sure we can move forward happily.

As part of our Blackpool Beating Bullying Charter Mark, we promote the Resilience Framework in school.

We encourage children and families to carry out the resilient moves. The resilient framework is available for families too and posters are all around school to encourage these positive steps. If you would like your own copy of the framework then feel free to ask your child's teacher.

The resilient frameworks for children and families can be found on the next two pages:

Resilience Framework



Resilience Framework, A Family Version

