



**Mereside Primary Academy**  
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**Headteacher:** Ms S. Upton

8<sup>th</sup> December 2023

This week our attendance was...

**91.1%**

Oh no – Let's get to 96%

Dear Parents/Carers,

We've had a wonderful time this afternoon with the whole school watching the production of Sleeping Beauty. Who doesn't love a good old panto at this time of year!

**Christmas Fair:**

Thank you for all your bottle donations today, they are very much appreciated. Next Friday is our Christmas Fair. Again, this will be a non-uniform day with a donation of cakes. The fair will start at 2pm so please note that school will finish at **1.45pm**. Please make sure that your child/children are collected as promptly as possible so that class teachers have time to set up. Entry to the fair will be through the KS2 playground.

**Mrs Phelps:**

As some of you are already aware baby bump has decided that 2023 sounds better than waiting till 2024 so Mrs Phelps has unfortunately had to start her maternity leave ahead of time. We'll let you know as soon as the little bundle of joy arrives but in the meantime we'd like to wish Mrs Phelps all the best for the upcoming birth. For 6JP, Mr Sheridan will be with the class up until Christmas. After Christmas, we welcome Mr Higginbottom until the end of July. Mr Higginbottom is an experienced year 6 teacher who impressed us greatly at interview. I am sure everyone in 6JP will make him very welcome.

**Attendance winning week:**

This week in school was an attendance award winning week. All children who have been in school every day and on time were entered into a draw which was drawn today to win a supermarket voucher. We are delighted to announce that the winner is Isla-Rose in reception. Congratulations, your voucher will be coming home tonight.

This week, I have also handed out our attendance postcards for all those children in Early Years and KS1 whose attendance is 96% or above so far this term. Unfortunately, there are so many children with their attendance of over 96% that we ran out of postcards! More have been ordered and as soon as they come in I will hand them out to all our KS2 attendance superstars.

### **Sing-along with our 2-year olds:**

On Monday, our wonderful 2-year old provision in nursery will be hosting a sing-along for parents in the Children's Centre at 2.15pm. I'm sure this will put everyone in the Christmas mood!

### **Early Years production:**

Our Early Years team have been practicing using their loud voices for their performance next week and we can't wait to watch. The whole school will get a sneak preview at their dress rehearsal on Monday and then parents are welcome to join us on Tuesday at 2pm and Wednesday at 9.30am. I'm sure they will all be amazing!

### **Mini Choir:**

Mrs Nicholson and our year 1 and 2 children in mini choir braved the weather on Wednesday morning at Tesco. They were all little stars and we are so proud of them as it's very scary singing in public at any age but especially when you are only 5 or 6 years of age so well done everyone and a massive thank you to Mrs Nicholson and all the staff who made this possible.



### **Family Hub updates:**

On Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November it is our ***FAMILY HUB COFFEE MORNING with the PRIMARY MENTAL HEALTH TEAM.*** ***Please come along to seek support and advice for your children's well-being. This will be held in the Children's Centre from 8.45am - 11am.***

***\*We are also delighted that our Year 1&2 School Choir will be singing for us \* Babies and Toddlers are also welcome for fun with our Mereside Movers session from 9 - 9.30am.***

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

**Nursery – Matthias** for settling into a new routine really well and **Chizoba** for having an amazing week, using her words, good listening ears and playing nicely with her peers. Well done both of you!

**RT – Savannah** for being a very caring friend and **Olly** for always being an absolute superstar. Well done both of you!

**RM – Reggie** for singing so beautifully whilst practising our Christmas Production and **Isaac** for being so enthusiastic with his phonics this week. You have blown our socks away with your motivation. Well done both of you!

**1M – Chloe** for trying so hard in maths and **Reggie** for trying so hard to concentrate on the carpet. Well done both of you!

**1/2G – Rea** for having a great week, even with all the excitement and **Jessica** for always having a lovely smile on her face. Well done both of you!

**2B – Sapphire** for an excellent effort and attitude in all areas and **Lily** for excellent effort and progress in reading at home. We are so proud of you both – Well done!

**3B – Isabella** for being helpful and super brave with the creepy crawlies and **Illidan** for excellent column addition in maths this week. Well done both of you!

**3/4D – Amelia** for being an all-round superstar and **Hunter** for working on his independence within his learning. Well done both of you!

**4FB – Jayden** for an excellent effort in PE and **AJ** for a much-improved attitude this week. Well done both of you!

**5W – Nikita** for starting to believe in herself and being a great help around the classroom and **Tommy** for making positive choices and seeing the impact of these on his learning. Well done both of you!

**6JP – Harrison** and **Alex** for some super work in maths this week. Well done both of you!

**6HP – Kayden** for trying so hard in bench ball in PE this week and **Max** for being a superstar when adding and subtracting fractions. Well done both of you!

A big well done to everyone!!

**Upcoming dates for your diary:**

(Please note this will be updated with new dates as the term progresses)

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas sing a long for our 2-year-old provision – All parents welcome in the Children’s Centre 2.15pm

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December** – Early Years production – 2pm

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** – Early Years production – 9.30am

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas Fair – Non-uniform day – Cake donations

**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December** – Early Years Christmas party

**Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December** – Years 3 and 4 Christmas party

KS1 production – 2pm

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December** – KS1 production 9.30am

Whole school Christmas dinner

**Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December** – KS1 and Upper KS2 Christmas party

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December** – Christmas celebration assembly and sing song

School closes for Christmas at 1.30pm

Any questions please don’t hesitate to ask; thank you for your continued support,

Ms S Upton  
Headteacher

**Coming up next week...**

Date	Event	Time
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Painting Club – Years 1 and 2	3.15pm – 4.15pm

<p>P.E. – 3/4D 4FB</p>	<p>Storytime Club – Reception</p> <p>Languages Club – Years 1 and 2</p> <p>Sing and Sign – Years 5 and 6</p> <p>Sing along with our 2-year olds</p>	<p>3.15pm – 4.15pm</p> <p>3.15pm – 4.15pm</p> <p>3.15pm – 4.15pm</p> <p>2.15pm</p>
<p>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December</p> <p>P.E. – 1M 1/2G 2B 3B 5W 6HP 6JP</p>	<p>Seasonal Crafts –Year 1 and 2</p> <p>Dance festival – Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6</p> <p>Christmas Arts and Crafts – Years 3 and 4</p> <p>Early Years production</p>	<p>3.15pm – 4.15pm</p> <p>3.15pm – 4.15pm</p> <p>3.15pm – 4.15pm</p> <p>2pm</p>
<p>Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December</p> <p>P.E. – 2B 6HP 6JP</p>	<p>Mini Choir – Years 1 and 2</p> <p>Manga – Years 5 and 6</p> <p>Early Years Production</p>	<p>3.15pm – 4.15pm</p> <p>3.15pm – 4.15pm</p> <p>9.30am</p>
<p>Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December</p> <p>P.E. – 3/4D 4FB 5W 6HP 6JP</p>	<p>Craft Club – Reception</p> <p>Crafts and Art – Years 5 and 6</p> <p>Piano – The same children as last half term</p>	<p>3.15pm – 4.15pm</p> <p>3.15pm – 4.15pm</p> <p>3.15pm – 4.15pm</p>
<p>Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December</p> <p>P.E. – Reception 1M 1/2G</p>	<p>Christmas Fair/Non-Uniform Day – Cake donation for the Fair</p>	<p>2pm (School closes at 1.45pm)</p>

# DECEMBER AT THE FREEDOM CENTRE

**Cafe and Charity Shop  
open Mon - Thurs  
8:45am - 1pm**

**Grab a Christmas  
bargain in our  
charity shop!**

**Candle light Carols  
18th December 7pm**

**Walking Nativity 16th  
December 10:30am**

**Christmas Fair 9th  
December 11am-1pm**

**Centre available to  
hire for your event!**

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
				1	2	3
				Centre available for hire	Centre Closed	Church Service 4:30 - 5:30pm
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Experience 1:30pm	Coffee Morning 10am-11am	Centre Closed	Food Bank from 9:30am	Centre available for hire	Christmas Fair 11am-1pm	Christingle Service 4:30 - 5:30pm with refreshments
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Experience 1:30pm	Coffee Morning 10am-11am	Chatty Tots 1:30pm	Food Bank from 9:30am	Centre Closed	Walking Nativity & hot chocolate! 10:30am	Church Service 4:30 - 5:30pm with refreshments
18	19	20	21	27	23	
Experience Christmas Party 1:30pm Candle light Carols 7pm	Coffee Morning 10am-11am	Chatty Tots Christmas Party 1:30pm	Food Bank from 9:30am	Centre Closed	Centre Closed	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Christmas day service 10:30am	Centre Closed	Centre Closed	Food Bank from 9:45am	Centre Closed	Centre Closed	Church Service 4:30 - 5:30pm with refreshments

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!