



Headlines

Autumn Term 2, Week 5

www.melthamceschool.co.uk

Date: Friday 6th Dec 2024

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This is your penultimate newsletter of 2024. Hasn't the term disappeared quickly? It's always a pleasure to work in a primary school at this time of year, and 2024 is no exception. Year 2 and reception are busy practising their lines for the upcoming performances and years one, three and four are honing their singing skills. The Monday morning Monday lunchtime bands are belting out carols and the choir fills the hallways with song too. There's still lots of hard work going on in classrooms, so don't worry - we're keeping them all busy! Don't forget tonight's Christmas Fair. Please come along after school from 3:30pm to support us and when it's done enjoy your weekends together. See you next week. There is tons to get through this week, so take care and I'll see you next week.

Road Safety

Please, please, please make sure that road safety is an ongoing conversation at home. We have had a very near miss on the road outside school this morning which has been a real reminder of the risks involved in allowing our children to walk to school. The traffic can be very busy and sometimes travelling too quickly (luckily on this occasion the driver was adhering to the limit and being incredibly vigilant) so please speak with your children about how to get to and from school safely. Please go to the crossing where Michelle will help you across and take care. Thank you.

Sing Up!

Thank you for coming to our last Sing Up! Assembly last week. The singing here in school is absolutely wonderful and the children in classes and our amazing choir showed their SHOUTOUT talents to a packed out hall (and playground!) last week. We hope you enjoyed it if you were able to come along; we'll do it again in the spring term.

Girls Football

Last Tuesday evening, seven Y6 girls were a fantastic representation of our sporting values at Meltham CE. They showed excellent improvement throughout the tournament: becoming more aggressive in tackles, supporting each other, finding space when attacking, tracking back to defend, understanding the changes in transitions, and taking every referee decision and end result with grace. Sophie, Eden, Phoebe, Jessica, Abigail, Mary and Hannah were all outstanding taking two convincing wins from a possible five, coming in third place overall. Well done, and thank you.

ECO updates:

Clothes Swap with Woven and Uniform Exchange

Last week we held a successful 2 day Children's Clothes Swap. It was lovely to see families exchange clothes they had grown out of, for 'new to them' clothing items. Not only does exchanging clothes give you a new wardrobe, it helps the environment by cutting down on production costs, carbon and waste. Thank you to everyone who attended. We can't wait to see you all at our next Clothes Swap on 27th and 28th March 2025.

ATTENDANCE

Our whole school target is:

96%

This week our whole school attendance was:

96.6%

Our attendance winners for the week are:

Class 5

Eco Schools Litter Award 2024

Last week we had some very exciting news from Eco Schools. Meltham CE School and the Eco Committee have been awarded the Eco Schools Litter Award for 2024! This is due to our hard work last year picking up over 100 bags of litter, our Meltham wide poster campaign and our whole school commitment to reducing litter. We are just waiting for our award to get its gold plating!

Cut Your Carbon November

Thank you everyone who took part in this year's *Cut Your Carbon* November. We have reported our results back to Eco Schools and will let you know what we have achieved very soon. Yesterday we handed out certificates to everyone who took part by making small changes this November to cut their carbon footprint. Two members of the Eco Committee carried out our prize draw: Well done to Freya E in Year 4, who has chosen to adopt a turtle from World Wildlife Funds Adopt an Animal campaign. Thank you, Miss Ingham.

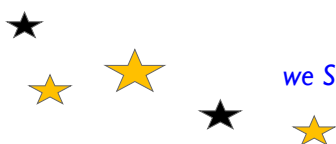
Spring Term Afterschool Clubs - Y1-Y6

The spring term Afterschool clubs are now open on ParentPay for you book. These are limited to 20 spaces per club.

Monday	Footy Tots	Y1 & Y2
Monday	Street Dance	Y3 - Y6
Wednesday	Football Academy & Sports Club	Y3 - Y6
Thursday	Go Girls! Football	KS2 Girls
Friday	Dance Stars	Y1 & Y2
Friday	Football Strikers	Y3 - Y6

Carols In The Park

Thank you to all who turned up to Carols In the Park last Sunday. The children sang beautifully along with others from Meltham Moor and Helme School. The weather just about held out too!



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Parenting Help

Please check the help with parenting links this week. I have added lots of new links for support around parenting in the home.

Shining Stars and Christian Value Awards

Speaking of friendship, next week is Shining Stars and Christian Values Awards assembly in the school hall from 2:20pm. Each half term, as many of you will know, we choose a child in each class as the Shining Star. Typically, this is a child who has demonstrated one or all of our Christian Values, has tried hard and made progress; it might be a child who has exhibited resilience or our school drivers of STANDOUT, BREAKOUT and SHOUTOUT. At the end of each term, we also choose just two children from across school to receive our Christian Values Award. These children will have shown all of our six Christian Values (friendship, forgiveness, courage, thankfulness, compassion and hope) and live out our Christian Vision in school. I'll be sure to tell you all who they are in the final newsletter of 2024.

Christmas, Photos, Videos and Safeguarding

As many of you will be visiting school in the coming weeks to enjoy our nativities, Christmas performances in the hall and the carol service at St. Bart's, it's a good time to remember why it is that we ask often that you not take pictures and post on social media. Many of our children in school do not have permission to have their images captured. Often this is not a parental choice or decision, but a matter of safeguarding. I understand that it can be frustrating, especially if you want to share images with loved ones, but there is a reason. I have received this from Adoption UK which they have asked to be shared with schools:

When you record your child's Christmas play it is likely a child in school is at risk of abuse or has been removed from a dangerous and chaotic life and has been placed into foster care or with adoptive parents. If we then publicly post a picture or video with the child in the background, a friend shares it, the abusers see it, and they know the child's school.

Potentially, this child then has to pack up their belongings, move to a new home, new school, new carers, new life. All to protect them from dangerous people in their lives coming after them. All because we needed to share it online. Please, follow school policy. They don't tell you not to post on social media because they are miserable. They tell you this to protect vulnerable children

Christmas Performance Updates

Don't forget it's almost time for our Reception, Key Stage 1 and Year 3 and 4 parents to SHOUTOUT in their Christmas performances.

- Years one and two will be performing on Wednesday 11th December at 9:30 am and again in the evening at 6pm. Their final performance is on Thursday 12th December at 2pm in school. Letters have gone out for you to reserve tickets, but if you still haven't sourced one, please contact the office.
- Reception will perform their nativity on the afternoon of Monday 16th December at 2:15 pm and again on the morning of Tuesday 17th December at 9:30am.
- Finally, our Year 3 and Year 4 children will bring their traditional carol service to St. Barts in the village on

the evening of Wednesday 18th December beginning at 6pm.

All the information regarding arrival times has been forwarded to parents. I hope to see parents and carers there. It's going to be wonderful, I'm sure!

Christmas Post

As always we have the Christmas post box in school. Please can all children who bring in cards make sure that the **name and class** are clearly written on the front. Cards for children's own classes and the parallel year group class will be distributed by the children and staff in that class. Cards for other adults in school or for other children in school will be put in the post box to be handed out. No name (or only a first name) can mean cards don't reach their destination.

Christmas Gifts and Requests in School

It is always lovely to receive gifts from children at this time of year and we are always touched and thankful. Equally, we know that we ask a lot of you at this time of year—contributions towards Christmas crafts, donations from Children in Need and Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day; we ask for donations of chocolate and bottles for the fair and invite you in to spend money in order to help support our school. I also know that it's an expensive time of year (I have three children of my own!). Give what you can. Don't feel guilty if you cannot. Let us know if you need help for a Christmas jumper (we have some spares). And remember: gifts and cards for teachers and grown-ups in school are always welcome, but they are certainly not expected.

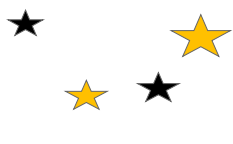
SEND Festival

This week Meltham CE hosted the annual SEND festival and children with SEND from all the local primary schools visited with their grown-ups to take part in physical games and activities that support and challenge their SEND. A number of Year 5 children were trained to help out and were outstanding ambassadors for the school—well done to all the children who helped out and thank you to Pennine Sports Partnership for organising and running the event here at Meltham school.

Visits to the Local Church (and visits from Rev. John)

Since the last news letter, Rev. John has visited to share his regular half-termly worships with the children here in school. This half-term we have learned about the Christmas Advent Reef. He taught us all about the Patriarchs, about the prophets, about John the Baptist and about the Angel Gabriel, all of whom were told of the coming of Jesus at Christmas. Each of the four candles on the reef represent one of these and are lit on the four Sundays up until Christmas. The last candle, the one in the middle is lit on Christmas day. Hopefully the children can tell you who this candle is for (hint: it's his birthday around this time of year)!

Year 2 and Class 2 have visited the Methodist church in the village this week along with their teachers, grown ups and a handful of high-vis clad volunteers who came along to support us on the walk to church (thank you very much indeed). The children enjoyed their visit and behaved very well as they learned all about the Christmas story in an immersive experience where they were allowed to dress up and play a part in retelling the story of this important Christian story. It's Class 1's turn next week!



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Eco-Schools

Hand to Mouth

This week we welcomed Hand to Mouth to school to present a lovely puppet-centred worship to the school around this term's Christian Value: Friendship. We learned how the tasks from the very simplest to the very hardest, are made easier with the help of a friend. It's fantastic to welcome visitors to our school and the children responded very positively making me feel proud to be the head teacher.

Our School Gardening Group

The gardening group have been very busy this term tidying up the butterfly garden. More importantly, raking up the copious amounts of leaves and weeds and composting them for next year's planting. This has been carried out safely and using the correct tools for the task undertaken. We will be planning and deciding what we will be planting in our raised beds in the new year. The groups of children have learnt how to split and plant up new strawberry plants, and how to plant up daffodils in pots. Do you know how deep a bulb should be planted? Some of the year 6 children have also taken part in trimming Hypericum shrubs using shears for the first time. (Mr. Pogson, Head of Gardening)

Curbing the Lip Balm Epidemic

Whilst we understand that the weather can be cold in winter; whilst we are happy for children to bring a chap stick or other salve into school if they suffer from sore or dry lips, please can I request that scented, tingly and sparkling balms and pastes be kept at home. Thank you.

The 0-5 HENRY Programme

If you have a child under 5 years old, the HENRY programme can help you give your child the best possible start in life. It can help you think about your family's lifestyle and decide what change you might like to make for a healthier and happier family. This programme aims to provide:

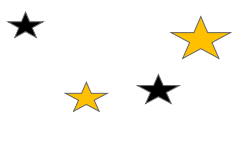
- Parenting skills
- Better understanding of healthy eating
- A better understanding of being active's importance
- Improved emotional wellbeing for all the family

Research has shown that the key ingredients to ensuring babies and young children have a healthy start in life are:

- Parenting confidence
- Physical activity for babies and children
- What families eat
- Family lifestyle habits
- Enjoying life as a family

The programme is PARENTS ONLY access, delivered in 2 hour sessions over 8 weeks delivered by trained facilitators. It is not referable by school. The sessions cover:

- Session 1 - Let's get started
- Session 2 - Balancing acts
- Session 3 - Needs and demands
- Session 4 - Tuning into meal times
- Session 5 - Time to be active
- Session 6 - Let's eat healthy
- Session 7 - Let's focus on feelings
- Session 8 - The way forward



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Further programme information can be obtained by calling 01484 456823 or visiting <https://henry.org.uk/parents>

Dates For Your Diary

Further dates and events for the Spring Term will be added in in the new term.

Fri 6th Dec - School Christmas Fair 3.30 - 5.30pm)

Wednesday 11th Dec - KSI Performance to parents - 9:30am

Wednesday 11th Dec - KSI Performance to parents - 6:00pm

Thursday 12th Dec - KSI Performance to parents 2:15pm

Fri 13th Dec - Christmas Jumper Day in school for Save the Children (£2 donation)

Fri 13th Dec - FS Dress rehearsal to school 9:30am

Fri 13th Dec—Shining Stars & Christian Values Award at 2:20pm in the hall

Mon 16th Dec - FS Nativity to parents - 2:15pm—to parents

Tue 17th Dec - FS Nativity to parents - 9:30am - to parents

Tues 17th Dec - Years 5 & 6 Christmas party

Wed 18th Dec - FS/KSI Christmas party

Wed 18th Dec - Years 3 & 4 Carol Service in Church (6pm)

Thurs 19th Dec - Years 3 & 4 Christmas party

Thurs 19th Dec - Singing in the Playground (Time TBC) and Shining Stars Assembly (2:30pm)

Fri 20th Dec - School closes for Christmas

Mon 6th Jan - School opens for the Spring Term

Mon 15th January - Year 5 fire safety

Wed 22nd Jan - Year 6 residential trip to Robin Wood

Thurs 30th - Eco committee working with Kirklees Recycling

Fri 14th Feb - School closed for half-term

Mon 24th Feb - School reopens

Mon 10th Mar - Parents Evening Week (times and dates TBC)

Help with parenting links

<https://www.familylives.org.uk/how-we-can-help/online-parenting-courses>

<https://www.thrivingkirklees.org.uk/tkparents/>

<https://www.kirkleeslocaloffer.org.uk>

<https://www.triplep-parenting.uk.net/uk/triple-p/>

<https://strengthening-families.net/>

<https://www.thespark.org.uk/relationship-support-parents-families/free-parenting-resources/>

<https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/information-support/children/>

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>

<https://thedadpad.co.uk/>

Wellbeing Links

www.myhappymind.org

<https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/>

I'm a parent/carer - Kirklees Keep in Mind (kirklees-keep-in-mind.nhs.uk)

<https://www.melthamceschool.co.uk/page/wellbeing/93763>

<https://www.nhs.uk>

<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/mental-health/index.aspx>

<https://www.thrivingkirklees.org.uk>

<https://www.triplep-parenting.uk.net/uk/hot-parenting-topics/my-child/parenting-during-covid-19>

<https://www.mind.org.uk>

<https://www.annafreud.org>

<https://youngminds.org.uk/supporting-parents-helpfinder>

<https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/beta/cost-of-living/index.aspx>

<https://www.thewelcomecentre.org/articles/cost-of-living-support-from-kirklees-council>



Eco-Schools



Meltham C.E School

Our School Uniform.

At Meltham CE Primary we wear our uniform with pride. It gives us a sense of belonging to our school and creates an identity for our school in the community. We are very lucky because we are given a choice of 3 colours for our sweatshirts – red, blue and black. We can also wear shorts, trousers, a skirt or a dress – whatever we feel most comfortable in.

A uniform prevents children from having to worry about peer pressure and what clothing they should wear. When everyone wears the same clothes this acts as a social leveller with children wearing the same uniform no matter what their family background or income.

If you need support with school uniform or other items, please get in touch and we will do our very best to help.

Uniform

- A red, black or royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan, plain or embroidered with the school logo.
- A plain white polo shirt.
- Plain grey or black trousers, shorts or skirt.
- Shoes must be practical and should be plain and black.
- Socks or tights should be school colours.
- In the warmer weather children may choose to wear school-style summer dresses in either blue or red.

P.E Kit.

Children should come to school wearing their P.E kit on the day of their P.E lesson.

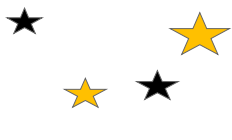
- A plain white t-shirt (no logo).
- Plain dark shorts and/or jogging bottoms.
- A plain dark hoody.
- Black Trainers/pumps.
- No sports kits, branded clothing or cropped tops

Forest School and Welly Days.

- Dark Plain clothing suitable for outdoor work depending on the weather that day.
- A change of footwear. Clean pair for indoor, wellies/old trainers for muddy outdoor work with a plastic/kit bag to take dirty footwear home in.

General information.

- Foundation stage/KS1 need a school book bag.
- KS2 children can bring a small rucksack style bag.
- Long hair must be tied back at all times and no jewellery other than watches and earrings for pierced ears are allowed.



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Eco-Schools

- If worn, 1 pair of earrings must be small, plain and flat which must be removed by the child before PE. Plastic retainers may be worn. In exceptional circumstance staff will provide children with tape to put over their studs. (all earrings must be removed before swimming in Year 4).
- If children have their ears pierced, we recommend it is done at the beginning of the summer holiday to allow them to heal.
- Children are not permitted to wear make-up or nail varnish
- No cropped tops to be worn in school (inc non-uniform days, forest school, clubs)
- **Please make sure all your child's belongings are clearly named/labelled.**

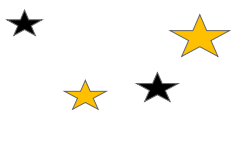
Suppliers.

- <http://www.termtimewear.com>
- <http://koolskools.co.uk/productcategory/meltham-cofe-primary-school>
- Free pre owned uniform available from <https://www.uniform-exchange.org/>
- Plain school uniform is also available from most supermarkets
- Labels for all clothing and belongings available from <https://www.stikins.co.uk/>

Daily Footwear



PE Kit, Forest School



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