

Friday 13th September 2024

This week, the Leadership Team and I have been visiting classes as part of our monitoring role. During our observations, we were very impressed by the children's positive attitudes, their thirst for learning and also by the high quality teaching and learning that we saw. Our School Improvement Partner, Andrew Binnell, joined us for some of the observations and confirmed that, based on evidence seen that morning, we are still operating as an 'outstanding' school and have continued to make excellent progress since we were judged by Ofsted to be outstanding, in November 2019. On that note, we are expecting an Ofsted inspection at some point this year. As you may have read in the news, there will be no overall judgement given but there will be individual judgements for each area of the framework so I would say the pressure is still there! Wishing you a lovely weekend!

Year 6 Shakespeare Theatre Visit

This week, children were immersed into a Shakespeare narrative, 'Macbeth', through an interactive workshop with the Young Shakespeare Company, to support their learning on stories from our literacy heritage. The children attentively watched a retelling of the play, whilst taking on active roles of Banquo's son, King Duncan's sons and vicious murderers, who were sent on a secret mission for Macbeth. Throughout the play, children created a spooky atmosphere by making different sound effects with their voices, as well as chanting 'All Hail, Macbeth!' By far, children adored silently acting out the battle between Macduff and Macbeth in slow-motion and viewing the murder of King Duncan. The children thoroughly enjoyed the workshop, which has allowed them to gain a better understanding of the narrative, as well as inspired their own writing.



Walk to School Week

Just a reminder that next week, as part of our commitment to encouraging active, healthy lifestyles, we are running our own 'Walk to School' week. We would love to see even more of you walking to school or perhaps dropping your child off a little further away from the school and walking the rest of the way. We will be rewarding individuals and whole classes for making that extra commitment to walking when travelling to school. We thank you for your support with this!

Happy Shoesday

As part of our 'Walk to School' week campaign, on Tuesday of next week (17th September), we are encouraging the children and staff to come to school in shoes that make them feel happy. The children can walk to school in their favourite pair of trainers, sandals, flats - any shoes that they are happy to walk in. Of course, the shoes do need to be flat to ensure the children's safety and comfort.

Next Week's Diary Dates

School Dinners - Week 2
Walk to School Week

Monday 16th September

- Friends' Association AGM - 8.00pm - Meeting Room - accessed via the staff car park

Tuesday 17th September

- Happy Shoes Day
- Danbury Meeting for Year 4 parents and children - via Zoom - 6.00pm

Thursday 19th September

- Individual photos

Friday 20th September

- Film Night - 5.15pm - 7.30pm

Mayflower Road Show

Thank you very much to the Year 6 children and parents who were able to join us for the Road Show on Wednesday evening - it was great to see so many of you! I thought it was a wonderful opportunity to find out more about Mayflower High School in a more personalised setting which provided an excellent opportunity to ask specific questions. I am grateful to Mr Lee, Mrs Gray, Mrs Pierce and the Mayflower students for affording us this unique opportunity.

Snacks and Packed Lunches

Just a reminder that the only snacks allowed at break time are fresh fruit or fresh vegetables. With regards to packed lunches, we tend to leave this to parents' discretion to provide a balanced lunch for their children. However, sweets and chocolate bars are not really appropriate.

School Photographer - Thursday 19th September

The photographers will be with us all day and will be based in the Main Hall. If you would like your child to have their photo taken with infant or pre-school siblings, please queue outside the library between 7.45am and 8.30am. Please note that there is often a lengthy queue so the earlier you arrive the better, especially if you have children at Buttsbury Infant School. Other children will have their photos taken throughout the day, with siblings if applicable.

Friends' Association AGM - Monday 16th September

Please do come and join us for this important meeting, at 8pm, in the Meeting Room. We would love to welcome new faces to the wider committee so please do come along if you can and help us with events like Film Nights and Discos.

*'Maximum Effort for
Maximum Achievement'*

Celebration Assembly

'Well Done' to all the children who were awarded MERIT certificates this week.

Archie Alderton	Megan Shipton
Amelie Doyle	Teddy Thomas
Jennifer McSharry	Fred Cronjaeger
Ben Farrugia	Lydia Rhobat
Maya-Love Chance	Mollie Hughes
Summer-Rose Smith	James Wright
Ariella Osborne	Cooper Smith
Summer Mariner	Louie Dixon
Darcy Baglin	Reuben Hilborne
Alessia Tutuiamu	Jack Tribe
Lola Obergan	George Willis
Amelie Owen	Isobel James

Our lost property pile is building up already - please can you check clothes are labelled. Thank you.



Congratulations to our new House Captains -
 Lions (**Red**) - Johnny McQueen & Anna Weddell
 Leopards - (**Yellow**) Dexter Broom & Abi Walker
 Panthers (**Blue**) - James Lyons & Violet Toll
 Jaguars (**Green**) - Bonnie Atkinson-Lassman & Archie Williams

The children are looking forward to collecting the House Points which are totalled each week and announcing the results during our assembly on Friday, as well as their many other duties.



This week's 'Writers of the Week' are:

George White Freya Anderson Jack Fuller
 Anouk Yadav Harry Mann Emily Porter
 Isla Bloomfield Mariah Hands
 Well done to our writing super stars!



This week's 'Mathematicians of the Week' are:

Evie Smith Theo Vinicombe Callum Ovel
 Gethin Arentsen Diego Tyler-Garcia
 Zachary Arnold Lara Austin Isha Sharma
 Well done to our magical mathematicians!

Afternoon Tea

Hotel Buttsbury seems to be doing a roaring trade with the children very excitedly making their way down to our tea room (alias the staffroom) each week to enjoy treats such as chocolate biscuits, cakes and squash! They also enjoy sharing their favourite pieces of work and getting to know children in other year groups.



This week's 'Readers of the Week' are:

Patrick Dillon Sophie Moore Emma Booth
 Grayson Kemp Dhruv Patel Grace La-Rocque
 Elodie Greenhalgh Blaine Mountford
 Well done to our enthusiastic readers!



House Points

This week's winning house:

Leopards



Top Table

This week, the children chosen by the Midday Assistants to sit at the 'Top Table' were:

Daniel Dinsdale
 Alannah Cronin
 Summer Aronson
 Freddy McQueen
 Ryan Challand



This week's attendance figure is: 97.7%

This year's attendance target is 97.0%.

A special 'Well Done' to Class 6S who had 100% attendance this week! Congratulations!



Film Night

Friday 20th September - Main Hall - 5.15pm - 7.30pm

Cost: £6 - please pay on the door, with correct change if possible.

The playground will be open for parking - please try and use this as Norsey View Drive gets very congested.

Please form a queue on the front path of the school - please don't let your children run around on the grass whilst waiting. Entry is via the Front Door.

If you can take coats home with you, that is really helpful.

Children can bring a small cushion or a pillow with them to snuggle on whilst they watch the film but they need to be able to carry them as parents will have to say 'farewell' at the door.

No mobile phones are permitted.

Please do not bring food, drinks etc. from home.

Please hand in epi pens at the Front Door if applicable.

During the film, included in the entry price, children will be able to have:

A fizzy or soft drink

Plus two of the following:

Popcorn, Sweets or chocolate bar

Therefore, no additional money is needed.

Squash and water will be provided free of charge throughout the evening.

At the end of the film, we will operate a one-way system for collection - all children need to be collected by an adult. Please form a queue at the Front Door, then you will be directed into the Hall to collect your child. You will then go out via 6B.

Members of the teaching staff are present throughout the discos as well as parent volunteers.

Thank you, in advance, for your support with the above and also to all the helpers who have offered to come along and assist.

Out of School Success

- * Well done to Henry (5P) and Florence Fuller (3BW) who completed their 100th Junior Parkrun during the 2024 summer holidays.
- * Congratulations to Ben McIlquham (6B) who has passed his LAMDA - Group Musical Theatre grade 3 certificate with distinction!
- * Well done to Bonnie Atkinson-Lassman (6S) who has been selected for the District Football team. She also climbed to the top of Mount Snowden during the Summer break and went on the world's longest/fastest zip wire and got up to 90 mph!
- * Congratulations to Joshua Small (3M) who has passed his 25m swimming badge.

