

## December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers



We have finally made it to the end of term! In all my years of teaching, this has to have been one of the longest half terms and I know children, staff and probably yourselves are feeling exhausted and ready for a break from the daily routines.

The last few weeks in school have been busy but also enjoyable. The performances by our youngest children in Foundation Stage, Year 2 and Year 4 were a pleasure to watch. The children had worked so hard to learn words and songs, well done to all of them. A thank you, too for all the staff involved in putting the performances together whilst still maintaining curriculum learning in school. As many of you know, we had collections after each performance and we are amazed by the generosity of all those who attended. We raised just over £600, which will be used to purchase new microphones and stage lighting, which will enhance future performances. Thank you to all those who were able to donate.

Earlier this week, we held our annual PSA Music/Carol Concert, what a treat it was to see so many of our children playing instruments and singing. Everyone who took part was a 'star', it is not easy to perform by yourself or in a small group in front of a live audience but they all did it with confidence – well done children. Thanks to all the staff involved with this both school staff and the visiting music teachers to our school.

At the event the draw for the PSA Winter Hampers took place. The hampers this year were spectacular and I hope the winners of these enjoy the goodies. Thank you to all those who donated towards these. It was difficult when judging the best hampers but the winning hamper for KS1/EYFS was class Diamond and the KS2 winner was class Garnet. The estimate at the moment is that the PSA raised more than £1000. This will go towards the financing of the theatre company visit in March allowing all children in school to see a live performance. We would not be able to put on events



like this without the support of the PSA. A very big thank you to them for their continued hard work and the free time they give up to support the school.

There are a few staffing changes for the new term. Mrs Yates will be hanging up her apron and leaving our catering team, her new venture is to look after her baby granddaughter. We wish her well. We welcome Mrs Kotecha, who will be our ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) supporting children throughout the school. Mrs Kotecha will also have an additional role as a Higher Learning Teaching Partner (HLTP) covering PPA in some of the Year 1 and Year 2 classes. Mrs Coates will join our existing HLTP team and will be covering PPA for Class Jet. Mrs Coates knows the school and the children well.

Class Jade will have a slight staffing change for the Spring Term. Mrs Osborne will be the Class Teacher Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings with Mrs Lavin teaching the Class Thursday afternoons and all day on Friday. Mrs Lavin has been covering the class on Friday afternoons this term so the children are familiar with her.

We are now only a few days away from the Christmas festivities and many of you will be celebrating at this time. In assemblies this week, we talked about family traditions and what the children liked best about Christmas. Many of the children's responses were related to spending time with their families and it came across how important this was to them. As a school, we wish you all a Merry Christmas and hope that whatever your traditions are and whoever you are spending it with it is peaceful and full of laughter.

We look forward to seeing you all in the New Year with the first day of term being Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

Christmas Wishes

Mrs Mock



**Please read on for more important information about our school.  
Super Santa Fun Run**

Last Thursday morning Mountfields Lodge children all enjoyed dressing up in some fabulous Santa hats and head gear to run in our annual Santa Fun Run. There was a great atmosphere with all the children trying their best to complete the whole distance and then support their team mates by cheering them on to the finish line. The children were delighted to also have a surprise visit from Santa!



**Success in Leicestershire Primary School Cross Country League**

Although there was disappointment that the final Leicestershire Cross Country League had to be cancelled due to the very cold spell we had recently, there was also some good news for our runners! It was decided to base the overall League results on the previous two League races.



This meant we finished in the top 3 schools in four out of the eight races in the large school category. In most of the races this category included 14 schools from across Leicestershire, so this is an amazing achievement.

Congratulations to our:

Year 3 Girls, Year 4 Boys and Year 6 Girls for all finishing a wonderful 2<sup>nd</sup> place and our Year 5 Girls who finished a well-deserved 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

In the individual competition, Vaia scored a fabulous 2<sup>nd</sup> place overall in the Year 3 Girls. This was after her amazing win in the first race and backed up by a great 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the second race.





## Year 5/6 Basketball

Our Year 5/6 boys recently took part in a fantastic basketball tournament at Charnwood College. It was inspiring to see 70 participants from 11 different schools battling it out for the team prizes.

We took 9 amazing basketballers to Charnwood College. In the group stage there were 6 other schools and, with 3 wins and 2 draws, we came out of our group in first position.



In the next round we finished in 4<sup>th</sup> place. This is an amazing achievement considering some of the boys had never played in a basketball tournament before. All the team represented Mountfields in the best way showing great behaviour and sportsmanship on the court.

Corbin, Joshua, Noah, Haroun, Harry, Tyler, Morgan and Milo; you should all be so proud of yourselves for the effort you put in.

**See you all in 2024!**

