



Primary Post

Primary Post 242

Wednesday 18th October 2023

**Tetbury Hill
MALMESBURY
Wilts
SN16 9JR
01666 823514**

**The newsletter of
Malmesbury C of E Primary School
Headteacher: Steve Heal BSc, PGCE, NPQH**

Headteacher's Message

It seems impossible that we have already arrived at the first half term of the year. The new Reception classes are settled in, a number of new children have joined us in various year groups, and we have some new staff who already seem very much part of the team. As always, school has been a hectic hive of activity and this newsletter is packed with the things we've done. We were thrilled with the outcomes of our parents' survey, which we are sharing with you today, along with this newsletter. Of course, there is always more we can do, and we are grateful for constructive feedback in several areas, where we will be focusing our efforts in the coming year.

I would like to briefly share a new focus in teaching and learning. We are teaching children to actively practise recalling their key learning, across all subjects. Retrieval practice is something which is influencing teaching across the country, helping children to understand how to use their minds in the most efficient ways to make sure learning is secured in long term memory. We will return regularly to key learning from previous days, weeks, terms, and years, supporting children just enough to bring back those key memories. By doing this they secure learning in long term memory and strengthen the retrieval pathway for the future. You can find out lots about this online, including on these links:

<https://youtu.be/TUoJcONPajQ> - How does Memory Work?

<https://youtu.be/rf8FX2sI3gU> - Growth Mindset: The Truth About Your Brain

<https://youtu.be/4tfh7vsOMIc> - How Does Human Memory Work?

Thank you all for your continuing support of the school in so many ways. We wish you a restful and enjoyable holiday. Only 68 more sleeps until Christmas!

PARKING at the Co-Op Car Park

We are very grateful to the Co-Op for permitting parents to use their car park when dropping off and collecting children.

When doing this, please be careful not to use the delivery bay area. This is the area beyond the metal gates, clearly marked 'Goods Delivery'. This area needs to be always kept clear so that large vehicles can manoeuvre. Parking there is dangerous for children and impedes the running of the Co-Op's business.

The Co-Op's management has been in touch about three cars which were parked in this area late last week:

AV67 BYC

DE04 EVS

DU65 NFA

If you drive one of these vehicles, please park on the other side of the car park, otherwise we risk losing this facility for all parents.

Internet Safety Presentation

If you were unable to attend Mr Watkins' excellent presentation on internet safety last week, please do catch up here <https://youtu.be/yXn3uY4OaDo> .



We cannot emphasise enough the importance of parents and carers being aware of what young people have to deal with online. Please watch this 45-minute explanation - we are sure you will find it to be time very well invested.

Dyson Expansion Project

We are awaiting a decision on from the Department for Education on our application to expand the school, funded by the James Dyson Foundation. We expect this decision to be made on the 31st October and we will hear the outcome in the following few days. It will either be a straight 'yes', or 'no', or the decision could be referred to a minister as the circumstances are unusual. We will let you know as soon as we hear anything.

The Friends

Today we end the term with a school disco, which is just one of the many things organised by the Friends of Malmesbury Primary School. These are times of change for the Friends. Nicola Moody and Clare Stone have seen us through many years as the Chair and Treasurer, raising funds for wonderful treats, facilities and equipment which benefit all the children. They have worked tirelessly, and we are very grateful to them. If the work is to continue, then new volunteers are needed. Thank you to those who have come to the recent gatherings and shown support. If anyone else can give some of your time to this very worthwhile group, please get in touch at friendsofmalmesburyprimary@gmail.com

FINAL REMINDER - SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACES

YEAR 6 Parents and carers must apply for a place at secondary school by 31st October. [Apply online here.](#)

Parents' Evenings - A reminder that bookings opened online on Tuesday. Please see the separate email about this. Bookings close on 29th October.

Lip Balm. As the winter approaches, some children will begin to need Vaseline or lip balm during the school day. If your child is in EYFS or Key Stage 1 please hand lip balm to the teacher and ensure it is clearly marked with your child's name. Children will be able to apply it before break times (3 times a day). If it is needed more often please speak to the teacher about this. If your child is in Key Stage 2 (Year 3 and up) then they can carry the lip balm with them during the day but, again, should apply it at break times unless there is a real need to do so more often. Please avoid sending flavoured or coloured products, so children are not tempted to see them as treats or make-up.

Changes to the school day

We are planning some minor changes to the school day and times. We wanted to let you know well in advance:

From September 2024 we will be lengthening the school day by 5 minutes. Home time will be 3:20, rather than 3:15. The start of the school day will still be 09:00.

From next September the new children in EYFS will come in for half days in weeks 1 and 2 of term only, not for 3 weeks as we have done previously.

Starting in July 2024, we will close the school at lunchtime on the last day of the summer term and on the last day of the Autumn term (Christmas). This will bring us in line with the secondary school who do the same.




Congratulations

to Y6 pupil Jack, who came 7th in the recent Wiltshire County Junior Fencing Championships.

A huge well-done to Noah and Eva who made a very impressive £70.23 in their loom band sale. All the money raised will be donated to Cancer Research UK!

Year 1

MILEPOST 1




We have really enjoyed our healthy eating topic this term! We have explored different tastes and tried new fruits and vegetables in our soup. We even cut up our own fruit for a fruit salad, really concentrating on our knife skills. We have also had fun exploring our other senses especially our sense of taste! We tried different flavours: sweet, salty, sour, bitter, and discussed what we liked best and why. We are all super excited about our next new topic, all about TOYS!


We wish you all a restful half term.

Year 2


Full of Thankfulness



Thanks to our topic, the children have had time to think and realise that in most ways, the modern day is so much better. Finding out that the first telephone didn't have Wi-Fi was shocking! Once they got over this, the children had enormous fun with the string telephone science experiment.



Design Technology has seen the children develop their cooking skills, from understanding what happens in preparation, to cutting, designing and creating new hummus dips. We are not going to lie, some of the new flavours were... interesting.



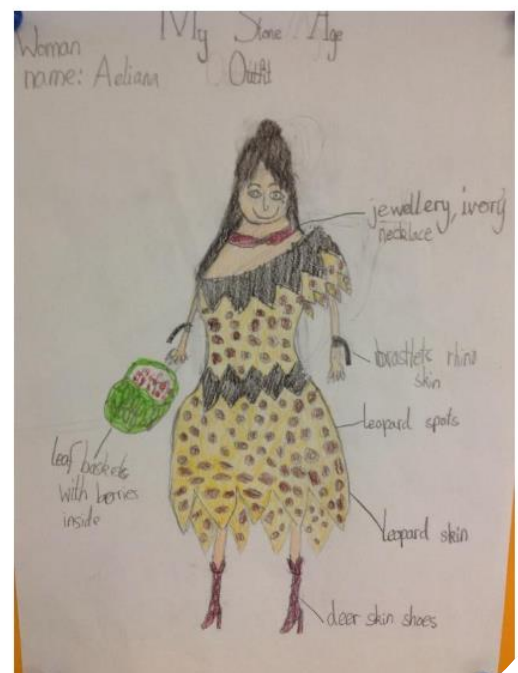
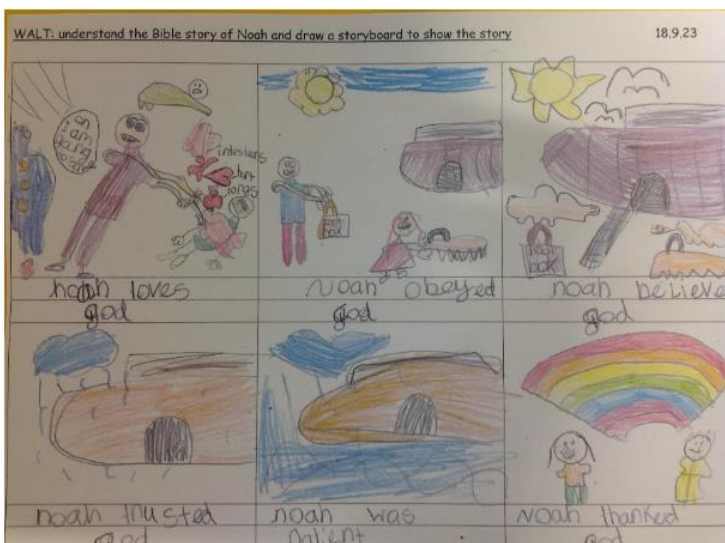
It was lovely to end the term with our Harvest Festival in front of you and the school.

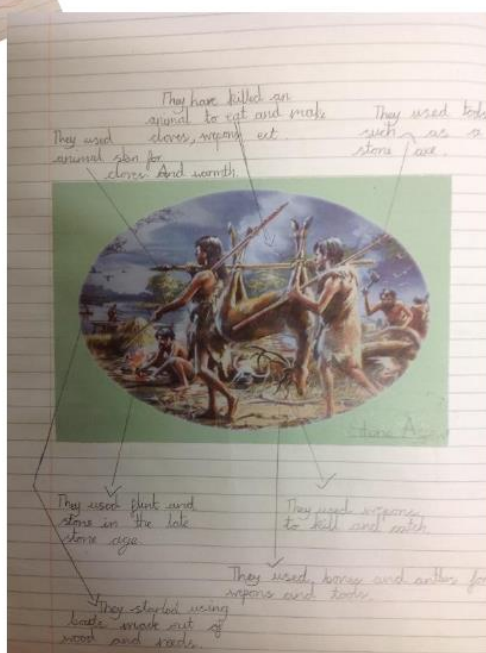
Have a wonderful holiday!

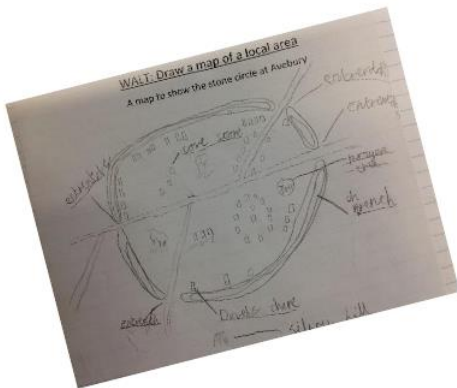


MILEPOST 2

We have had a fantastic first term back, with lots of fun activities linked to our Scavengers and Settlers topic. We have followed the course of human evolution from the early Stone Age through to the Iron Age and discussed what life was like during this time. The children have created some wonderful pieces of work, inspired by their learning, both in and out of school.







We rounded our term off with a visit to the World Heritage-listed Neolithic site of Avebury. The children were able to explore and experience the Stone Age construction and discover the history and possible uses of the henge.

They visited the Alexander Keiller museum and saw many of the artefacts that have been discovered in and around the site. They also walked along some of the length of the West Kennet Avenue and were able to see Silbury Hill from a nearby hilltop.







MILEPOST 3



As we move towards the half term break, it has been lovely to reflect on the enthusiasm that the children have shown this term in learning all about the Celts, Ancient Romans, and the Anglo Saxons. This topic always feels so relevant to us in relation to its links to our local history. We have the legacy of the Romans evident around us such as with the Fosse Way being a local footpath and also with King Athelstan's tomb (the Anglo-Saxon king) being sited in the abbey. With respect to viewing artefacts, this term has been a special highlight in that one of our pupils was able to share and tell us all about some Roman artefacts that had been found on his family's farm. It was amazing to view items that were 2,000 years old! We then learnt that some of the artefacts from this find are now on show at the Corinium Museum in Cirencester. All the children were able to view them during our recent visits to the museum. You can read more about this in the report from the children below.

We were also very proud of the effort and sportsmanship that the Year 6 children demonstrated in taking part in the recent rugby tournament at Minety. It was wonderful that so many children were keen to take part and represent the school. We took 40 children in 4 teams with a mixture of girls and boys. They showed great enthusiasm and teamwork and one of the teams made it through to the final, coming second overall - a fabulous achievement! Again, you can read more about this in the report by one of the children who took part below.

We hope that all of the children and their families have an enjoyable half term break and we are looking forward to starting off the new term with a day of investigative activities for the children to enjoy, marking our new science focused topic.

Mrs Hampton.



OUR TRIP TO THE CORINIUM MUSEUM

We got on the bus on Friday the 6th of October 2023. After a twenty-minute drive, we were all excited to get inside.



First, we went to hang our bags up in the cloakroom and went to the first activity which was the Ancient Romans workshop. The different activities included: a quiz from our instructor James; dressing up as Roman or a Celt; a board game all about the map of the Roman Empire; identifying someone's grave stone and looking at a plastic skeleton, trying to work out who they were.

After that we went to the Roman exhibits to do the trail. We saw beautiful mosaics and the Tetbury Coin Hoard found by a student's (Henry's) grandfather which is now on show at the museum. Then we went to lunch.



Henry Morris by the coins

Next, we went upstairs to do sketches (it was really fun) and to look around. We saw loads of different things like examples of jewellery which were very pretty. We also saw real gravestones from people called Mettus and Julia Casta.

After that, we went to the Anglo-Saxon section. We saw cool stuff like real human remains and daggers. We also saw a replica of a dead body (it was really creepy). Attached to the Anglo-Saxon part was the Civil war part with a large stuffed sheep (it felt really weird and real). There was also a wax figure holding a spear. After that, it was time to go.

It was the end of the day, and we were all exhausted. It was so fun, and we didn't want to go home, but we had to. When we walked out of the museum, we saw a double-decker bus and we all thought that we were going onto it but instead we went on the smaller bus hidden behind it - we were all disappointed!

After we had another 20-minute drive back to Malmesbury, we arrived back at school. Our trip was really fun but now it was over.

Year 5 went on the same trip on Tuesday, the 10th of October so they got to have the experience too.

By Henry and Evelyn (from Year Six).





YEAR 6 TAG RUGBY TOURNAMENT

At the tournament we had four teams: Team 1, Team 2, Team 3 and Team 4. There were roughly 9 players per team, and I was in Team Two. The tournament lasted about 3 hours and we all played in matches against teams from other schools.



In tag rugby all players have a belt with two tags, one on each side. To get the rugby ball, you have to get it either from intercepting the ball when they are passing the ball between the other members of their team or getting it from a knock on by them. If you start off with the ball, you have to be in an arrow position and if you are defending you start off in a straight line in front of the opposing team's arrow.

At the tournament, there were four pitches. Most of the time my team was on pitch two. At



the end of each round, we'd give three cheers for everyone.

This is us getting top tips from Mr Watkins!

In my opinion, we all did a great job. Additionally, at the end of the tournament, we all got free hotdogs and they tasted splendid!

By Ava (Year 6)

Dates for the Diary

(Please note these may be subject to change)

Wednesday 18th October: Last day of term

Half-Term

Thursday 18th October – Sunday 29th October

Monday 30th October: Start of Term 2

Tuesday 31st October Year 2 Entry Point (Outdoor Clothes)

Thursday 2nd November 4:50 pm – 7:30pm: Parent/Carer Evenings

Friday 3rd November: Ms Essex / Mr Watkins' Class starts swimming (six weeks)

Tuesday 7th November 4:00pm – 6:30pm: Parent/Carer Evenings

Friday 10th November: Armistice Day in School

Monday 13th – Friday 17th November: Anti Bullying Week

Friday 17th November: Children in Need Day (non-school uniform)

Friday 24th November: Seasonal Flu Vaccinations (Yr. 1 to 6)

Tuesday 5th December: Yr1 and EYFS Nativity (Afternoon)

Wednesday 6th December: Yr1 and EYFS Nativity (Evening)

Wednesday 13th December: Christmas Meal and Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 14th December (am): Year 6 Christmas Carol Concert at Malmesbury Abbey

Wednesday 20th December – Last Day of Term

Christmas Holidays

Thursday 21st December – Sunday 7th January

(TD Day Thursday 4th and Friday 5th January)

Monday 8th January: Start of Term 3

Friday 12th January: Ms Elliott's and Mrs Brown's Class starts swimming (six weeks)

Tuesday 6th February: Safer Internet Day

Last Day of Term – Friday 9th February

Half-Term

Saturday 10th February – Sunday 18th February

Thursday 22nd February – Parent/Carer Evenings 4.00pm – 6.30pm

Tuesday 27th February – Parent/Carer Evenings 4.50pm – 7.30pm

World Book Day – Thursday 7th March

Thursday 28th March – Last Day of Term

Easter Holidays

Friday 29th March – Sunday 14th April

Inspired by our incredible Lionesses in the Women's World Cup?

Malmesbury Youth Football Club has
joined the Wiltshire County Women's and
Girls' League for the 2023/24 season, and
we'd love **more girls** to play in our
Under 11s team!

Come and join a friendly, fun club –
we train on **Thursday** evenings,
5–6pm, at the **Dave & Marion Pictor
Playing Fields**, Malmesbury
(behind the Red Bull pub – winter
training may be elsewhere).

Matt Aldridge, Club Chair & Girls' Coach
matt.aldridge@malmesburyyouthfc.co.uk

www.malmesburyyouthfc.co.uk



THE OFFICIAL CLUB WEBSITE

Malmesbury Youth FC

FA CHARTER STANDARD COMMUNITY CLUB



Churches together

Light Party

31st Oct

5-7pm

*Malmesbury
Abbey*

*For pre-school
& primary age –
with
parent/carer*

*Food,
games,
crafts &
bouncy
castle*

children@malmesburyabbey.com
for more info