



## WEEKLY UPDATE – 6<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020

Dear Parent/Carers

Welcome to another weekly update!

### **Golden Child Newsletter**

Every week, the Teacher from each class chooses a Golden Child. This will be a child who has produced an excellent piece of work. Their work is placed in the Golden Book which Mrs Mugglestone looks at and gives the Golden Child from each class a treat of biscuits and/or hot chocolate. The work from each child will be published on a separate newsletter. Please keep an eye out for the Golden Child Newsletter!

### **Reading Star Charts**

Reading books will be coming home with your child for reading at home along with a star chart. We would be grateful if you could tick one star on their chart for each 15mins spent reading. Once your child has completed their star chart they will be able to choose a brand-new book from Mrs Mugglestone's collection to bring home and keep. Happy Reading!

### **Parent Meetings**

We are in the process of planning virtual Parent's Meetings for the last week of November. You will be receiving an email towards the end of next week inviting you to make an appointment to virtually meet with your child's class teacher. Look out for the email next week.

### **Knowledge Letters**

These were sent out by email to all Parents on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November. They contain the essential knowledge that children need to know, and will be taught, as part of the topics they are studying in class, including key vocabulary, definitions and fact. They can also be found on Teams, please check them out!

### **Learning Log/Homework**

All year groups are now setting weekly online homework for their pupils. The learning log menu can be accessed by the children on their class TEAMS and their completed homework should be uploaded weekly. Nuggets will also be set on Century weekly. If your child is unable to access their homework online, please contact the school office.

### **Parent Zone New App**

We've worked closely with children and parents to create an early-intervention tool that will help 8-11 year olds with their emotional wellbeing and encourage communication within families. It's packed with advice about subjects including school, friendships, family life and the internet – and it's available now, for free. We hope you like it. Try Ollee now. <https://app.ollee.org.uk/#/welcome>

### **Century Stars Competition**

Kicking off on 9th November, Century will be running the CENTURY Stars Winter Cup. For four weeks they will be tracking who has been answering the most questions and keeping us up to date on where we are on their leader board. There will be trophies awarded for each size of institution, so every school or college is in with a chance of winning! We would be grateful if as many children as possible could take part on Teams! You can do this at home too...

[https://discoveryschoolstrust.sharepoint.com/sites/MerrydaleTeachers/Shared Documents/2020-21 Planning/Teach\\_poster.pdf](https://discoveryschoolstrust.sharepoint.com/sites/MerrydaleTeachers/Shared Documents/2020-21 Planning/Teach_poster.pdf)





## Timetables Rock Stars

We are taking part in a competition for Maths Week England. It's called Rock Out 2020 and it's all done online via [play.ttrockstars.com](http://play.ttrockstars.com). For every correct answer to a multiplication or division question, your child will earn their class a point. The TTRS platform will calculate the class average (the number of correct answers per pupil in the class who play during the competition hours). Winning classes in the school and in the country will be the ones with the highest average.

All game modes (Gig, Garage, Studio, etc.) will count but only from games played between 7.30am and 7.30pm on Monday 9<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 12<sup>th</sup>, Friday 13<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 14<sup>th</sup>.

Please encourage and support your children to take part in this exciting competition - we suggest they all play for half an hour a day outside school hours if they can; some will play more, some will play less. Thanks for your support.

## Microsoft Teams

For any Parents or children that struggle or find Teams complicated, we have added a visual guide to our website to try and help simplify using the system. There is a guide for children and a separate guide for Parents/Carers. We have also added a link below for a very useful video guide of how to use Teams. We hope this helps Parents/Carers and children who are struggling or just want to get to know the system better!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zoc78NKvTK0&list=PLxp90x5c0ttY6YQiuYyoG9gmoAx2OVncHa>

## Remembrance Day – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November

For Remembrance Day we will be running a colouring competition for all children. Colouring sheets are 20p per child and available from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November, they can be completed and returned to school before Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> to be entered into the competition. Each class will have a few winners and they will win a poppy to wear with pride. We will accept 20 pence pieces in cash for this competition which need to be handed in to your class teacher. We hope as many of the children can enter as possible to raise money for The Salvation Army.

## Poetry Day – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2020

An Author will be visiting Merrydale Junior School to celebrate Poetry Day. The aims of the day are to encourage the children to be more confident in reciting poetry, writing poetry and increase their enthusiasm for poetry. The visit will be socially distanced in the school hall and the child will visit the author within their own class bubbles. A virtual session will also be running through Teams during the day.

## Children in Need – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Children can come to school in non-uniform, wear yellow or spotty (if you wish) to raise money for Children in Need. We would ask that you contribute £1.00 on ParentPay towards the charity that is changing young lives right across the UK. No matter where you live and what restrictions you are facing, there's a way to get involved. You can learn more by visiting, <https://www.bbcchildreninneed.co.uk/fundraising/> We will not be accepting cash this year and your contributions must be made on your ParentPay account. Thank you for your support!

## Odd Socks Day – Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020

All you need to do is wear odd socks! It is a great way to celebrate what makes us all unique in Anti-Bullying Week! It will be held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020, the first day of Anti-Bullying Week. What is Odd Socks day? Most importantly, Odd Socks Day is designed to be fun! It's an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique!

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## No Pens Wednesday -25<sup>th</sup> November 2020

No Pens Day Wednesday is a national speaking and listening event which takes place in schools and settings annually. No Pens Day Wednesday puts spoken language in the spotlight. Through a day of fun and engaging activities, schools and settings can raise awareness of the importance of spoken language. Learn more by visiting <https://ican.org.uk/about-us/>

## Break-Time Snack

Children are encouraged to bring a small snack to school that they can eat during break-time e.g. fruit, breakfast bar, bag of crisps. Unfortunately, we do not allow chocolate bars, fizzy drinks or packets of sweets. Please remember to only send one snack per day, not large share bags to last the week as there is no facility to store them.

## Milk

If you would like your child to have milk during the morning this will be available from Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November. Unfortunately, we are unable to do this on a day by day/weekly basis. The cost will be £6.00 (20p per day, 5 days for the remaining 6 weeks till Christmas). Milk orders will need to be made and paid for on ParentPay by Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November. If your child is registered for Free School Meals milk will be provided free of charge.

## Hoodies

All orders will be placed on Fridays and may take up to 2 weeks to arrive. If you would like to order a hoodie, the option is on ParentPay, please remember to add your child's size option in the notes section of your order. Thank you for your patience.

## Attendance

If your child is fit and healthy, they must attend school as normal. If they are unwell you must follow usual attendance procedures by calling the school office on 0116 276 7708 by 9.15am each day your child is ill, giving the reason for the absence.

**If your child is unwell with any Covid type symptoms, please do not send them to school and call the school office for advice. A quick reference guide for Coronavirus related absences is on our website.**

If your child has any symptoms of Coronavirus or you have any questions that you would like to ask us regarding this, please send all queries to [covid@dsatmerrydale.org](mailto:covid@dsatmerrydale.org).

This inbox will be checked regularly, including out of hours. If your child has normal cold symptoms like runny/blocked noses etc. we would urge that your child attends school. If you are unsure you can call the school office on 0116 276 7708 for advice.

## Flu Immunisations

Flu Immunisations will take place in school on **26<sup>th</sup> November 2020**, if you have not completed the online form that was sent to you, and you would like your child to have the flu immunisation you must contact the school office as soon as possible. If you have not completed the form, we will assume that you do not wish for your child to have the immunisation and will mark them as a 'NO'. Thank you to all the Parent/Carers who completed the form so promptly.

## Third Discovery Live Event

The next Microsoft Teams LIVE Event is on Wednesday 18th November, 7.00-8.00pm on 'How children learn and how you can help them' followed by a Q&A for parents. All sessions are recorded. The link below will require you to have Microsoft Teams installed on your computer or mobile phone.





[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_ZjJlZDk4YTQzZjdZS00YjFmLWJlYjQtM2FhMDdhNTQxYjdi%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22a9f3c5ed-5897-40fa-8267-6e3abc001a34%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%228abc124d-91cd-4f73-bec6-1564c754bbd2%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3a%3atru%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_ZjJlZDk4YTQzZjdZS00YjFmLWJlYjQtM2FhMDdhNTQxYjdi%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22a9f3c5ed-5897-40fa-8267-6e3abc001a34%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%228abc124d-91cd-4f73-bec6-1564c754bbd2%22%2c%22IsBroadcastMeeting%22%3a%3atru%7d)

Recordings of previous Live Events are available on Teams.

I hope you all have an enjoyable weekend.

Yours sincerely

C Mugglestone,  
Head Teacher

## PE Rota

Date	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Week Commencing 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	Monday & Thursday	Monday & Tuesday	Wednesday & Friday	Wednesday & Thursday
Week Commencing 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	Monday & Thursday	Tuesday & Wednesday	Wednesday & Friday	Thursday

## SCHOOL MEALS FOR WEEK COMMENCING 9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2020

**IMPORTANT** - Please accept our apologies but due to national lockdown and staffing issues within our school kitchen we are unable to provide a 4 choice menu as planned. Meal choices for next week are now as follows:

	Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> November 2020
<b>GREEN (Vegetarian Option)</b>	Macaroni Cheese With garlic bread. Carrots & Broccoli	Spinach & Chickpea Masala with fluffy rice & vegetables.	Margarita Tuna Pizza with half a jacket potato, peas and sweetcorn.	Vegetarian Cottage Pie with a roasted vegetable medley.	Sustainably caught fish fingers with tomato ketchup, chips, peas or baked beans.
<b>YELLOW (Light bite)</b>	Jacket Potato with vegetarian chilli with a salad bar selection.	Butterbean & Spinach Wrap with a salad bar selection.	Vegetable Lasagne with a salad bar selection.	Jacket Potato with Baked Beans and cheese with a salad bar selection.	Courgette Sausages with a salad bar selection.
<b>CHOICE OF FRUIT, YOGHURT or CAKE/BISCUIT</b>					

