



## WEEKLY UPDATE – 23<sup>rd</sup> NOVEMBER 2020

Dear Parent/Carers

Welcome to another weekly update!

### **Parent Meetings**

We have sent out an email inviting you to make an appointment to virtually meet with your child's class teacher. Parent meetings are taking place via video call on 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> November, please do book an appointment you don't need a computer, it can be done on your phone. The letter contains a guide how to make your appointment, any queries please call the school office for help.

<https://dsatmerrydale.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

### **Parking at Drop-Off and Collection Times**

Please remember that you may need to park a little way away from the school gates. We understand that there is not a lot of parking space, but parents/carers cannot park along the yellow lines or in the coned areas. This is to keep everyone safe, children and adults. Please walk or cycle when possible and give yourself enough time if driving to park away from the school gate and walk to collect your child.

### **School Kitchen Job Vacancy – Leicestershire Traded Services**

Would you like to join Leicestershire Traded Services, school meals service, within Leicestershire? A Casual School Food Assistants is required to cover sickness and general absence, this is a Grade 2 position and offers £9.25 per hour, this vacancy is during school hours and term time. Various working times are available and Uniform & Training is provided. If you are interested, please contact Elaine Bennett on 07394 567846. Applications are direct with Leicestershire Traded Services and not through the school.

### **Poetry Books – Available to purchase on ParentPay until Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November**

There are two books available to purchase on ParentPay. The books are written by Andy Tooze, the author that visited the school on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> for Poetry Day. The books are £5.00 each and will arrive within 1 – 2 weeks.

### **No Pens Wednesday -25th 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/>

### **Barnardo's Helpline – COVID-19**

Barnardo's has launched a vital new support service which we believe will make a positive difference to the lives of many Black, Asian and minority ethnic children, young people and their families impacted by Covid-19. This is a UK-wide helpline which will focus on issues specifically affecting children, young people and families from Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities, who as we all know, have been hardest hit by the pandemic. The new service is a free telephone helpline and web chat facility for children, young people and families from these communities who are suffering the long-lasting and wide-ranging impact of Covid-19. Barnardo's specialist advisors will aim to provide on-going support on a complex range of issues including mental health, bereavement, family break-down, neglect, back to school, parenting advice, counselling, family stress, discrimination, barriers to services and more. <https://helpline.barnardos.org.uk/helpline>

### **Year 3 Parents/Carers – We need your help!**

Do you have questions about your child's class or the school? Do you have issues that you would like resolving? Ideas on how we could make things better? Family issues or queries that you would like advice





on? We are here to listen and help and your opinions matter to us! Would you be interested in meeting to discuss the above things and more... This may be done virtually or in person (if government guidelines allow us to). We can meet in groups or 1 to 1 if you prefer. If you are interested in getting more information on this, please complete the online survey by clicking the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=7cXzqZdY-kCCZ246vAAaNCANHphDf490iFMQpUSNVgpUQTM3QzJRWFpKR1JKSjZLNU5MWExJWEVJUi4u>

### Century Stars Competition

CENTURY Stars Winter Cup is still running. We are currently in 8<sup>th</sup> place.. Keep up the good work everyone! 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)

### Microsoft Teams

For any Parents or children that struggle or find Teams complicated, 2 new videos have been uploaded to the school website under learn from home > Videos on how to use teams online at home. These videos show students how to log into Teams and how to work on and hand in assignments.

<https://www.merrydalejuniors.com/learn-from-home>

### 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 anyone in your families does have symptoms of coronavirus they must be tested and the family must isolate until a test result is received, letting the school office know as soon as possible.** A quick reference guide for Coronavirus related absences is on our website.

<https://www.merrydalejuniors.com/images/covid/Covid-19%20Pupil%20Absence%20Guide%20v1.pdf>

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. 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.

### Hoodies / Fleeces

Hoodies and Fleeces are now available by ordering on ParentPay. All orders will be placed on Fridays and may take up to 2 weeks to arrive. If you would like to order a hoodie OR a Fleece 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.

### Milk

If you would like your child to have milk during the morning this will be available. Unfortunately, we are unable to do this on a day by day/weekly basis. The cost is 20p per day, 5 days for the remaining 6 weeks till Christmas – if you go on to ParentPay you will see how much needs to be paid till the end of term. If your child is registered for Free School Meals milk will be provided free of charge.





## School Meals

Over the last few weeks we have had some issues with regards to the school dinners. As you can understand, we have had some staffing problems in the school kitchen with regards to the National Lockdown and we were unable to offer our usual 4 option menu. A new 2-week menu is below and we are happy to say that we can now offer 3 choices, including a halal and vegetarian options and we hope that this resolves any issues any one has had with the food choices. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

I hope you all have an enjoyable weekend.

Yours sincerely

C Mugglestone  
Head Teacher

## SCHOOL MEALS FOR WEEK COMMENCING 23<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 2020

MEAT	HALAL	VEG
RED	BLUE	GREEN

Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> Nov	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> Nov
Jacket Potato with tuna mayonnaise and a side salad	Chicken sausages, Creamy mashed potatoes, peas and gravy.	Roast Chicken, served with roast potatoes, vegetables and gravy	Pizza with chicken & red peppers, pasta twists and sweetcorn	Battered fish served with a lemon wedge, chips and baked beans
Jacket Potato with tuna mayonnaise and a side salad	Chicken sausages, Creamy mashed potatoes, peas and gravy.	Roast Chicken, served with roast potatoes, vegetables and gravy	Pizza with chicken & red peppers, pasta twists and sweetcorn	Battered fish served with a lemon wedge, chips and baked beans
Jacket Potato with beans and a side salad	Quorn Dippers with chips and peas	Jacket Potato with beans, salad & coleslaw	Margarita Pizza with Pasta twirls and sweetcorn	Vegetarian sausage with chips and baked beans
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Dec	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec
Jacket Potato with cheese & beans and a side salad	Pizza with chicken & red peppers, pasta twists and sweetcorn	Cheese & Potato Pie with vegetables	Roast Chicken, served with vegetables and gravy	Fish Fingers, chips and baked beans
Jacket Potato with cheese & beans and a side salad	Pizza with chicken & red peppers, pasta twists and sweetcorn	Cheese & Potato Pie with vegetables	Roast Chicken, served with roast potatoes, vegetables and gravy	Fish Fingers, chips and baked beans
Vegetable chilli fajita with vegetables	Margarita Pizza with Pasta twirls and sweetcorn	Cheese Flan with a side salad and coleslaw	Tomato/Vegetable Pasta Bake with a side salad	Vegetarian fingers with chips and baked beans





## PE Rota

Date	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Week Commencing 23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2020	Monday & Wednesday	Tuesday & Wednesday	Thursday & Friday	Tuesday & Thursday
Week Commencing 30 <sup>th</sup> November	Monday & Wednesday	Tuesday & Thursday	Tuesday & Friday	Wednesday & Thursday
Week Commencing 7 <sup>th</sup> December	Monday & Thursday	Tuesday & Tuesday	Wednesday & Friday	Wednesday & Thursday

