



PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE

NEWSLETTER – January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Happy New Year! A warm welcome back to all children, parents and carers. I sincerely hope you all had a lovely Christmas break and are all set for what 2024 has in store. We hope you all enjoyed our Christmas concerts and other festive events as much as the children! All classes have certainly made a flying start in the first week back and are already enjoying their learning in their new topics. What your child is learning this term has been sent out to all families on our curriculum newsletters and for convenience, these can also be found on our website class pages [here](#).

Mrs Kitson and Miss Elcock left us just before Christmas and we wish them well. We welcome a new member of staff to our team this term. Mrs Burton has been appointed as one of our new Higher Level Teaching Assistants across school and will likely teach your child(ren) at some point in the school year – a warm welcome to her.

As you will be aware, children coming to school on bikes or scooters is accepted in school, but we are seeing increasing instances of children (and adults in some cases) riding the scooters and bikes across the yards and on the paths where children are arriving or leaving school. We ask that once you reach school, please get your children to dismount and push the bike or scooter whilst on school premises as this is in the interest of everyone's safety.

Several parents have asked regarding our rewards systems that we use in school which are linked to our core learning characteristics. We are currently finalising a communication which will explain this more clearly to parents and carers and explains some of the rewards your children come home with in more detail. An overview is on page two of this newsletter.

Our enrichment clubs are in full swing for the spring term. A full list of current clubs is available on our website [here](#).

Yours faithfully
Mr Pease, Principal

KEY DATES:

INSET Day

Friday 9th February 2024

Parents' Evenings

Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th March
2024

EYFS Easter Bonnet Parade

Thursday 28th March 2024

SATs Week

Monday 13th May – Thursday 16th May 2024

INSET Day

Friday 28th June 2024

Sports Days

Wednesday 3rd July 2024
Friday 5th July 2024

Parents' Evening

Wednesday 10th July 2024

Y6 Leavers BBQ

Thursday 11th July 2024

Y6 Leavers Assembly

Thursday 18th July 2024

For Term Dates, Inset Days and Visits

Please click here

[Maltby Lilly Hall Academy](#)

[TERM DATES](#)

ATTENDANCE

As previously mentioned, in your child's planner for 2023-24 there is a specific page especially for attendance (this is on page 134). There is a star for each week of the whole school year. Each time your child achieves 100% attendance on that week, they will receive a gold star sticker. Rewards now include a draw for any child who has had 100% attendance for the week, the winner receiving a £10 Amazon voucher. There is also a draw for any child achieving 100% attendance over a half-term. The draw prize for this is a £50 Amazon voucher.

Please ensure your child attends school regularly (including not being late) to ensure they don't miss out on their learning. Every day missed and every time a child is late for school, key learning is lost.



MRS MOORE'S UPDATE

I'd like to start by wishing all of our Lilly Hall families a Happy New Year! It has been fantastic to see the children back in school after the Christmas break, eager to dive into their new topics. To go alongside their new topics, there are many exceptional experiences planned in and out of school this half term. Year 3 have Mr Egypt visiting school ready to kick-start their Ancient Egypt history topic; Year 6 have the library service visiting in few weeks to share the many artefacts they have from WW1 & WW2 and it has been lovely to see many parents from our Foundation Stage in school for their 'Come and...' sessions. With the start of a new topic, brings the start of new creative homework projects that are brought into school by many of our children. We love to see the home learning projects that our children produce, inspired by their topics, and always celebrate these in class or assembly. From 3D models of our solar system to well researched WW1 PowerPoints to Ancient Greek temples we have had some excellent projects so far this year and are looking forward to seeing more this term!



FRIENDS OF LILLY HALL

The book vending machine for school arrived last week. It now stands in pride of place in the school hall and will soon be filled with books. Children will be rewarded with a book, to keep, out of the machine when they complete milestones of their 25-book challenge for each year group. This was fully funded by Friends of Lilly Hall – thank you all for your support.

We also look forward to our 'Neon discos' next week. These promise to be bright and exciting for all children attending.

Our next bingo night will be on Tuesday 27th February at 5.30pm in the main hall – see you there!

REWARDS IN SCHOOL

In school we love to use positive praise and reward children for their achievements. We have several rewards in school which include:

- **Coloured beads** – these are given regularly to children who demonstrate our core learning characteristics. These are put into a jar and collected in house teams. The team with the most beads at the end of term gets a special 'bead treat.'
- **Postcards** – these are given for more exceptional demonstration of our core learning characteristics and are also given alongside a special mention in assembly. When a child collects all 8 of these, they are presented with a bronze award, another 8, a silver and another 8 a gold. These come with a specially designed badge.
- **Reading awards** – these are collected in your child's planner for regular reading at home with a half termly badge award (bronze, silver, gold etc) for those consistently receiving their weekly stars.
- **Attendance awards** – these are on page 134 of your child's planner. Each week a gold star is placed in the planner if 100% attendance has been achieved. If 100% is achieved over a week, then your child enters a draw for a £10 Amazon voucher. If they are 100% for a half term, they enter a draw for a £50 Amazon voucher.
- **25-book challenge** – each year group has a list of recommended books to read throughout the year. Certificates are given for reading 5, 10, 15, 20 and 25 of these books. Each milestone achieved also gets the child a token to get a free book to keep from the book vending machine.



UNIFORM

Our uniform exchange scheme is still in operation, if this is of use to any parent or carer, please contact school on 01709 812148.

Please ensure your child has the correct school uniform on every day, including correct PE kit – our school uniform details can be found on our website [here](#).

SOCIAL MEDIA

For all our recent exceptional learning experiences, events and celebrations of achievements, please see our Twitter / X profile which can be found [here](#).

