

UPCOMING
EVENTS07.10.24—
YEAR R
BALANCE
BIKE09.10.24—
YEAR 6 DT
DAY15.10.24—
HARVEST
FESTIVAL18.10.24—
LATS DAY OF
TERM04.11.24—
TERM 2 FIRST
DAY OF
SCHOOL

Note from Mrs Fordyce

We have reached the week of another busy and successful week at Miers Court. This week we welcomed some prospective parents for next years Reception intake which was lovely and our year 6 children were amazing tour guides. We have several opportunities and dates coming up to visit so if you have a child, or you know someone who's child is due to start school in September 2025 then please do join us. Yesterday was National Poetry Day and there were some really exciting opportunities for learning poems taking place all around the school. This morning I met with the PTFA and we began to plan in some very exciting events for the year— watch this space for further information. Have an amazing weekend—see you bright and early on Monday morning ready for another week of learning.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Attendance – Well done Hummingbird Class (year 1) for achieving 99.3%, Dragonfly Class (year r) for achieving 98.3% and Bumblebee Class (Year r) for achieving 97.6%. These classes are this week's top attenders!

This year's attendance to date 95.4%



Celebration Corner

Congratulations James, Jack, Evelyn, Kasia, David I, Jayson, Lily, Ariella, Ethan, Riley, Olivia-Mae, Felicity, George and Ivy B in year 2, Loic, Louie, Peyton, Cian, Mason W, Luca L, Klaiiton, Jacob, Ivy, Phoebe, Maddie, Freddie, William, Pearly-Rose, Ramsey, Darrell, Florence, Luca P, Alfie A, Alfie M, Annabella, Astrid, Charlotte, Christel, Emilie, Leila, Mano, Nathan, Roli and Zac in year 4 for earning 10 Dojo points.

Book Talk

Year 4 Book Talk!

In Year 4 this term we have been reading Beowulf by Michael Morpurgo.

Beowulf Synopsis:

(Beowulf is one of the oldest known stories in British history, and the only remaining copy is almost 1000 years old! It is anonymous which means nobody knows who wrote it). In fifth-century Denmark, a murderous monster stalks the night, and only the great prince of the Geats has the strength and courage to defeat him. Beowulf's terrifying quest to destroy Grendel, the foul fiend, a hideous sea-hag and a monstrous fire-dragon is the oldest surviving epic in British literature.

Oscar says: "I think Beowulf is a good story but it is a bit scary because there is a monster called Grendel. A fact is he killed 30 humans in one night. He was so strong!"

Ellivia says' I am enjoying Beowulf because of the plotline. Beowulf slays Grendel. It is fun to read! It was a big surprise when Grendel's mother arrived to get revenge!

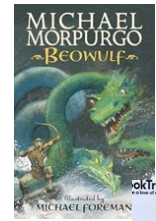
Joseph says: 'The story is quite creepy but that is why I like it! The character Beowulf saves the day'.

Amelia, ' Beowulf is a fearless warrior that kills sea monsters and monsters like Grendel. He gives up his armour and sword because he said to his people he would not fight with his armour'

Cian, 'I liked Grendel because he made the story better because he came back and killed 30 men'

<https://www.booksfortopics.com/>

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/our-recommendations/>



Quote of the week

"Every expert was once
a beginner. Embrace
the journey"

Robin Shurma

Sports Section

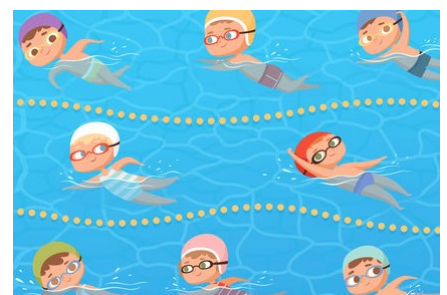
School sports organising crew - Sports organising crew had their training at The Howard School yesterday Thursday 3rd October.

More details and photos to follow with next week's MCM.

Year 6 swimming— Miss Witchell's class are still continuing with their swimming lessons their last lesson will be on **Thursday 17th October**.

The dates for Mr Shelley (Phoenix Class) are: -

- Thursday 7th November 2024
- Thursday 14th November 2024
- Thursday 21st November 2024
- Thursday 28th November 2024
- Thursday 5th December 2024
- Thursday 12 December 2024



Safeguarding Corner

As a reminder, our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs L Fordyce. Our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads are; Ms Munns, Miss Collings, Mrs Doherty, Miss Bradley and Mrs Kavanagh. If you have any safeguarding concerns, do not hesitate to get in contact.

What Our Lanyards Mean
Core Values: Inclusion, Dignity, Respect & Ambition

- THAT Staff** (Purple lanyard): Worn by all THAT staff (unless wearing a purple safeguarding lanyard).
- Visitor (DBS)** (Green lanyard): This visitor is DBS checked and may walk about the site unaccompanied.
- Visitor (No DBS)** (Red lanyard): This visitor must be escorted by staff if moving around the site.
- Trained Designated Safeguarding Lead** (Purple lanyard): Talk to them if you have any safeguarding concerns.

Top Tips for... MANAGING SCREEN TIME

According to the latest stats, people aged between 6 and 17 spend four hours on digital devices during an average day. Obviously, a new year is ideal for fresh starts and renewed efforts - so lots of families are trying to cut down their combined screen time right now, creating more moments to connect with each other and relying less on gadgets to have fun. Our top tips on reducing screen time are for everyone, so you can get your whole family involved in turning over a new leaf this year!

- GET OUT AND ABOUT**: If the weather's decent, leave screens at home. Go for a walk, take a dog to the local park, or do the most thingy thing you can think of - or a dance from your screen.
- TRY A TIMED TRIAL**: When you're taking a screen break for a coffee, turn it into a game by putting yourself a timer. When you complete your task before the alarm goes off!
- GO DIGITAL DETOX**: Challenge yourself and your family to take time off-line. For example, finding other things to do. You could start off with just a day, then build up to a full day or even an entire weekend.
- LEAD BY EXAMPLE**: Let your family see you successfully managing your own screen time. You'll be showing them the way, and they'll stop seeing all those guidelines when you do want to go online.
- AGREE TECH-FREE ZONES**: Make some simple rules at home where devices aren't allowed, such as bedrooms, the dining room, or the car. Try to make it a family rule, not just a parent rule.
- HOLD A SCREEN TIME AMNESTY**: As a family, agree specific guidelines about how to use devices. This should help everyone to balance their on-line and off-line time with enjoying quality moments together.
- Meet Our Expert**: Miersia Doherty, Designated Safeguarding Lead, is a qualified safeguarding lead and a member of the National Online Safety team. She is also a member of the National Online Safety team.
- BE MINDFUL OF TIME**: Stop checking how long you've been on your device for. Counting how much time you spend on technology decreases the quality of the internet - the social media addiction - can also lower your wellbeing.
- PARK PHONES OVERNIGHT**: Set up an overnight charging station for your mobile phones. That means no temptation for midnight scrolling.
- SWITCH ON DND**: Research shows that micro-distractions like messages and social media notifications can interrupt your focus and productivity. Turn on 'Do Not Disturb' on your phone to help you stay focused.
- TAKE A FAMILY TECH BREAK**: Set aside certain times when the whole family puts their devices away. Use this time for an activity together, such as reading a book, playing a board game, or just having a chat.
- SOCIALISE WITHOUT SCREENS**: When you're with friends, try not to be glued to your phone. It's or other tech, having company can be much more fun if your attention isn't being split.
- WIND DOWN PROPERLY**: Try staying off phones, tablets, laptops and other devices before you go to sleep. Reading or just getting comfy to read for a while can give you a much more restful night.

DEVICE BOX | The National College | National Online Safety | #WakeUpWednesday

Languages Day 2024

On Thursday 26th September it was European Languages Day. Please see attached to this weeks MCM for the special edition of Languages Day.



International Walk To School Month

It's international walk to school month! Children worldwide are celebrating the joys of walking and wheeling to school this autumn. Click this link to find some fantastic autumnal activities you and your child can take part in on your journey to school. We'd love for you to share some photos on your child's Dojo portfolio as we continue in our mission to ensure the Miers Court community strive to be more green!

Living Streets

Celebrate International Walk to School Month with an... #AutumnStreetSafari

livingstreets.org.uk/autumn



Census day Thursday 3rd October!

On Thursday 3rd October we celebrated Census Day, the amazing staff in the kitchen had turned the Miers Court school canteen into a ghostly cave heaven, as you can see they even got to dress up!! We had an outstanding uptake of children taking a school dinner on this day. The children enjoyed foods such as Ghostly Chicken Nuggets, Witches Fingers, Creepy Chips and even Blood Red Jelly.

Thank you again for all those children who took a school dinner on Census Day.



House Name Change



We wanted to change our house names, so we asked everyone to come up with new ideas that we could use for our houses. We asked parents, children, teachers and lots of other people to get involved and we wanted them to link to 'shining bright, aiming high'. We had lots of exciting suggestions from stars, planets, famous people, constellations, animals, gemstones and more, and the school council worked together to decide on the new house names. We voted on the two most popular ideas and decided the new house names would be gemstones as they shine bright and link with our house colours; red, yellow, green and blue.

Our new house names are **Emerald (green) Topaz (yellow) Sapphire (blue) and Ruby (red)**. Thank you to everyone who sent in ideas we are very excited to launch the new names!

Your school council

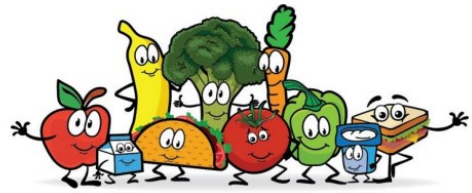




Battery Recycling – This week we have **144** batteries!! Fantastic total, thank you. We submit our total to the Duracell website each week.

We also collect empty, clean bread wrappers and used ink cartridges (domestic only, please), which we give to Gillingham Street Angels, who receive a small amount of money for them. This money is used to help fund the projects that they run, for example, the soup kitchen and food bank.

Meal Balance reminder – Please can we remind you to keep an eye on your child's meal account, and top up when needed. Thankyou. Please remember that, if your circumstances change, you child may be eligible for Free School Meal Support. You can apply on line for this and we are always happy to help if you are finding it a little tricky. The link will take you to the application page and you will get a decision really quickly. https://www.medway.gov.uk/info/200164/school_information/354/free_school_meals



Dates for your diary

- 07.10.24—Year R balance bike session
- 15.10.24— Harvest Festival (children only)
- 18.10.24—Last day of term
- 04.11.24—Back to school
- 11.11.24—Flu Vaccinations Year R to Year 6
- 13.11.24—Individual school photos
- 18.11.24—Height and Weight Check Year R and Year 6

Stay connected

MiersCourt

Phone: 01634 388943

Email: office@mcps.school

School website: <http://mierscourt-that.org.uk>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/mierscourthat/

Instagram: www.instagram.com/mierscourthat/



PLEASE CAN WE REMIND YOU THAT WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL. WE HAVE CHILDREN IN SCHOOL WHO HAVE SEVERE ALLERGIES THIS INCLUDES NUTS, PLEASE CAN YOU MAKE SURE IF YOUR CHILD IS HAVING A HOME PACKED LUNCH THAT THIS DOES NOT CONTAIN ANY NUTS/NUT PRODUCTS, THIS ALSO INCLUDES NUTELLA.

IF YOUR CHILD HAS ANY ALLERGIES THAT THE SCHOOL SHOULD BE AWARE OF PLEASE COULD YOU CONTACT MRS TRANAH IN THE SCHOOL OFFICE TO COMPLETE THE RELEVANT PAPER WORK.

THANK YOU