



Messingham Primary School

Newsletter Autumn 2023



FRESH FACES AT MESSINGHAM

Hello and please find attached the first Newsletter from Messingham Primary School for this year. Once again our values will be important to us as a school as by the end of the year we hope to be awarded the Value Based Education (VbE) Award for values. Values underpins the curriculum we offer at Messingham and as always we like to involve the community as much as possible, with choosing and sharing the values. Thus far we have had respect, tolerance and equality, and parents and children will choose 2 x values later on in the year.

<https://valuesbasededucation.com/>

We also have seen the children select their head boy/girl and values ambassadors for this year and we are delighted with the start Jack, Isabel, Arlo and Grace have made in their roles.



Indeed Isabel and Grace have already read a poem out in assembly for world poetry day! We have 3 x values ambassadors in Teddy, Jacob and Yasmin and we have 15 wildlife ambassadors (the most of any year since we started this role). There are also over 30 librarians and 20 prefects. There are 31 Year 5 sports leaders and Mrs Rose has already seen her first Messingham Parliament meeting (with class MP's from year 1-6). All in all it's been a very exciting start to the year for leadership at Messingham.

SUPER WORK FROM WILDLIFE AMBASSADORS

What's the toughest job in Year 6? Librarians? Could be, Values Ambassadors? Maybe, but if you ask Mr Hutchings it might be being a Wildlife Ambassador. After all in the three years we have been doing this only 6 children (2 per year on average) have put their names forward to get down and dirty at the end of the day!!!! However cometh the hour cometh the team, as 13 children have put their names down to become wildlife ambassadors this year, and they work weekly in the school to keep the wildlife area tidy, to feed the Hedgehogs, and to keep the site clear of weeds etc. It's a tough job and Henry, Harlow, Olly, Charlie and Archie were the first group this year who cleared the vegetable patch picking some carrots to be used by the 'Mighty Oaks' breakfast and after school club. We also have some big plans on landscaping the front of the school and removing some of the very smelly



Plants that look pretty in the summer but are always distraction with their pong!!! Once these are removed we will ask the children what they would like to plant instead and hope to make a real feature of this area as people come into school. Indeed we are proud of our commitment to nature that matches our 'Good to be Green' ethos.

GOOD START TO THE FOOTBALL SEASON BY YEAR 5/6 TEAM



A big thank you must once again go to our volunteers Mr Atkinson and Mr Lindsay for the Year 5/6 team, Mr Bates for the Year 3/4 team and Mr Simpson and Mr Cooper who have been working with our girls teams. This year we have entered all of the cup competitions, as well as entering two teams in the Year 3/4 boy's football league and two teams into the girl's football leagues. The Year 5/6 team played a Humber qualifying tournament at Baysgarth on Monday evening where the top two teams went through to the next round. We topped the group with a 7-0 win over St Peters and St Paul, a 4-0 win over Scawby and a 6-0 win over Brigg Primary. 11 players have been selected from the 30 who came to the trials and all will have a chance to represent the school in tournaments that range from 6 a-side to 9 a-side over the course of the year. As always we thank all of our volunteers as they give up an hour a week to train the children as well as attending the matches. We have also beaten Bottesford in a friendly and take on Scotter later this week.

CHILDREN LOVE THE WATER TRAY!



We were incredibly fortunate to have a brand new water tray donated to the Reception Class this month and it is already being put to good use by the children in the setting. Research into the effectiveness of a water tray being used by children has shown how it aids cognitive development, teaches mathematics and science concepts, enhances physical skills, promote social learning and cooperative effort, and can enrich language experiences. We are so grateful for our donation and as you can see the children are loving it!



WELCOME TO THE MIGHTY OAKS!!!

We have had a name change so that the wrap around care that we offer at Messingham is more representative of who we are (the Good to Green theme). The children came up with various names but the one that stuck was 'The Mighty Oaks' and this is what are OOSC (Out Of School Club) has now become. The success of our wrap around care cannot be underestimated with up to 16 children attending in the mornings for breakfast and up to 12 after school where they receive a dinner.



Miss O'Neill has also been extremely busy organising a number of activities for the children who attend Mighty Oaks and the theme nights are becoming a hot ticket!!! So far already this year we have visited 'Uncle Henry's' where we had a lovely tea as well as investigating the corn maze and picking some pumpkins to take home! In all 45 children alongside 8 of the teaching staff accompanied the children on the trip which was thoroughly enjoyable. We have also done speed stacking which was really enjoyable.



This was followed up by the Halloween movie night where the children had all sorts of snacks and saw Tim Burton's The Nightmare before Christmas.



And finally Miss O'Neill has organised the Wreath Making for the last part of the Autumn Term. We would like to thank Miss O'Neill, Mrs Welsh and Miss Maxwell for all of their commitment to before and after school in 'The Mighty Oaks.'



The children have also found time to decorate sweet jars as part of their Autumn project and there will be another project at Christmas.



MIGHTY OAKS OOSC INFORMATION

We are pleased to announce that the cost of our before and after school provision (Mighty Oaks) has also remained the same since we started almost two and half years ago, as we promised to maintain this as a service to support our parents. We are hoping to keep the costs as low as we can in these ever-changing times and we thank all of you who have supported us since Miss O'Neill began.



Halloween Breakfast!!!!

The Photos below are from the Halloween theme night that was held on Tuesday October 31st. What a Feast!!!



The cost for the breakfast child care facility is £4.50 for an hour session and £3.50 for any additional child. If your child is eligible for Pupil Premium then this facility is offered for Free. We also accept various Voucher Schemes, and if you think you are eligible please contact the school's main office for details.



Our after school costs are £6 for the first hour and £10 for 2 hours which includes snacks and a meal. We do of course offer theme nights (min one per month)

that your child can attend even if they don't normally attend and Mighty Oaks sessions. To book into Mighty Oaks please use the scopay system or email Miss O'Neill on the Mighty Oaks email address.

mightyoaksoosc@messingham.n-lincs.sch.uk

YEAR 5/6 GIRLS SO CLOSE!!!



As we have mentioned above we have 2 x Girls Football teams this year and would like to thank Mr Simpson and Mr Cooper who are now coaching the team. A decision has been made to have a predominantly year 6 team and a developing squad for our younger children. The Year 5/6 team played their first tournament at Baysgarth and out of the 6 teams there we agonisingly finished in 3rd place.



In total we won 2 games, drew 2 games and lost one, however, we were incredibly unlucky in the game we lost having dominated for almost the entire game and a similar case occurred in the last game we drew. Only the top two teams went through to the Humber regional competition but this has made the girls really determined to go one better when we start the league tournaments after Christmas.

NEXT OPEN DAY FOR POTENTIAL NEW STARTERS 2024-25 MONDAY 20TH NOVEMBER

We would like to extend our thanks to all parents (old and potentially new) that attended our Open stay and play session that Miss Martin and Mrs Potter put on Thursday 12th October. This event was very popular, so much so that we are having another one on Monday 20th November at 10am. We do feel that we will have limited places available for starting at Messingham and we would actively encourage our parents to share the event on social media or tell friends and neighbours. There is a slightly bigger birth rate in our area, but as mentioned above we do feel there would be limited places for children potentially outside of catchment as well.

**Messingham
Primary School**



**OPEN DAY Monday 20th November 2023
10AM**

**Tour the School
Stay and Play**

**Come meet the staff
See what our amazing Values
based school has to offer your
child**

**Discover our 'Mighty Oaks' wraparound care.
Breakfast and after school club**

Come and join us for a warm drink and a slice of cake

**We aspire to be our best selves; we are founders
of our own story.**

**Messingham Primary School
01724 762818
www.messinghamprimary.co.uk**

A big thank you to one of our governors Mrs Revill who attended the first event as well, and if you would like any further information about 2024/25 starting in Reception then please contact us at the school.

Dates for the Diary Also on School Website

Parents Evenings – Tue/Wed 7/8th Nov
Year R Coffee Morning – Thur 9th Nov
Armistice Day (school) – Friday 10th Nov
Bonfire Disco (FOMs) – Friday 10th Nov
Yr 6 Mock SATS – W/C Mon 13th Nov
Governors Meeting – Tues 14th Nov
SEND Coffee Morning – Thurs 30th Nov
Year 1/2W Coffee Morning – Tue 5th Dec
Kpac Panto Yr R & KS1 – Wed 6th Dec
Xmas Dinner/Jumper Day – Thur 7th Dec
Governors Meeting Tue 12th Dec
'Snowman Day' – Monday 11th Dec
KS2 Cinema Trip – Tuesday 12th Dec
Parent/Carer Forum Friday 15th Dec
Year R Nativity & Coffee – Fri 15th Dec
Xmas Carol Concert – 18/19th Dec

NEW SPORTS LEADERS RARING TO GO



Over 30 children put in a written application to become sports leaders for this year and they have been split into teams to once again support children in Year R as well as Years 1 and 2 with their physical development and to help at lunchtimes.



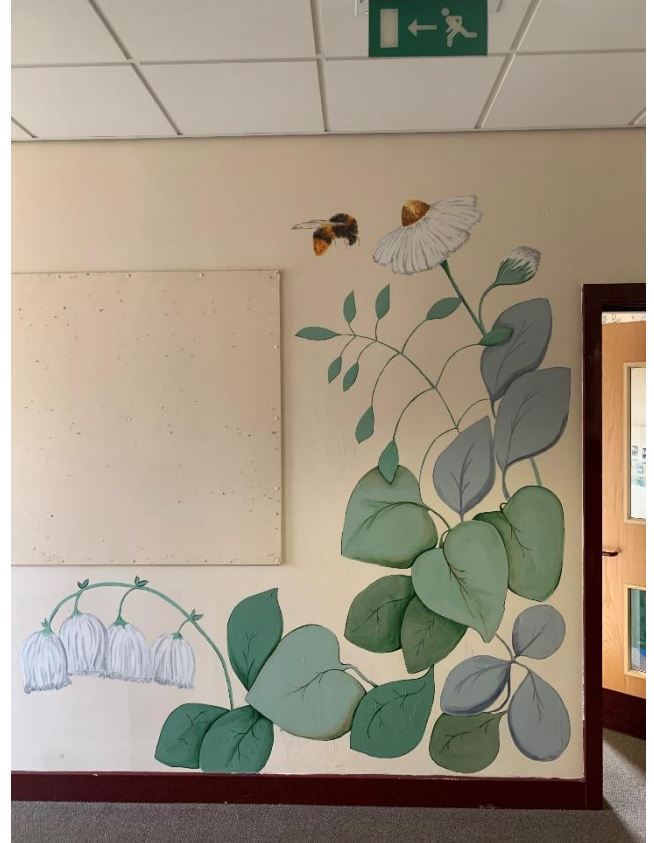
Mrs Hutchings alongside Miss Wren and Miss Maxwell trained the children and they are ready to launch the new sports leaders program from next week, and we have been delighted to see so many of our Year 5's wanting to help with sport in the school. Sports Leaders are a real step into becoming a House Captain or future leader in the school hence why we place an emphasis on the children writing an application as well as agreeing to follow the schools values when in this role. They perform a crucial role at our school and will once again make a real difference to our playtimes.

A BIG THANK YOU TO MISS PALMER



We are always keen to evolve at Messingham and the space by the spare room that was formally 'The Den' as well as the main entrance, have seen new Murals to enrich the environment that the children have here. We were incredibly lucky to have Miss Palmer (one of our parents and an illustrator by profession) volunteer her time to design

and create a mural that is in line with our nature theme. The children were enthralled as the mural developed from 'a few blobs' on the wall (Miss Palmer's words!) to the finished article that has made such a difference to the look of this area. A big thank you to Miss Palmer for all of her skills and the time that she gave free to the children and the school to design and create such a work of art.



HOUSE CAPTAINS DETERMINED TO SUCCEED



Welcome to this year's House Captains who were chosen due to their leadership skills from their support to younger children around the school

when they were in Year 5. Either through being an excellent sports leader, helping children to read or simply by following all of the schools values each and every day. They have already made an impact with new Mascots, posters of their houses, keeping the jars in classes topped up as well as counting all of the house point tokens that are earned in school each week. The children have also cleared out the outdoor sports cupboard and are ensuring that all of the netballs, footballs etc are being blown up on a weekly basis so they can be used for lessons. Indeed they have made an excellent start to their time as House Captains.



The Winning Newton Year 5/6 team

None more so than the recent Inter House Competitions for Netball where Newton came out on top in the Year 5/6 tournaments as well as one of the Year 3/4 tournaments, the clean sweep only being stopped by Tennyson in the other Year 3/4 tournament. The House Captains helped umpire these tournaments which saw medals handed out to the Winning teams once more.

READING CORNERS LITERALLY IN EVERY CORNER!!!!



Miss Remond (as our English lead at Messingham) came back refreshed over the summer and determined to kick start our reading program. The first step was to ensure that there are as many opportunities for children to read around the school as possible. So we have all been instructed to create a reading corner that the children can casually read from or even borrow to take home.



The main remit has been that the adults should include in their reading corner books that they either like, read as a child themselves, or would recommend as they are by an author the children might like. We've also told the children what we are reading at the moment!!!



So far it has been really interesting to see just how many children are picking up books and spending their own time and lunchtime or playtime to read and share their own reading.



CONFIDENCE FOOTBALL A SUCCESS

Miss Fowler took a small group of children to represent the school at a recent 'confidence in football' skills session at The Pods in Scunthorpe.



For some of these children it was the first time they had played such an event and it has been a real highlight of the year so far. The children were immaculately behaved and the adults who were there to support remarked what an amazing group of children we have to represent the school, and I am told the children had a wonderful time there.



NEW IS GOOD!!!!

As we welcomed four new teachers into the school alongside the new reception children we made the decision to stick to a nature theme for 2023/24 and the class teachers alongside their children chose indigenous British wildlife animals as their class names.



So we have Rabbits, Hedgehogs, Otters, Squirrels, Foxes, Owls, Honeybees, Dragonflies, Butterflies and Wildcats as our chosen names and the children are really warming to their new names as well as finding out lots of interesting facts about some animals and creatures they knew little about.

...And Finally

We would like to thank you all for your support and kindness in our first term back to school for 2023-2024. We

certainly hope we can build on the success of last year where we had really positive results in Phonics, Early Years and Key Stage 2 with a focus for this year to show rapid progress in Year 3 and 4. Reading is also a priority and as you know we really appreciate the support you give the children at home with their reading and phonics. On a positive note this time last year I mentioned my concern at the poor attendance that we saw in the first few months of 2022/3. Over the course of the year there was a real improvement where we finished the school year on 95%, much higher than the National average, and our persistent absenteeism was at 9.8%, well below National average. Attendance is still on the National Agenda so we won't be getting complacent: however, we appreciate all of your efforts with helping us to improve attendance over the last year, it makes a big difference.

Yours Sincerely
Mr R Hutchings
Headteacher