



Maltby Hilltop School

an academy within Nexus MAT

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Tuesday 23rd November 2021

Dear Families,

Children in Need

It was great to see a whole school fun event (which we have been sorely missing) and so many students and staff taking part. There were some fabulous outfits and pupils took part in different activities in their classrooms. Rainbow class ran a 'Guess the name of Pudsey's twin' and encouraged staff to part with their cash to win a tin of chocolates. Overall, we raised more than £150.

Pupil Photos

It was great to see so many lovely photos of our students and thanks to Becky Earp for 'tipping us off' and supporting us to make them so successful. Becky bought in a cheque today for £356 toward school funds from the photos. So pleased it was such a success and money into school too!

Christmas Events

Needless to say, we are uneasy about potential Covid levels and we need to do all we can to keep everyone safe. We are trying to ensure additional numbers of people in school does not create our own spike in cases. The last thing we want to do is cancel performances.

Letters will be coming out to book tickets for the panto, EYFS Nativity, primary school performance and secondary school performance. Due to Covid and a new fire risk assessment we will have a much smaller capacity in the hall.

All families of students taking part will be offered 2 tickets and if any more are available we will distribute to those who would like more.

If you are planning to attend please ensure you follow these safety guidelines

1. If you are not 'double jabbed' with the vaccine you will need to do a lateral flow test before you arrive. We can either send a kit home for you to do at home and register or you can do when you arrive at school. Do be aware the test takes 30 mins to show results so you will need to arrive early if you want us to support you with testing.
2. Please wear a facemask at all times in school (unless you have a medical reason not to).
3. Please sit together and leave space between yourselves and other visitors in the audience.

We were planning a Christmas fair on Thurs 2nd Dec but we don't want to increase risk by people coming into school as yet. We are planning a Christmas fun day for all of our students with activities and games. It would really help if you could send some money in on the day to contribute toward prizes and fun activities. Then if we have money left over we will add it to our school fund to spend on other fun things for our students throughout the year.

We are hoping to have a raffle to be drawn at the end of the last performance on Thurs 16th December. We would love help to fill a big hamper to win and any other super prizes. If you could send in any tasty treats (that won't go off) to put in our hamper we can sell raffle tickets at each performance.

Also, we would like to have a 'silent auction' which we hope to be able to put photos of the wonderful things you can bid for on our Facebook page. Firstly, we need offers of some lovely things. It could be a service someone could offer like babysitting, decorating or a voucher for



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something. If you have anything we could auction do let us know and we will get up and running in December.

Christmas Dinners

We are still working through exactly how this will operate for us as we have usually had a total of 3 different dinners! We are hoping that it will be the same day for everyone Friday 10th December. We will confirm as soon as we can but have Christmas jumpers at the ready!

Relish Dinners

I am aware it has not been as great as we would have liked and I have met with Stefan and Jackie who are leading on this from Relish. They really want to get things right and are working hard to do so. I have met with them a couple of times and they are encouraging you as parents to contact them directly. Initially you will need to log in to the system and then you can contact them. They are also planning for you to be able to see the live menus in the new year. <https://relishschoolfood.co.uk/parents/>

Wellbeing Support

A reminder that Robyn Gillespie and Helen Salim, are both part time wellbeing support for our pupils. We would encourage you or your child to talk about your concerns and worries so we can effectively support all of us to stay healthy and well.

Preventing COVID-19 infection

I know we are all very worried about COVID-19 and we are all trying to minimise the risk. If your child is unwell, please keep them at home. This is particularly important where they have:

- a high temperature – this means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure their temperature);
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if your child usually has a cough, it may be worse than usual);
- a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste – this means they've noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

We need to ensure we reduce risks of children and staff catching COVID-19 so ensuring you keep your child at home if they have any of the above symptoms and getting them tested is really important if that is possible.

The Government announced changes for schools so we need to be aware that – just like in wider society – individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19 case, if any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

We are encouraging staff to wear facemasks around school but not when working with students in classes. Many of our pupils are vulnerable and we need to do all we can to ensure we all stay as healthy and safe as possible. Please keep your child at home if they are unwell.

David Burdett