

# MAGDALEN GATES PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

## NEWS BULLETIN 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

At Magdalen Gates, we are proud of the diversity of our pupil population and the strength and richness that it brings to every day in school. We are aiming to create a school where everyone feels that they belong - through curriculum design, parent workshops and the events that we recognise and participate in. The feedback that we receive each day tells us that we are getting a lot right in this topic but there are always areas where we can continue to improve. For this reason, I am making a plan to help parents to have a bigger voice in some of the decisions that are made in school. I am aware that everyone brings a different viewpoint on school life and that it is important to make sure these views are heard. I will provide more details in the next newsletter and look forward to working with many of you to give every child the best.

Mr Hutchinson

### Mobile Phones in School

It has been lovely to see so many parents making the most of the opportunities to come into school for our workshops, information sessions and Reading Breakfasts.

It is perhaps an appropriate time to remind everyone that as part of our safeguarding policy and procedures, all of our visitors, including parents and carers, are requested **not to use their mobile phones in school**. This includes taking pictures or videos (without prior permission from the Head teacher) or using mobile devices in our halls or waiting areas near the school office. This is so we can ensure the safety of all our children at Magdalen Gates. We thank you for your co-operation.

### Children In Need Day

The School Council hope as many pupils as possible will join in with the great SPOTacular Children In Need day this Friday. Pupils are welcome to come into school wearing as many spots and stripes as you wish! Just a reminder that we do not accept cash at school so any kind donations can be made via the Just Giving page set up – (the link was sent to everyone last week) but you can also find it on the school's Facebook and Twitter (X) pages. Your donations will hopefully have a positive impact on the lives of children facing many different types of challenges in the UK.

### Home Packed Lunches

Eating behaviours and habits are formed in early life and good nutrition in a child's younger years can help to prevent a variety of health problems, both in the short term and later in life. Packed lunches can contribute up to a third of a child's weekly food, therefore we want to encourage healthy packed lunches for those children who bring them into school.

We ask that you take a healthy approach to snacks provided in their lunch box. Fizzy drinks are not permitted and chocolate bars ideally should not be part of a daily lunch box but a moderate biscuit snack would be acceptable. Wherever possible try and encourage trying different fruits and healthier options to actively discourage an excess of sugar.

Thinking of healthy and exciting packed lunches can be a challenge so we hope you find the attachments to this newsletter helpful with some packed lunch food ideas.

### Book Fair News

Our annual Book Fair starts on the 21<sup>st</sup> November. This will take place in the main hall straight after school for the whole week! All books will be at discounted prices. Payment methods will be by card or a QR code. 30% of books will also be under £5, so there will be something for everyone 😊

### School Contact Details

School Office hours – 8:15am – 3:30pm  
Telephone 01603 622675  
Email [Office@magdalengates.co.uk](mailto:Office@magdalengates.co.uk)  
Out of school club contact –  
01603 343881 3.30pm-5.30 pm only

### Current School attendance

95.3%

### School Photos

The school photographer will be in school on Wed 15<sup>th</sup> Nov to take individual children's photos. All children under school age can attend with their older siblings at 8:30am in the PE Hall for family photos.

### Diary Dates

#### November

14<sup>th</sup> – School Parliament to Dussindale for debate session  
14<sup>th</sup> – Yr2 10-12pm Edith Cavell workshop  
15<sup>th</sup> – School Photographer  
17<sup>th</sup> – Children In Need Day  
21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> Book Fair to visit

#### December

6<sup>th</sup> – School Dentist visit (by invite)  
6<sup>th</sup> – Yr1, 3 & 5 – Christmas Advent workshop  
8<sup>th</sup> – Xmas hamper day  
12<sup>th</sup> – Flu Vaccinations – revisit  
12<sup>th</sup> – Yr3 & Yr4 Pinocchio performance  
12<sup>th</sup> - EYFS & KS1 Christmas performance 3:30-4:30pm  
13<sup>th</sup> – School Christmas lunch  
14<sup>th</sup> – EYFS & KS1 Christmas performance – 9:15-10:15am  
14<sup>th</sup> – KS2 Christmas Carols 3:30-4:15pm  
18<sup>th</sup> – Yr2 Carols Doughtys AM  
20<sup>th</sup> – School closes 3:15pm for Christmas Holiday