

MARKET DEEPING COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY/MARCH 2019



Charity Events - Many thanks to all parents and children for supporting the charity events run by the school. Please can we remind you that we run these firstly and foremostly to raise awareness of certain issues and donations are always invited, but are not compulsory.

Encephalitis Awareness - Just over a year ago one of our pupils was very poorly with encephalitis and it was a very scary time for their family. It took the doctors a long time to figure out what was wrong and so the family have asked that we raise awareness about encephalitis for other parents.

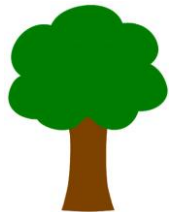
What is Encephalitis? Encephalitis is the inflammation of the brain caused by infection. There are two types of encephalitis: one is infectious encephalitis where a virus invades the brain, the other is autoimmune encephalitis where it goes through the immune system and causes the brain to attack itself in error.

Symptoms to look out for: Infectious Encephalitis usually begins with a flu like illness or headache and more serious symptoms follow hours, days sometimes even weeks later. They can become mildly confused or drowsy, or even have loss of consciousness and coma.

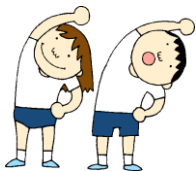


Other symptoms include: High temperature, seizures, aversion to bright lights, inability to speak or control movement, sensory changes, neck stiffness or uncharacteristic behaviour. Autoimmune encephalitis often has a longer onset. Symptoms will vary depending on the type of encephalitis related antibody but may include confusion, altered personality or behaviour, psychosis, movement disorders, seizures, hallucinations, memory loss, or sleep disturbances.

For more information go to www.encephalitis.info

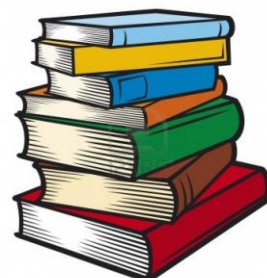


Reception Classes – Forest Schools Cubs and Kittens will be starting their Forest Schools programmes after half term. Please check the dates on the website and ensure that your child is wearing appropriate clothing for the weather. Full information is available on the school website.



Clubs - Clubs will be carrying on after half term. Please check the Calendar on the front page of the School Website for all dates. In the event of a cancellation on the day we will send a text to all parents involved.

World Book Day – Thursday 7th March - We would like to invite all children to dress up as their favourite fictional character for the day! After the success of last year, we are looking forward to awarding certificates to the best dressed children in every class. We would however stress that parents do not need to go to a lot of expense to buy costumes, we do love to see those made at home and dressing up is of course entirely optional.



We also ask that children bring in one of their favourite reading books to share in mixed age groups during the afternoon. Finally, we wish to invite parents to join us from 2:45pm to have a look at the costumes in their child's class, and share favourite children's books with small groups.

We are also very lucky to have a real author visiting MDCP school on Wednesday 6th March - Eleanor will be coming in to our school to read her book to the Bobcats, Pumas and Ocelots class and the children can purchase a personalised copy of the book for a cost of £8.50. Please bring the money in by **Tuesday 5th March** if you wish to buy a copy. We will be sending a letter home to parents with more information.

Book Fair – We are holding a Book Fair from 13th – 19th March and this year are using the very popular “The Book People”. We will send out information regarding ordering books nearer the time. We hope that the money raised will enable us to get some more new books for our lovely Library and we will – of course - consult the children before placing any orders!



PTFA Events – We were delighted to welcome the Disco back into school and are hugely thankful to the PTFA for their fundraising efforts to help enrich each child's experience at school. After half term we are looking forward to:



- **The Talent Show!!** – Tuesday 26th February at 6pm, tickets still on sale, licenced bar available!
- **Spring Crafts** – Wednesday 20th March 3.30-4.30pm in the Hall
- **Mother's Day Shops** – 26th & 28th March, all gifts just £2.50
- **Easter Egg Decorating Competition** – Entries in from 27th March – 1st April, judging 1st April after school
- **Non-Uniform Day** – Friday 29th March – Bring in a chocolate Easter Egg
- **Easter Egg Hunt** – Thursday 4th April at 3.30pm

Sports As the weather improves (!) we should be taking part in more sports events. Please keep an eye out for letters coming home. Some events will require parents to transport their children after school and we always appreciate your support in arranging this.



Can you please ensure that your child has their PE kit in school at all times, as PE sessions and Sporting Events in addition to Sports Enrichment can vary. Some of the events will be in competition with other local schools. If your child is invited to join a team, it is because they have already been identified as being one of the best in this school at that sport. Please would parents encourage the children to take part, support the rest of their team and represent the school.

BAD WEATHER - SCHOOL CLOSURE PROCEDURE

Just a reminder that the school's procedure for closing due to bad weather is as follows:

- We contact local radio (Heart FM)
- We put a message on our answerphone
- We put a message on the school's website
- We will use ParentMail which will send a text notifying you of the closure.

However, once the texts are sent the school cannot guarantee that they will be delivered that morning, so it is your responsibility to check the other methods of information.

As in previous years our priority is to stay open whatever the weather. We will only close in the following exceptional circumstances: in the event that our staff cannot make it into school, or there is a breakdown of the heating, or we feel that the school site is unsafe for children and parents due to snow and/or ice.



SICKNESS/ABSENCE POLICY

Please can we remind parents that you do need to call the school and let us know as soon as possible if your child is ill, and what symptoms they have. If we do not hear from you and are unable to contact you by 9.30am, we may request a Safe and Well check from Lincolnshire Police.

Medicine In School In this season of coughs and colds, please

can we remind all parents of our Medicine in School Policy, the full version of which can be found in the School Policies section on our website. Children are not allowed to carry or administer any kind of medicine themselves - **this**

includes cough and throat sweets. If your child needs to have medicine administered please come to the School Office to complete the necessary paperwork. Please do not send medicine in with your child without doing this as we will be unable to administer it. If you have any queries regarding this policy then do please feel free to contact us.



Attendance Regulations In the run-up to Half Term and the Easter holidays, please can we remind you about the Deepings Cluster Attendance Policy which is available to view on our website. Requests for absence will only be authorised if the circumstances are deemed "Exceptional". All other absence – **including late arrivals** (after registers have closed) will be recorded as unauthorised and may result in a Fixed Penalty Notice (fine) being issued.



Boots While we appreciate that the weather is bad at this time of year and that boots are a sensible option for walking to and from school, please could we remind parents that fashion boots are not always suitable for use inside school as they can prevent children from moving and sitting comfortably. If your child wears boots for school and they have: a loose fit, smooth soles, a heel or have dangly decorations such as tassels or pom-poms, we would very much appreciate it if you would also send in a pair of ordinary school shoes (not trainers) for them to wear during lesson time.



Food Bank Along with other local schools and the Children's Centre we are very pleased to be Voucher Holders for the Deepings Food Bank. If you are struggling to make ends meet in the current economic climate then do please come and talk to us as we may well be able to help.

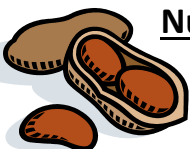


OUTDOOR PE KITS Please can we remind you that we do still go outside for PE during the cold weather. We are happy for your child to wear their school cardigan/jumper over their PE kit, but you may wish to send in a pair of black/navy/grey jogging bottoms as well. And they will need trainers – many are having to wear their shoes!

HEADLICE Cases of headlice are regularly reported from a number of classes. Please check your child/children's hair regularly and if any lice/nits are found then please treat not only the affected child, but the whole family as well. If you have any problems the school nurse at the Health Centre would be pleased to help or alternatively the local pharmacists are always happy to help with advice on treatment and products. Thank you for your co-operation.



Nut Allergies We do have a child in school that has a severe peanut allergy and others with tree nut allergies (Hazelnuts, Almonds, Pecans etc.). Please could all parents be aware and take this into consideration when preparing packed lunches/snacks. Thank you.



SOCIAL MEDIA You may be aware of several high profile cases which have resulted in prosecution following comments posted on social media sites. All parents should be mindful that any comments posted online which intentionally cause an employee or pupil of the school, harassment, alarm or distress may be subject to Police investigation under the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.



School Website/Parentmail Please remember that the most up-to-date letters, class information etc can all be found on the website at www.mdcp.org.uk. If you have subscribed to Parentmail all letters will be emailed directly to you, and you will be able to make payments online for school events/uniform. Please check your nominated email account regularly! **All term dates for academic years 2018/19 and 2019/20 can be found on the school website on the "For Parents" page.**

