



MAGDALEN GATES PRIMARY



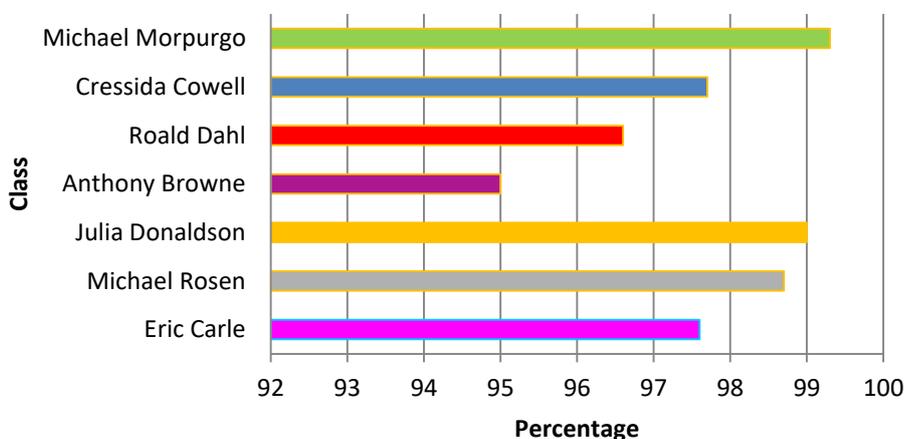
Weekly Newsletter

24/09/2018

Well done to Year 6 who received the £10 in assembly on Friday with 99.3% attendance. Whole school attendance for the week was 97.6%

Bar Chart:

Weekly Attendance Percentage



Jump-Start Club 8.15-8.30am

From October, Mr Hamment will be running 'Jump Start' Club every morning before school (8.15am - 8.30am). Jump Start Club will be a fun, engaging way to start the school day with exercise!!! Research shows that exercising before school can improve attentiveness, progress and attainment as well as keeping yourself fit! It's a win, win, win, win!! Please note there are only 18 places and will be on a first come, first served basis. If you would like to register your child's interest please see Mr Hamment who has the club consent forms. Please note children will not need to get changed or need their PE kit for the morning club.

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 Free School Meals

Please don't forget that all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to FREE school meals. However, it is important that we are aware of all families who would normally have been provided with free school meals because of family circumstances, as we receive additional funding to support all pupils identified as 'pupil premium.' If you are unsure, please have a chat to Mrs Starling in the main school office.

School Money

SCHOOLMONEY - For some pupils there are STILL outstanding debts for lunches dating back to last term. Please could all parents ensure that any outstanding debts are selected and added to the basket for payment. If you are unable to do this, then please pay cash or cheque to the office as a one-off payment. Thank you for your co-operation. Please speak with Mrs Starling in the office if you have any queries regarding an outstanding debt.

Curriculum News:

- **Maths** We have started our daily maths meetings and they are going really well. There is a lovely buzz of singing, chanting and counting across the school after every morning break - the purpose of maths meetings is for children to consolidate their basic skills in maths through a repetitive format of learning – Miss Bramble
- **Reading** KS2 are enjoying Destination Reader sessions and we are all practicing using the stems to make accurate predictions. **Please attend the short, DR Parents Introduction meeting this Wednesday, 26th September at 3:30pm** - find out more information on how to support your child's reading at home. This Monday (24th) we will be launching a sponsored 'Readathon' in partnership with the charity 'Read for Good'. We hope this will enthuse children to read at home along with raising lots of money for a worthy cause! – Mr Hamment
- **Spelling** - This year we are continuing to follow RWI spelling programme. Any spellings that we would like you to focus on at home will be sent out on Tapestry so please make sure you are registered – Miss Collison
- **Science** We continue to ensure that our science lessons are hands-on, practical and further our pupils' natural curiosity about the world around them.
- **Phonics** Read, Write, Inc Phonics and "4 Star Readers". The children have started the term with the challenge to review or learn as many sounds as they can. Please support them at home with the resources that the school have provided. They are all keen to be "4 Star Readers" so please, please, listen to your child read and then write in their diaries. If you have any questions about Read, Write, Inc please find me in the EYFS playground after school - Mrs Callaghan
- **Visible Learning** Visible Learning is the result of 15 years' research including over 50,000 studies relating to the influences on achievement in school-aged students. It presents the largest ever collection of evidence-based research into what actually works in schools to improve learning (and what doesn't). We as teachers and leaders are using this research to focus regularly on evaluating the effects we have on our children in school and adjust our teaching methods accordingly. Visible learning involves teachers seeing learning through the eyes of students; and students seeing teaching as the key to their ongoing learning. We look forward to taking part in this project over the next 3 years, working with schools across the local area, to evaluate and adjust our practices in order to gain the most out of our teaching and our learners – Mrs Humphreys
- **PE** All children have been enjoying their PE sessions at school with Yr2 & Yr4 swimming at Riverside once a week. Clubs have now also started and the children seem to be really enjoying these. Some of the after school clubs have proved to be very popular so if your child did not gain a place this term there will be an opportunity for them to participate in the Spring term after Christmas - Mrs Bennett.

Tapestry Update

Firstly, please accept my apologies regarding the issues that some of you have been having with Tapestry. Rest assured I am gradually working through the queries and will endeavour to troubleshoot any issues. In the meantime, if you are concerned, please explain to the teacher in the class that you cannot access Tapestry yet (particularly in relation to homework).

I've recently sent out password reset/activation links to all parents who have inactive accounts. I will be doing this at regular intervals as I am aware the links generated are time-limited.

I appreciate that this may mean multiple emails from Tapestry until you are activated but I am very keen for all parents to sign up as soon as possible, not only to follow the learning in school - to discuss with your child(ren) - but also to access any news and the homework.

To activate/update password, simply follow the link in the email and the instructions given. If you need more help, guides are available from the office (or ask to see me).

Here is a link to useful guides to help with setting up and using your account:

<https://evfs.info/forums/topic/47795-tutorials-contents-page-for-relatives>

Parents with more than one child in school

I have contacted Tapestry directly to advise me regarding the many issues that parents with more than one child at school have been experiencing. Their advice now when signing up, is to use the **same email address** for both accounts, but **different passwords**. I initially thought this would be less convenient (and it does mean entering passwords twice instead of once) but this will at least mean that you will have access to both accounts.

Follow this link for the updated guidance to setting up multiple accounts please:

<https://evfs.info/forums/topic/49510-having-more-than-one-account/>

Thank you again for your patience regarding these teething issues!

Hopefully this will solve any issues, but please don't hesitate to contact me again if this doesn't work. I am always available Friday mornings from 8:30-9:15 if you would like 1:1 help – Mrs Welch – Tapestry Lead & Yr6 Educational Assistant

Recycling and Sustainability

Sustainability and recycling is fascinating! It's a lot to do with reducing waste. Nobody likes wasting anything and no one wants to live in a wasteland, so working towards zero waste is an aim everybody shares.



Through waste reduction and recycling we can save resources and energy whilst protecting the things we love about the natural world. In our increasingly commercial society we can forget the most valuable things we have are clean air, water, earth and a moderate climate. We cannot stay healthy or survive on a world which is too hot or polluted as a result of industry.

Learning about ecosystems, resources, material life cycles, food webs, pollution, carbon emissions and the greenhouse effect is crucial if we are going to problem solve and change things for the better. Education and behavioural change can make waste reduction a reality and help prepare for a more sustainable economic system. Our everyday actions can have far reaching effects on the planet and everyone has an important role to play in taking responsibility for their own ecological footprint. It's pretty empowering stuff, because the future is in our hands!

As your Sustainability and Recycling lead I can offer you the knowledge I have gained from my dissertation "Sustain Ability" which focused on sustainable resource consumption in an educational setting, and degree in combined Design, Arts and Environment. I'm really interested in communicating information through the arts, and by modelling best practice in the school environment.

Parent Support/Young Carers

I start my working day (on Monday and Wednesday) standing at the school gate saying "Good Morning" about a hundred times!

I can't think of a better way to start work and it's one of the things I love about my job, it starts with a smile and a chance to welcome families into the school. Another thing I love is that I can be instantly accessible to families when needed.

The first part of my day up to 9am is a great time for people to grab me informally for a chat, especially if something is affecting family life which I may be able to help with. After 9am I have in-school appointments and home visits to attend to as well as my work supporting our Young carers in school - The Care Rangers! - Liz Earnshaw Parent Support Advisor

School Parliament

This week each class will elect its members for Magdalen Gate's school Parliament. The School Parliament is an important part of our school community, giving children a voice to help make a difference in our school. Our Parliament has 5 departments: Curriculum, Lunch and Break-time, Fundraising and Special Events, Student Well-being and Environment and Resources. Each department will meet regularly with Mrs Humphreys to help with the running of the school or to highlight any issues raised by their peers. Our Parliament members will be announced in an upcoming newsletter so keep a look out.

Eco Mural Picture



The school's back area near the Eco Room has recently had a painted mural designed on it. As we are an Eco friendly school we think the message is very appropriate – and it has certainly made the whole area much more cheerful!

School Uniform update

In the light of many parents having problems with our current uniform supplier (School Trends), we will be reviewing the situation and looking at other options over the coming term. Thank you for your patience.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

I wanted to bring to the attention of parents/guardians a very dangerous and sinister online game that appears to be sweeping the UK. It has led to warnings from the Police telling children to be careful and for their parents to look after them. Please could all our parents/carers and guardians be aware of children accessing MOMO. The "Momo Challenge" is a form of cyberbullying that spreads through social media and cell phones. Children are enticed to contact a user named "Momo", through social media networks such as for example, WhatsApp, they then receive graphic threats from the user and are instructed to perform a series of dangerous tasks. MOMO can be accessed through-out the internet.

<https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/gadgets-and-tech/news/whatsapp-momo-explained-meme-picture-image-suicide-game>

I again, would ask that ALL our parents/carers be aware of what their children are accessing online and able to access on their phones. PLEASE, if you have any concerns or require help with setting parental controls on any internet device you may have. DO come and see either myself or Miss Collison – we will be more than happy to assist.

Online Safety

Online Safety is an important part of the curriculum at Magdalen Gates. The children are taught to be “SMART” – an acronym referring to aspects of staying safe: not meeting, not accepting unknown files, knowing what is reliable information and telling adults about worries. These concepts are taught in computing lessons as well as in our assemblies. More information and fun activities about e-safety can be found on www.kidsmart.org.uk and www.childnet.com.

Other useful links can also be found on the Online Safety part of the Magdalen Gates website.

Start of Term Information/Reminders

The first part of the day is very important as it helps teachers ‘set the tone’ for learning. With this in mind, we would be very grateful if you could support us by ensuring that your child arrives on time and by encouraging them to line up calmly in the playground.

Minutes late each day during the school year	...is equivalent to missing
5	3.4 days
10	6.9 days
15	10.3 days
20	13.8 days
30	20.7 days

Pupil Premium

Pupil premium is a government grant which is allocated to schools based on the number of children eligible for free school meals and the number of looked after children. Schools are entitled to spend their allocated Pupil Premium grant in a way they think will best support the raising of attainment and achievement of these children. We go to great lengths to ensure that no child eligible for pupil premium funding is “singled out”. Other pupils in the school are completely unaware of who receives this extra funding. Please note, this is different to universal free school meals which all children in Reception, Y1 and Y2 are entitled to.

WOW Awards



In the last newsletter we mentioned all the pupils who took part in the PE Tapestry Challenge set over the summer holidays. All the children received their certificates in our celebration assembly. We forgot to mention that Viktor (Yr2) had also completed the PE Tapestry challenge, but Viktor has now received his Certificate too. I received more WOW nominations last week..... please keep them coming in! Freddie in (Yr4), for completing the Reading Challenge Book over the summer and was nominated by his mum. Also, Lila’s (Yr1) Grandad emailed me saying she had won 5 medals and a trophy at a recent gymnastics championship. WOW moments to celebrate – Well done everyone!



Spotlight on Mr Seaman – Caretaker

I am Mike the Caretaker of Magdalen Gates Primary School and I have worked here for 22 very enjoyable years.

I am here to ensure that the school is clean and tidy at all times and safe and secure ready for the children and parents when they arrive at school.



Diary Dates.....

Wed 26 th	3:30pm	All	Destination Reader meeting for all parents
Fri 28 th	8:30-9:15	All Parents	Tapestry Drop-in. For any queries, problems or log-in issues please pop by at the office where Mrs Welch will be happy to help/advise
	9am	All Parents	Macmillan Coffee morning – ALL WELCOME
	10am-1:30pm	Yr4	Millennium Library workshop
		Yr3	How Hill Deposit deadline
		EYFS-Yr5	Flu Vaccine consent forms return
Mon 1 st Oct	9-12pm	EYFS-Yr5	School Nursing Team – Flu vaccination
Wed 3 rd	9-11am	Yr6	Wellbeing Workshop
	9-10am	Yr1	Yr1 Autumn Café – Parents/carers welcome
Thr 4 th	9:20am	Yr4	Yr4 Autumn Café – Parents/carers welcome
	3:30-5pm	By invite	Mag Gates Football Team – Away at George White Sch
Fri 5 th	8:30-9:15	All Parents	Tapestry Drop-in. For any queries, problems or log-in issues please pop by at the office where Mrs Welch will be happy to help/advise