



MJS NEWS



‘Curious Children Growing Massive Minds’

Autumn Term

Number 1

26th September 2017

Welcome to the first newsletter of the academic year. We hope you all had good summer holiday and it has been lovely to see the children start the year in such a positive frame of mind and with a smile on their face.

These newsletters will give you a glimpse of some of the activities that take place during the school day, as well as during extra-curricular time.

School Values

At MJS, we have 6 school values that we try to embed in our school community throughout the year. Each half-term, a new value becomes a focus and is discussed and practised, with children earning certificates each week for showing examples of this value. Each value has a character to represent it, which can be found around school. This term's value is **responsibility**. Children will have discussed the type of behaviours that would be seen as being a responsible member of the class and the school community.



As well as being used in school, we encourage children and parents to use these values in social situations and at clubs.

House Championship

This year, there will be increased opportunity for children to work together in house teams. Each half term, there will be a winning house in the following areas:

- Attendance - the house with the highest attendance
- Merit points - the house with the most merit points
- Values - the house that has been awarded the most value certificates
- Sport - the house that wins a half-termly sports competition.



At the end of the year, the house that wins the most points will enjoy a large prize at the end of the year, to be decided by the school council.

Maidenbower Mile

Two weeks ago, the first Maidenbower Mile took place, as part of the first event of the House Championship. Every child that took part earned a point, with runners finishing in the top 20 earning 5 points, with additional points for 5th, 4th, 3rd, 2nd and 1st place.



Here are the results:

Year 3: 1st = Jack S (6 mins 58) 2nd = Connor S 3rd = Joshua J

1st = Jessica M (7 mins 20) 2nd = Ellie-May F 3rd = Tasia M

Year 3 winners = **Missen**

Year 4: 1st = Charlie M (6 mins 54) 2nd = Hayden 3rd = Josh L

1st = Skye M () 2nd = Liera M 3rd = Emily P

Year 4 winners = **Ivory**

Year 5: 1st = Matthew A (6 mins 05) 2nd = Cayden E 3rd = Jake N

1st = Rihannon D (7 mins 14) 2nd = Florie W 3rd = Eloise S

Year 5 winners = **Hyde**

Year 6: 1st = Jack M (5mins 44) 2nd = Dylan S 3rd = Alfie W

1st = Stephanie S (6 mins 21) 2nd = Tilly M 3rd = Amelia A

Year 6 winners = **Ivory**

All of the results added together gave the following standings:

1 IVORY = 4 championship points

2 MISSEN = 3 championship points

3 HYDE = 2 championship points

4 LOWE = 1 championship point

Life in Year 6

Year 6 went to the Hawth last week to take part in a Junior Citizenship event.

"There were lots of different rescue services there, such as the police, ambulance, life-guards and fire service. We learnt about safety when near the sea, safety when near train tracks, as well as electrical safety. We learnt about stranger danger and what to do if a stranger came up to us. It was really interesting and useful."

(Lara and Mason, 6JD)



Life in Year 5

The children in Year 5 have settled in to their new classes in the first few weeks of term.

“We have made new friends, as well as still having our old friends with us. We have new methods of learning and experience different ways of teaching.”

“ We went into the woods to experience what it would be like to live and survive in the woods, similar to the story of Kensuke's Kingdom. We made journey sticks out of twigs, leaves and pine cones, and made miniature dens too. It was fun!”

(Haitham and Eloise, 5KL)



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Life in Year 4

Last week, Year 4 children took part in a Virtual Reality experience, as part of their topic on Space.



“ At the start, we took off into space. It was great as it felt like we were on a rollercoaster. We could see different moons. We learnt that if we took water away from Earth, it would be like Mars. We could live on Mars and plant trees and build house there.”

(Lui and Katie, 4BM)

Life in Year 3

The children have been learning about the local area, as part of their topic, 'Decisions, Decisions'.

“We are really enjoying this school. We have got to know lots of new children and teachers. We have been to the shops and looked at how things are built. The councillor came in to tell us about the town hall being knocked down.” (Lily and Jamie, 3OC)

However, the children had different views about the town hall:

Lily: “I want it to be knocked down because it is now old and the flats will be new. They can hold meetings at schools instead.”

Jamie: “I think the town hall should stay because the building has a lot of history.”

Year 3 are visiting the town hall this week to help make up their mind.



Sporting dates

Throughout the year, our sporting teams will be taking part in a number of competitions. Most Crawley competitions take place on a Thursday afternoon. Here are this term's dates so far, with more likely to be added.

Thursday 28th September - Year 4 Tag Rugby Festival

Thursday 5th October - Girls Football District Cup

Thursday 12th October - Year 5 and 6 Tag Rugby Festival

Thursday 19th October - Boys Football District Cup

Thursday 2nd November - Year 5 and 6 Cross-country

Thursday 9th November - Year 5 and 6 Quicksticks Hockey

Thursday 30th November - High 5 Netball

Monday 4th December - Girls Football League

Thursday 7th December - Boys Football League

Friday 8th December - Year 5 and 6 Netball

Piano/Keyboard Tuition in School

Here is an exciting opportunity for pupils from years 3 to 6 to learn to play piano or keyboard with our teacher, Mr Kempshall. These lessons are provided by West Sussex Music and are either available as 20-minute or 30-minute individual lessons, as well as group lessons (keyboard only).

Music making is a creative activity where both sides of the brain connect to create new pathways, and scientific research shows that this enhances many other skills, including listening, concentration, hand-eye coordination, reading and multi-tasking. We also have a lot of fun in our lessons while we learn!

As well as tuition, the children have the opportunity to participate in group activities at Crawley Music Centre at Hazelwick School on a Saturday morning, where they can progress from beginner level right through to advanced, and perform in concerts each term.

To apply for lessons, please visit www.westsussexmusic.co.uk and contact dam.kempshall@westsussexmusic.co.uk with any questions you may have.



Junior Leadership Team

The Junior Leadership Team is the new name for the School Council. The JLT will consist of a member of each class in the school and will take an increasing role in coming up with ideas to improve the school. The representatives of the JLT will be named next week and one of their first tasks will be to choose charities to raise money for this year.

Upper School merit badges

Children will continue to earn merit points throughout the year, but there is a change to merit badges in Years 5 and 6. Rather than being awarded a bronze, silver and gold badge, children will be awarded charity badges at the same milestones of 25, 50 and 75 house points. The badges are from these charities:

- Make A Wish
- Cancer Research UK
- Great Ormond Street Hospital
- RSPB