

Upcoming Events

As you can see from the list below this is a very busy time of year within school and there are lots of exciting events planned for all the children.

October

Friday 19th October School Closes
 Monday 29th October Teacher Training Day 2
 Tuesday 30th October School opens

November

Wk beginning 12th November National anti-bullying week
 Friday 16th November Non-uniform – Children in Need £1

December

Friday 7th December FoMV Christmas Fair
 Wednesday 12th December KSI Puzzled Penguin production, younger children welcome, 1.30pm
 Thursday 13th December KSI Puzzled Penguin production, adults only, 1.30pm (please note change of time)
 Monday 17th December “Puss in Boots” Pantomime, pm
 Tuesday 18th December Nursery Christmas party am, no Nursery pm
 Tuesday 18th December Christmas Dinner
 Tuesday 18th December Y6 Hampers to Russell Gardens, pm
 Wednesday 19th December Christmas carol service, 9.15am
 Thursday 20th December Non-uniform, party & toy day
 Thursday 20th December School closes
 Friday 21st December Teacher training day 3
January
 Monday 7th January School opens



Friends of Mersey Vale (FoMV)

Our Friends of Mersey Vale (FoMV) group provides practical and financial support to school through organising fundraising and social events. Many of the things which we do would not be possible without the support of the group.

We are really keen to involve more parents and welcome everyone to come along to the next meeting on **Monday 5th November at 2.45pm** when we will be planning the Christmas Fair. We will also be holding a book sale on Wednesday 7th November – proceeds will go towards purchasing items for the Tombola for the Christmas Fair.

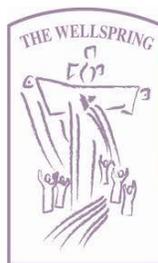


FoMV Christmas Fair: Friday 7th December 9 – 10.30am

We hope to see you all at this important fund-raising event and that you will support school by sending in items to sell, buying raffle tickets, donating prizes or offering to help with setting up or running the event. This event is at risk if we do not get enough parent helpers.

Thank you!

A HUGE thank you to all those parents, carers, staff and friends of Mersey Vale who spent time in the kitchen baking delicious cakes and a MASSIVE thank you to all of you who came to school to support our Macmillan Cancer Support coffee morning in October. We raised a fabulous **£820** for this wonderful charity!



Thank you also to those of you who generously sent in items for our harvest collection. The tins, packets and jars of food will be used to provide meals for those in need in Stockport via The Wellspring.

National Anti-bullying Week: 12– 16 November

This year the national theme of anti-bullying week is “Choose Respect.” At Mersey Vale we are going to promote anti-bullying week in a very positive way, by highlighting the importance of respect which links with one of our Golden Rules, ‘We are respectful of ourselves and others.’ Each class will take part in activities during the week which will build upon our Restorative Approaches work and focus upon enabling children to develop positive relationships, tolerance, respect and understanding of each other. Children can show their support by buying an anti-bullying wristband, pencil or ruler for 50p each from the school office (limited stock).



As a school we have high expectations of behaviour, take incidents of poor behaviour seriously and do not tolerate bullying. We think it is important for children to be aware of issues around bullying and be involved in preventing bullying within school.

The school Anti-Bullying Policy which is based upon Stockport Local Authority’s model policy can be found on our website in the ‘Policies’ section. Bullying is defined as ‘Behaviour by an individual or a group, usually repeated over time, where an imbalance of power is used to intentionally hurt another either physically or emotionally.’



School Admissions – Important Dates

Admission	Birth dates	Online application closing date	Offer date
Consideration for Nursery – January 2019	1/9/2015– 31/12/2015	31/10/2018	Late November 2018
Consideration for Nursery – April 2019	1/9/2015– 31/3/2016	15/2/2019	Late February 2019
Nursery – September 2019	1/9/2015 – 31/8/2016	31/3/2019	17/5/2019
Reception – September 2019	1/9/2014 – 31/8/2015	15/1/2019	16/4/2019
Secondary School – Sept 2019	1/9/2007 – 31/8/2008	31/10/2018	1/3/2019

Details of how to apply can be found on the school [website](#).

A few reminders...



Please make sure that your child wears a coat and appropriate shoes to school especially during colder and wet weather. It is also important that children have a warm navy/ black top and jogging pants/track-suit

bottoms or similar suitable for outdoor PE during the winter months.

Our PE kit contains a T shirt, shorts and pump bag for only £12. As with all uniform sold in school, we charge for items on a not-for-profit basis. An optional special PE ‘hoodie’ is available for £12.25.



We would appreciate parental support in buying the PE kit for all children as this creates an excellent impression when we have inter-school events and ensures all of our children look very smart and feel part of ‘Team Mersey Vale!’ Note that although we do have small stocks of uniform in school, we usually have to buy garments in to order. Therefore it is important to plan ahead or to buy from a local supplier.

We will send text messages and put information on the school website if it is ever necessary for school to close due to snow. **It is vital though that we have your current mobile number so if you get a new number please let the school office know straight away.**

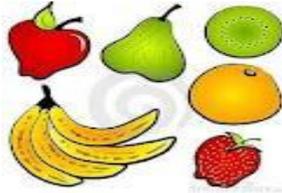


Dinner Money

For Year 3 – Year 6 children only. Dinner money is £2.15 per day/ £10.75 per week which must be paid in advance to ensure that your child receives their school meal. Please make payments using [Parentpay](#). Meals can be paid for in advance for the half term 30th October – 20th December = 38 days = £81.70. Please see Mrs. Ahmed in the school office for any information about school dinners. She is available Monday – Friday 8.45am – 12.45pm.

Healthy Snacks

At Mersey Vale we have a system of healthy snacks for children to have at morning break. On offer each day are items such as wholemeal toast, yoghurts, pieces of fresh fruit, cereal bars, bread sticks, raisins, fruit juice drinks, water etc. The price of snacks is 25p per item and this should be paid using Parentpay. Most children have two items each day (snack and drink) and this costs £2.50 per week. The cost of snacks for this half term for those of you who prefer to pay it in full in advance is £19.00. Children who prefer to bring their own snack may bring healthy items but chocolate biscuits, crisps, sweets and fizzy drinks must not be brought as snacks. Snacks from home should be taken into class and stored in your child's tray until playtime. Please help your child to make healthy choices.



Trainee Teachers

At Mersey Vale we work in partnership with Manchester University to provide placements for trainee teachers. They work under the guidance of experienced staff and they are monitored by a mentor and a tutor. This half term Miss Hayes will be teaching in Y1 and Mr. Gregson will be teaching in Y4. Please do say "hello" to them.

Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA)

As a school which prides itself on the way that we work in partnership with our families we have been working towards achieving the Leading Parent Partnership Award since 2016. We had an interim assessment last term and received a positive outcome with everything 'on track' to achieve the Award very soon.



End of Term Production

Our Reception, Y1 and Y2 children will soon begin rehearsing for our end of term production. This year they will be performing "The Puzzled Penguin". This show will involve children learning scripts and songs and it is a really important way of meeting requirements of the National Curriculum for English, Music and Physical Education (dance). We hope that parents/ carers will support children to learn their parts at home and help with costumes if necessary. We will send out information about tickets for the show soon.



As you will have noticed in our annual school calendar of events our Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6 children will do a production towards the end of the school year in July 2019. Something to look forward to!

Christmas Dinner

The children will be having a special Christmas lunch in school on Tuesday 18th December. If your child has a packed lunch you may like to pack them a few special surprises in their lunch box. If your child usually has a packed lunch but would like to have a Christmas dinner (turkey, vegetarian or vegan option) please let the office know and pay £2.15 by Monday 10th December.



Christmas Parties

Nursery	Tuesday 18 th December - 9.15am until 11.45am No afternoon nursery.
Rest of school	Thursday 20 th December. Your child can wear their choice of clothes on party day. Our school cooks will provide party food instead of the normal school lunch. Children who have a school meal should pay as usual and we'd like children who normally have a packed lunch to bring party treats e.g. crisps, cakes, drinks on that day instead of their usual food. Everyone will then be able to share the party food.



Christmas Carol Service

We will be having our traditional Christmas Carol Service on Wednesday 19th December. Parents, carers, grandparents and friends are welcome to join us in the school hall at 9.10am to sing carols and festive songs and we will also be presenting children with end of Autumn term awards.

Christmas Treat

We have arranged a treat for all pupils Reception – Y6 for the afternoon of Monday 17th December when we will watch a “Puss in Boots” pantomime by a visiting theatre group.

Respect Charter

At Mersey Vale we believe staff, parents and children are entitled to a safe and protective environment in which to learn and work. We strive to ensure that our school offers a warm and nurturing environment. All members of the school community and visitors should demonstrate mutual respect. To feel safe and work together and use restorative approaches as the foundation of our practice. Any behaviour that may lead to feelings of harassment, alarm or distress to members of our community, will not be tolerated and action taken. All schools in Stockport have recently been issued with a [Respect Charter](#) which is endorsed by our Local Authority and various unions. You can find further information about this on our website by clicking the above link.

As always if there is anything that you need to know or would like to discuss please come to see us or your child's class teacher.

Yours faithfully,

Handwritten signature of Mrs. J. Mullane in black ink.

Mrs. J. Mullane
Headteacher

Handwritten signature of Ms. C. Varetto in black ink.

Ms. C. Varetto
Deputy Headteacher