



LEARNING

MAKING PROGRESS

We were delighted that the national league tables for primary schools published last week show the progress being made in the Quality of Education at Melton. In 2019, the number of Melton children leaving year 6 working at the expected standard was in-line with the national average for the first time in over three years. This reflects the hard work being done by our teachers and the fantastic learning attitudes of the children. We also want to thank all parents for their support in helping us to make these improvements. We recognise there is more work to do but we are delighted to see the efforts of all concerned being rewarded.

CELEBRATING LEARNING

We have enjoyed a fabulous response to our recent topic celebration events. All four sessions were well attended and enjoyed by parents and grandparents. We hope you enjoyed sharing your child's learning and knowing more about the exciting curriculum we are delivering at Melton.



The children have been telling us how much they have enjoyed their new topics and we are also keen to hear your thoughts. Please See Saw the class

teachers to tell them how you feel the children have responded to the new curriculum and whether or not this is inspiring their learning and encouraging them to read more often.

WRAP AROUND LEARNING

Our revamped before and after school club is proving even more popular than we expected. Now based in the Rainbow Room, each session follows a theme which the children have selected. They are enjoying activities including a wide range of crafts. For next half-term the children have chosen the following themes...

- Chinese New Year
- Building Competition
- Origami
- Pom Pom Animals/Mini Beasts

SHARING CHRISTMAS CHEER

The school choir has been very busy over the last couple of weeks entertaining the local community with a programme of Christmas songs and carols, reinforcing the importance of community cohesion, especially at this time of year. Their engagements included the Melton Fete celebration at the Parish office, The Woodbridge intergenerational Party and performance at Woodbridge Lodge Care Home.



PARENT INVOLVEMENT

CHRISTMAS CHAT

Thank you to all parents (and grandparents) who joined myself and Mrs Hancock for a hot chocolate and mince pie on **Wednesday 11th December**. We enjoyed having the opportunity to meet you all and we hope you enjoyed the festive quiz.

FRIENDS OF MELTON SCHOOL

Thank you to all families who supported the FOMS Christmas Fair. School was very busy on the evening with lots of exciting stalls and activities. The event raised over £750 which will be used to enhance the provision we deliver at Melton.

CHRISTMAS CHARITY

Thank you for helping us to support our chosen Christmas Charity, the Ipswich Children's Appeal. Colchester & Ipswich Hospitals Charity has launched a fundraising appeal to help raise the £2.5m needed to build a new-look children's department at Ipswich Hospital and transform the experience of its young patients and their families. Staff want to create a modern, welcoming and child-friendly environment fit for the 21st century, with improved facilities for patients and their families or carers. You can find out more about how to support the appeal by visiting their website.



<http://www.colchesteripswichcharity.org.uk/childrensappeal/>

EVENTS & SCHOOL NEWS

MRS THORNTON

I am sure you will join me in congratulating Mrs Thornton who has accepted a new job starting after Easter. Mrs Thornton will work with the University training teachers across Suffolk. This is one of her passions and she is delighted to have secured the role. Mrs Thornton has been a very valuable member of Melton School and will be missed by all the children and staff.

Unfortunately, she is currently off work until the end of January due to a hip operation. However, she will then be running around on her bionic joint through February and March.

GOVERNOR NEWS

The Governing Body currently has an Interim Chair. Jane Reed is fulfilling the role until a new chair is elected at the end of January. Pip Alder is the Interim Vice-chair during this period.

SCHOOL STARTERS 2020

A final reminder that applications for new school places in 2020 (Reception class) need to be submitted by **Wednesday 15th January 2020**. Applications should be completed online via the Suffolk County Council website. If you need any support applying, please contact the school office. **All children who need a school place in 2020 must apply.** Having a sibling in school will not mean they automatically receive a place at Melton.

SEVERE WEATHER PLAN

School will only be closed in extreme circumstances based on a health and safety assessment. It may also be necessary on some occasions to delay the opening time to ensure we have sufficient staffing to supervise the children. For both occurrences, information will be posted on the Suffolk County Council school closures website: <https://schoolclosures.suffolk.gov.uk/>

Notices will also be shared via local radio stations, class See Saw pages, the school Twitter account and the school website. If no information is broadcast, school is open as normal.

On behalf of the staff and governors, I would like to wish you all a 'Merry Christmas' and we look forward to working with you in 2020.



Alun Davies
Headteacher

School re-opens for Spring Term
on **Monday 6th January 2020**

**We would like to wish all our
families a very.....**

