

LEARNING

INSPIRED AND INSPIRING

The children have returned to school with positive attitudes to learning. All the classes have started their new topics and have already been involved in some exciting activities. All the topics are linked to the class texts. You should have received a class leaflet which summarises the learning for this term.



Robins celebrated Chinese New Year with a selection of fun learning tasks.



Puffins and Parrots opened their 'All About Me' topic with a sensory experience morning in the hall where they investigated taste, smell, sound, sight and touch.



This was followed by a 'dress as a famous medic day'. We saw some fantastic costumes and the children had learnt facts about their famous person to share with the class.



They have also been on class visits to Woodbridge Library to listen to stories and borrow books, and Airborne Fitness for a child-friendly aerobics session.

Eagles and Woodpeckers opened their topic with a role play day adventure to the rainforest. Today Eagles are visiting BT at Adastral Park for a Programming workshop

Penguins and Woodpeckers introduced their new 'Wild' topic with a survival day in Melton Woods. Penguins have also been working hard on their guitars ready for their performance at Snape Maltings in March.



PUPIL VOICE

Melton now has a Student Council. Twelve children from across school have been elected by the classes to represent their voice on the new council. Our introductory meeting took place last week to elect the officers. Annie, Phoebe and Barnaby (all year 6) were selected as Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary respectively. The council will meet at least once a month to discuss items related to changes and developments in school. Next week the council will meet to discuss the new lunchtime menu.

Student Council Representatives:

Annie Beaven	Barnaby Alder	Charlie French
Phoebe Duffin	Livia Batka	Harriet McCart
Emily Cormack	Amber Needs	Ivy Bouabdallah
Georgia Daley	Edward McCart	Dylan Quigley

SPORTING SUCCESS

We had our first county level success last week. The girls' Under 11 football team, having won the Copleston area tournament in October to qualify for the county finals, were again very impressive winning the bronze medal and third place in Suffolk. This is an amazing achievement for the girls and the school.



We recently entered teams in the under 9 and under 11 Dodgeball festivals. Although these were not 'competitive' events, both teams performed exceptionally well winning

many games. To 'cap-off' their fine performances both teams won the '@fair Play' Awards. This is further recognition of the fantastic attitudes our children have which makes us very proud.



NATURE WATCH

Our children are getting involved in the Big Bird Watch. Thanks to the generous donation by Thurlow Nunn Standen Ltd of bird feeders and food, our children have set-up a bird watching area in the trees next to the playground and are completing a daily watch.



PARENT INVOLVEMENT

STAY AND READ

Thank you to all the Puffin and Parrot parents who joined the children for their 'Stay and Read' session this week. Robins parents were invited to an 'open classroom' yesterday afternoon to look at their child's Learning Journal and talk about the learning so far this year. We recognise the value of supporting your children with their learning and hope these sessions help you to talk about their learning at home.



SCHOOL MEALS

Our Chinese New Year menu proved to be very popular on Tuesday with over 100 children taking up the offer of a meal. Feedback from the children was very positive.

We are now working with Edwards and Blake to develop the Spring and Summer menu. I will be discussing the options with our Student Council next week but would like some feedback from parents on a proposal made to have 'Meat Free Mondays'. If you would like to express your opinion on us having a vegetarian day each week, please email me your thoughts.

head@melton.suffolk.sch.uk

Edwards and Blake require a **new Catering Assistant** to work in our school kitchen. The role would be from 11am to 2pm Monday to Friday and would require; setting out of tables, serving lunches, washing-up and cleaning. The current hourly rate is £8.21 (increasing in April 2020).

For more details or to express an interest, please contact Rachel Parker on 07776185838 or email rparker@edwardsandblake.co.uk

PARENTS' EVENINGS

Bookings will open before half-term for parents' evenings on **Wednesday 4th and Thursday 5th March**. A link will be sent through each class See Saw and will be available via the school website. All appointments for these meetings will take place in the school hall. Access will be through the main school entrance.

PARENT GOVERNOR NEEDED

Our Governing Body have one vacancy for a Parent Governor. A letter containing further information and a nomination form will be sent home next week. If you would like to discuss the role in more detail, please contact; Chair of Governors, Nick Wellington nick.wellington@melton.suffolk.sch.uk or parent governor Pip Alder pip.alder@melton.suffolk.sch.uk

POP-IN FOR PANCAKES

Parents, grandparents and friends are invited to join us on Shrove Tuesday (**Tuesday 25th February**) at 9am for pancakes served by the new Student Council. This will also be an opportunity to discuss school developments with the Leadership Team.

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE FOR FREE SCHOOLS MEALS

Since the introduction of the Universal Free Meals for children in Reception, Year One and Year Two, some families have missed out in applying for Free School Meals. This is now an online process

www.suffolk.gov.uk/children-families-and-learning/schools/school-meals-uniforms-and-trips/apply-for-free-school-meals/

When you apply through the portal, the system will generate an immediate automatic email informing you whether you are eligible for Free School Meals.

Eligibility will ensure your child receives free school meals when they are in Key Stage 2. They will also qualify for Pupil Premium Grant Funding which is used to enhance their learning and free milk. You will also receive the Melton School voucher which can be used to subsidise any spending in school including uniform and school trips.

KEEP US UP TO DATE

If you make any changes to your phone numbers or email address, please let the office know. It is important that we have the correct contact information in case of an emergency.

FRIENDS OF MELTON SCHOOL

FOMS have recently purchased forty new fold-up adult chairs which we will use for events in school. The outdoor reading shelter being purchased by the group is due to be built during the Easter holiday.

KEEPING SAFE

A number of cars continue to park in the bus layby next to school. This is a bus only bay and any cars parked can be issued with a fixed penalty notice. However, and more importantly, parking here is putting the children's safety at risk. We had an incident this week when a car drove across the path narrowly missing a child.

ONLINE LEARNING FOR PARENTS

Suffolk County Council are offering some free online Solihull courses for Suffolk residents. These courses are for parents, parents-to-be and carers.

Understanding your child' for parents of children aged 0 – 18 years old

- Understanding pregnancy, birth and your baby
- Understanding your baby
- The teenage brain

The course 'Understanding your child' for parents of children aged 0 – 18 years old includes finding out about your child's brain development and how it affects behaviour. It helps you understand more about why your child behaves a certain way when they are angry, having a temper tantrum or trouble sleeping. You will also learn the importance of playing for your child's development.

The sessions include:

- interactive activities
- quizzes
- video clips
- practical handouts
- other parents' views
- ideas to try with your children
- summaries

Consisting of 13 Modules, most taking about 20 minutes, the course can be done at a time and place that suits you and fits into your family life.

The Modules:

- How your child develops
- Understanding how your child is feeling
- Tuning into what your child needs
- Responding to how your child is feeling
- Different styles of parenting
- Having fun together
- The rhythm of interaction
- Why is sleep important?
- Self-regulation and anger
- Communication and tuning in
- Looking back and looking forwards

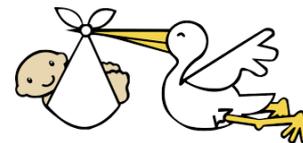
You will be able to write down your comments and thoughts in a notebook, which you can download as well as information sheets which you can keep to refer back to. You can also revisit the course at any time

To access the courses visit www.inourplace.co.uk to create an account and enter the code: WOLSEY

EVENTS & SCHOOL NEWS

IMPENDING ARRIVAL

I am delighted to announce that our Family Support Worker, Nikki Whinney, is due to have her third child in May. Mrs Whinney will be starting her maternity leave in April and we will notify you of cover arrangements soon. I'm sure you will join me in wishing her well.



TIME TO SAY GOODBYE

Mrs Patsy Fosker will be retiring from Melton at Easter after more than twenty years working in the school. I have received a lovely letter from her about her time at the school... "I'm lucky enough to have such special memories of the children...they have brought smiles to my face every day...the whole Melton Family is very unique and I will miss it dearly." Mrs Fosker has already planned some exciting travels and is looking forward to spending more time with her growing family. I know many of you would join me in thanking her for the outstanding contribution she has made to Melton School.

GOVERNOR NEWS

The Governing Body has a new Chair, Nick Wellington. Nick has been a long-standing member of the governing body. The governors would like to thank Jane Reed for fulfilling the role in an interim capacity until a new chair was elected.. Katy Martin (Finance) and Hayley Bloss (Standards and Achievement) are the co-Vice Chairs.

WORLD BOOK DAY

We will be celebrating World Book Day on **Thursday 5th March**. However, we **will not** be asking the children to dress as a book character. Full details of how we are going to celebrate the day will be sent home before half-term.

HOLIDAY SPORTS CLUB

Inspire Suffolk will again be using Melton to host a one-day sports camp during the February half-term holiday. Full details are provided in an Inspire leaflet which should have arrived home.



Remember to contact me at any time if you have something you would like to discuss. I am outside most days or can be contacted via email:

head@melton.suffolk.sch.uk

Alun Davies
Headteacher

IMPORTANT DATES

February

Friday 14 th	School closes for half term
Wednesday 19 th	Inspire Suffolk Sports Camp
Monday 24 th	School re-opens
Tuesday 25 th	Pop-in for Pancakes

March

Wednesday 4 th	Parents' Evenings
Thursday 5 th	Parents' Evenings
Thursday 5 th	World Book Day
Friday 14 th	Sport Relief
Monday 30 th	Year 6 Residential

April

Friday 3 rd	School closes for Easter holiday
Monday 20 th	School re-opens for Summer Term