



The Misbourne Families' Bulletin

15.03.21

Welcome to our Families' Bulletin for week commencing 15 March 2021. For more details regarding any of the information below, please click on the links or visit our website [here](#).



Headteacher's message

A school is not a school when the corridors and outside spaces are not filled with the sound of children's voices and it has been so lovely to hear those sounds again this week.

All year groups have settled back into their routines well and we have been very proud at the calm way in which they have adapted back into the rhythm of school and to the additional Covid control measures we have put in place. Some students have found this more difficult but I know that our excellent school base staff, form tutors, SEND and safeguarding teams have been providing them with the support and reassurance that they need.

The lateral flow testing the Government asked us to undertake has gone very smoothly. I have been so impressed with all of the students who have taken part. This week our staff and volunteers have conducted almost 2,000 tests and I am very grateful to them for carrying out this mammoth task with

such care and professionalism. Students will have their third and final test in school on either Monday or Tuesday - please remember to register their barcodes for this test as you have done previously. After this, students who are participating in testing will bring test kits home to carry out home testing. We will send out more information about this early next week.

On Thursday 18 March, we are looking forward to hosting our **Making the Grade Evening** for our **Year 9 students** and their families. As with everything at the moment, this will be a virtual event, which will take place over Microsoft Teams. This event will provide families the opportunity to interact live with teachers to talk about what students will be learning for the remainder of this year and how they can best be supported at home. I very much hope that as many families as possible are able to join us from 5.15pm on 18 March.

I expect that many students are feeling quite tired after their first few days back on site - it's a lot to take in after so many weeks at home. I wish them all a relaxing weekend and look forward to seeing everyone back refreshed on Monday morning.

With best wishes,

Jo Meloni

Whole school notices

Week commencing 15.03.21 is timetable week A.

Attendance

At The Misbourne we believe that 'anything is possible' and if your child attends school every day, they are maximising their chances of extraordinary success.

Every student should be **aiming to attend school every single day**. Missed days or parts of days can, over time, impact your child's chances of success; cause worry about falling behind their peers; impact friendship groups and reduce the opportunities for your child to develop softer, work-related skills due to missing out on the broader curriculum offer.

Coming out of lockdown is an opportunity to start each week afresh. We would love every child to be aiming for 100% attendance each week and for every week they do, not only will they feel much more on top of their work but they will also gain valuable points for their smaller school. With the school achievement points being so closely fought in this inaugural year of our new four schools, this could make a big difference to the current standings!

If your child is unwell or unable to attend lessons for any other exceptional or unavoidable reason, please let us know in advance in the usual way each morning (by emailing attendance@themisbourne.co.uk). For all other correspondence about your child, please continue to use the relevant school base email account so we can achieve consistency and clarity of communication.

Covid-19 information update

Covid-19 home testing

Students in Year 10-13 who have participated in the lateral flow tests in school will receive an At Home testing kit after their third test on Monday (see picture below for what they look like). Full information about how to conduct these tests will be emailed to families on Monday. Similarly, students in Years 7-9 will receive their home testing kits after their third test in school on Tuesday, when information will also be emailed to their families.



Please may we remind families that if your child has tested positive for Covid-19 within 90 days they should not participate in asymptomatic testing (eg at home lateral flow testing) during the 90 days following their positive test.

All information and guidance relating to Covid-19 in our school environment is in the [Covid-19 Information Hub](#) on our website.

Lockdown Heroes Competition Winners

Thank you to all the students who entered our Lockdown Heroes Competition. The standard of entries was very high and the student judges had a tough time choosing between them. However, we are delighted to announce that the winners were:

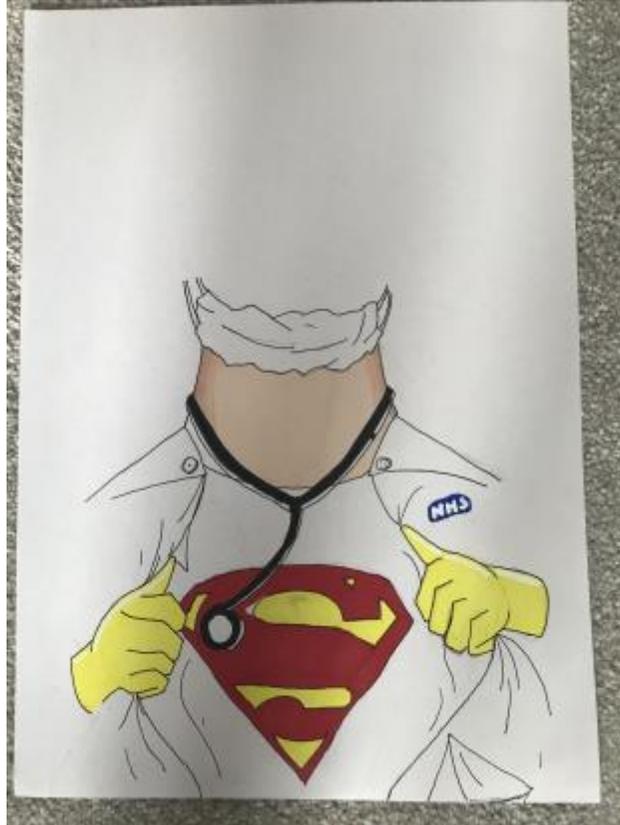
1st place: Will in 7NA for his Superman image

2nd place: Katie (7KS) and James (7KP) for their cupcake design

3rd place: Emily (9LC) for her Lockdown Heroes poster

Congratulations to all of you - and well done on earning valuable achievement points for your smaller schools.





Skills and Careers Information

A New Skills Website for Buckinghamshire

The new [Bucks Skills Hub website](https://BucksSkillsHub.org) has been launched this week – a one-stop shop for all skills and career-related advice in Buckinghamshire for **adults and students**. This website is the first of its kind in Buckinghamshire and is designed to inspire, support and inform career seekers, career changers and educators. The website highlights job possibilities in key sectors across Buckinghamshire and shows 1000s of live jobs. It is also full of the latest resources and advice on career choices, skills development and recruitment, as well as redundancy support.



Wellbeing

Supporting your child's mental health

Witherslack Group has put together a series of webinars designed to help parents support their child's mental health. The webinars are pre-recorded so you can watch them at your own pace. To register to receive a link to these resources, please [click here](#).

Year group-specific notices

YEAR 9

Making the Grade evening: This will take place virtually via Microsoft Teams between 5.15pm — 7.00pm on **Thursday 18 March**. This is a chance for families and students to hear from teachers about the topics that are being studied in Year 9 and how families can help to support students to maximise their chances of success in these subjects. As this is a live event, families will be able to speak directly to teachers during the evening. Families will receive details of their Teams invitation to Making the Grade during 18 March and we hope as many families as possible will be able to join us.

YEAR 13

Arrangements during upcoming assessment weeks:

- Throughout this period, we need to balance Year 13s maximising lesson time with teachers as well as undertaking their assessments in the given schedule. A majority of Year 13s take at least one subject that is completing coursework as well as assessments.
- Students will follow their normal timetable on days they do not have a scheduled assessment, even if lessons are given to guided revision with the teacher present ahead of an assessment. All Year 13 lessons will therefore be run throughout the assessment weeks.
- On their assessment days, **Year 13s only need to arrive to attend their first assessment of the day**. This is because the assessments can't align with the Sixth Form timetable and breaks, so they would not receive a break before starting a lengthy assessment. They are welcome to arrive earlier to attend form time and study rooms.
- Depending on when students' assessment finish in the day, students are then free to take a short break. This may need to be using the given study rooms if it misses a Sixth Form break. They are then asked to **attend any remaining lessons of the day**.
- A separate Year 13 study room is being provided throughout this period.
- **Year 13 music students** will be completing their large 50-hour performance assessment off timetable on Monday 19 - Thursday 22 April.

Student Finance information:

- This week students attended a session linked to ambassador Georgie from the University of Plymouth. [Click here](#) for the information sheet from the session.
- **Student Finance England** is now open for applications for September 2021. Students and families are advised to apply as soon as possible (even if a student does not know which university they are heading to). The process can take up to six weeks and for families with irregular income there can be a bit more paperwork involved as some parts of student finance are means-tested. The school is not normally involved in student finance applications, which are between students, families and Student Finance England ([Student finance login - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)), unless there are exceptional circumstances. However if you are getting stuck do drop a line to sixthform@themisbourne.co.uk in case we can assist in pointing you in the right direction.



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www.themisbourne.co.uk

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