



# The Misbourne Families' Bulletin

## 17.05.21

Welcome to our Families' Bulletin for week commencing 17 May 2021. For more details regarding any of the information below, please click on the links or visit our website [here](#).



### Headteacher's message

As Mental Health Awareness Week draws to an end, I think it has given us all some useful time to reflect upon the importance of looking out for ourselves and one another. Two of our Misbourne values are **Kindness** and **Respect** and we encourage our students to demonstrate these values every day, both in how they treat other people and themselves.

The theme of this year's Mental Health Awareness Week has been Nature and the benefits that being in nature can have on our state of mind. If you haven't already, do take a few minutes to watch this short video about how getting out into nature can improve our wellbeing - both physically and mentally. We are fortunate to live amidst beautiful countryside and I hope that many of you are able to enjoy it this weekend (in spite of the weather forecast).

Earlier today, I wrote to all families to provide an update on our guidance around the wearing of face masks following the Government's announcement on Monday. This is outlined again below and a copy of the letter is available [here](#).

I wish everyone a restful weekend.

With best wishes,

**Jo Meloni**



*1 - View from my bike ride last weekend*

## Hot chocolate with the Head

Congratulations to all of this week's Year 8 recipients of Hot Chocolate with the Head. All of them were recognised for the positive contribution they make to the life of The Misbourne, from working hard at their studies to fully engaging with extra-curricular activities. Mrs Barrett, deputising for Ms Meloni, was delighted to hear about what they are currently enjoying in school and what they are looking forward to for the rest of the Summer term.

## Whole school notices

Week commencing 17.05.21 is timetable week B.

### Attendance

If your child is unwell or unable to attend lessons for any other exceptional or unavoidable reason, please let us know by 8.30am in the usual way each morning (by emailing [attendance@themisbourne.co.uk](mailto: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

### Wearing of face masks in school

Following the Government's announcement earlier this week, guidance for secondary schools regarding the wearing of face masks has been updated. The DfE guidance states that:

**From 17 May, in line with Step 3 of the national roadmap, face coverings will no longer be recommended for pupils in classrooms or communal areas in all schools. Face coverings will also no longer be recommended for staff in classrooms.**

**In all schools we continue to recommend that face coverings should be worn by staff and visitors in situations outside of classrooms where social distancing is not possible (for example, when moving around in corridors and communal areas).**

As a result of this update, the adjustments we will be making from Monday 17th are as follows:

1. Face masks will not be mandatory in classrooms. Staff and students will continue to have the option to wear one with if they wish
2. We ask that you still send your child in with a face mask each day, as they **will** be required at times when working more closely with staff, e.g. when working with a TA or 1:1 support from a teacher in lessons and a dividing screen is not available.
3. Staff and students aged 11 and over **must continue** to wear face coverings on dedicated school or public transport. This is also recommended when car sharing.
4. Students do not have to wear face masks in corridors or communal areas as we will be keeping in place our strict start and end of lesson procedures and one-way systems, which help to avoid any overcrowding and face-to-face contact. However, as with all other situations, student can continue to wear a face mask if they wish.
5. Face masks will be compulsory for staff and visitors outside of the classroom, so in communal areas and corridors where social distancing is not possible.
6. Some staff and students are exempt from wearing a face mask, this will still be applicable if working 1:1 so face shields or screens will continue to be used where possible in these instances.

We will continue to follow all our Covid-19 precautions to protect our community. Maintaining social distancing where possible, good hand hygiene and ventilation all remain priorities. We will continue to review the guidance as it changes and will keep you updated accordingly. There will be an update to our risk assessment posted on our website shortly.

### **At home lateral flow testing**

Please continue to ensure that all participating students carry out lateral flow tests twice weekly at home and upload their results onto [www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result](http://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result). Please notify the school immediately if your child receives a positive test result.

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

### **Mud on school coaches**

Our school coach operator, Angel Executive Travel, has informed us that students are walking a great deal of mud onto their coaches at the end of the school day. Not only does this create extra cleaning for them but it inconveniences them moving swiftly onto their next bookings after the school run.

We recognise that, with the inclement weather we have been experiencing lately, the field is muddy when students have PE lessons. Please may we ask that students who travel on school coaches bring a spare pair of shoes in a bag on their PE days to wear home to prevent mud being walked onto the coaches. They will also be asked to line up on the new pavement at the coach park rather than on the field.

### **Duke of Edinburgh Award expeditions**

To all Duke of Edinburgh Award Families,

As you know, we are in the process of setting up this Summer's expeditions at Bronze and Silver levels. Over the course of the next week or so, we hope to be able to confirm dates for these. We shall then need to know whether or not your child will be able to attend so that we can create groups and confirm costings.

We would like to meet all of our Bronze award students at the following dates/times to discuss the expeditions with them:

- Year 9 Bronze - Monday 17th May at 10.10am in the Sports Hall (for 10 minutes)
- Year 10 Bronze - Monday 24th May at 11.10am in the sports hall (for 10 minutes)

Message to our Silver Award students in Year 11 - we shall be in touch with you over the next week once our plans are confirmed, but likewise we need to ascertain how many of you intend to join the expedition programme this term as this will affect groupings and costs.

Many thanks for your ongoing support,  
Mr Tebb & Ms McCarthy(DofE leaders)

## Inter-school competitions

### Diversity competition

Ms Meloni has been so impressed with the standard of entries to her Diversity competition, which closed on Monday. She and the judging panel will now take time to look at all of the entries and will announce the winners shortly. In the meantime, thank you to everyone who entered.

### The Misbourne Bake-Off 2021

A huge thank you and very well done to all the entrants for the inaugural Misbourne Bake Off with the theme of 'Lockdown'. As you can see from the final products, we have some amazing and talented bakers within our school community. Unfortunately, we are not able to allow all participants to move forward to the next round, however achievement points have been awarded to all those that submitted their entry. Many congratulations to all the entrants. Those moving through to the next round are:

Raffy Yr10, Emily Yr9, Jasmine Yr9, Kiera Yr8, Emma Yr8, George Yr11 and Harry Yr8.

Watch this space for further updates on the final round outcomes!

Mrs K Cato

Curriculum Leader, Design Technology, Art and Photography



## Sports Hall update

Work on our new sports centre development is progressing at a pace. Following the completion of the new coach road, work has now begun in earnest on the construction of the sports hall. The area has been cleared and foundations have been dug, as you can see from this short stop motion video.



<https://sway.office.com/GGzlasuEw6CsIFw9#content=0Ux6NShqQ8X9am>

## Careers information

**All About Apprenticeships'** May issue for Parents and Carers is out now. In this issue they look at how to support your child's mental health; myth busting traineeships; T Levels in Health; two apprentice perspective articles; an overview of apprenticeships in furniture and manufacturing and much more. [Click here](#) to read the issue in full.

## Wellbeing

### A message from Holmes' student leaders:

As this week marks mental health week, a vitally important time to raise awareness of mental health issues and to reduce the stigma around them, it seems apt to highlight the work of Holmes' school charity Mind. Mind has been providing mental health support, information and advice for people of all ages since its establishment in 1946. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it has had to adapt to new challenges in order to reach those in need of support, providing its services remotely in online videos, telephone calls, care packages, Facebook groups and newsletters. This has been especially important due to the increasing waiting list for mental health services during the pandemic, echoing Mind's message, "we won't give up until everyone experiencing a mental health problem gets support and respect". As an independent charity responsible for its own funding, the support of The Misbourne and other donors enables the Buckinghamshire branch to tailor its services to the needs of the community. The amazing **£214.70** we raised last half term by our non-uniform day has been contributing to funding a number of essential services.

If you would like to find out more about Mind and mental health awareness week, or access information and support, please click on these links: [bucksmind.org.uk](http://bucksmind.org.uk), [Mental Health Awareness Week](#) and [www.mind.org.uk](http://www.mind.org.uk)

Links to external agencies able to provide advice and assistance on a range of Wellbeing issues are available on our website [here](#).

## Year group-specific notices

### YEAR 7

**Homework schedule:** Please [click here](#) to see the homework timetable for the Summer term.

### YEAR 8

**Homework schedule:** Please [click here](#) to see the homework timetable for the Summer term.

### YEAR 9

**Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award:** All Year 9 Bronze DofE students need to attend a 10-minute meeting in the sports hall on Monday 17 May at 10.10am

### YEAR 10

**Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award:** All Year 10 Bronze DofE students need to attend a 10-minute meeting in the sports hall on Monday 24 May at 11.10am

### YEAR 11

**Celebration events:** This year we are planning two separate celebration events for Year 11 students. On the evening of Thursday 27 May there will be a celebration evening for students from 6.00-7.30pm. Unfortunately, owing to current restrictions, we are unable to invite families to attend this occasion.

On Friday 28 May, Year 11 will be off timetable all day for a celebration event in the school hall, before having an early finish at 1.50pm. Full information about both events has been emailed to families separately.

**Guidance meetings:** Remaining guidance meetings will be offered over the next school week with every student to support their plans for the next academic year, whether that is moving up to our Sixth Form or another school, college or apprenticeship. Students will be made aware of their appointment time and venue. We are utilising form time, Learning for Life and PE lessons for these meetings. If students have any problems with their meeting time they should contact Ms Shaw in reception.

### YEAR 12

**Work experience:** Mrs Hill has launched our 2021 Work Experience programme and a link to the information letter is [here](#).

### YEAR 13

**Final day plans:** Thursday 27 May will be the students' last compulsory day in school and information about the celebratory plans for the day were sent home earlier this week and are included [here](#).

## Community Notices

**Chilterns Walking Festival, 22 May - 8 June**

The 8th Chilterns Walking Festival is taking place from 22 May - 8 June. [Click here](#) for more information about the various fascinating and scenic walks taking place in the locality.