



The Misbourne Families' Bulletin

Welcome to our Families' Bulletin for week commencing 18 January 2021. For more details regarding any of the information below, please click on the links or visit our website [here](#).



Headteacher's message

In a change from the barrage of negative stories we are hearing in the news at the moment, I am delighted to be able to share something exciting with you. The Misbourne's long-awaited sports hall rebuild has been given the green light and work starts on site on Monday!

This really is fantastic news and heralds the start of a significant, multi-million pound investment in our academy. The build is expected to last for 18 months. Once complete, we will have an impressive new 690m² sports hall adjoining a 185m² bespoke performance studio. These facilities will be accompanied by a suite of four large student changing rooms, complete with full washing amenities; staff changing rooms; and additional office space. Below you can see some artist's impressions of what the new build will look like. Obviously, as artist's impressions, they reflect the design intent and may be subject to modification in the final build but they give a good idea of what is in train.

In addition, the build will provide a new entrance and exit for coaches, so they will no longer have to drive through the school, and a new, much longer, car park.

Obviously, this will mean having contractors and construction vehicles on site over the coming months. However, we are fortunate that the new sports hall will be situated close to the existing one, away from the main school buildings, so disruption to students will be minimal when they are on site.

I will, of course, keep you up-to-date with how the work progresses over the next few terms but I know that this is the news that many of our students and their families have been waiting for.

Keeping on a positive note, I would like to reiterate just how impressed I and all the staff have been with our students' attitude to remote learning this week. It has also been fantastic to see students start to

engage with our new extra-curricular programme from 2.30pm every day. From creating explosions in Science Club to crafting pom-poms in Yarn Club, there is a wonderful array of activities on offer. As you will see later in this Bulletin, our staff are putting on a wide variety of clubs and activities every day, so please do encourage your child to get involved and try something new.

I wish you all a restful weekend.

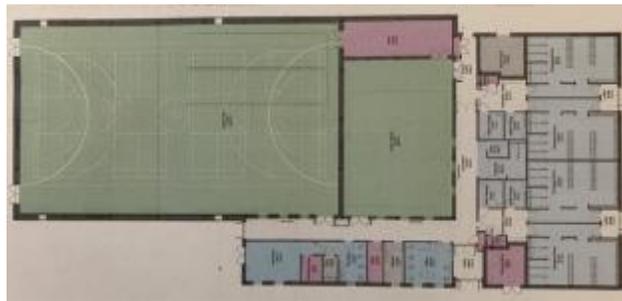
Best wishes,

Jo Meloni

Headteacher







Whole school notices

Week commencing 18.01.21 is timetable week B.

Remote learning

All year groups are expected to engage with remote learning until half term (12 February 2021). During this time, there is on-site provision for vulnerable children and the children of key workers. If you would like to register your child for this provision, please complete this [form](#).

Attendance to Microsoft Teams lessons

If your child is unwell or unable to attend their remote lessons for any other 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.

Using IT for learning

There are some short guides for students about to how to successfully use Microsoft Teams and Office 365 for learning on our website, [here](#), which students and parents alike may find useful.

Addressing any technical difficulties in Teams lessons

Staff are available to support students who have any technical difficulties accessing lessons. If parents/carers need to contact us about technical difficulties, please can we ask that this contact is

always via the school base email accounts and not via the lesson chat function in Teams. The lesson chat function is for students only and for activities directed by the class teacher.

The email addresses for each school base are:

Attenborough: attenboroughschool@themisbourne.co.uk

Franklin: franklinschool@themisbourne.co.uk

Holmes: holmesschool@themisbourne.co.uk

Turing: turingschool@themisbourne.co.uk

Covid-19 testing in school

Thank you to the volunteers who came in this week for their training session on how to carry out the Covid-19 lateral flow tests. We have already begun testing staff and the keyworker and vulnerable students that are in school. We do require consent to carry out these tests. If you have not yet given consent for your child, please [click here](#) for more information and a link to the consent form.

Extra-curricular daily programme

Please do encourage your child to participate in some of the extra-curricular activities that are on offer from 2.30pm every day. There is a wide variety of clubs on offer, from reading and craft clubs to sport and HIIT fitness programmes - definitely something for everyone! The links for all the activities for week commencing 18.01.21 are [here](#). Students will be able to open all of these in their Office 365 accounts.

Calling all Misbourne musicians

Everyone is invited to enter the Virtual Talent Show being curated by some of our fabulous Year 11 Music students as part of their BTEC Music course. Check out the poster for full details.



Wellbeing



Meditation and Mindfulness

Engaging in meditation or mindful activities can help to promote a sense of calm, relaxation and wellbeing. This [booklet](#) contains many suggestions of mindful activities that take between five and 15 minutes. Families may also enjoy this link to a 20-minute meditation [video](#).

Consider following the [PERMA model](#) as a useful guide to achieve daily contentment:

- **Positive emotion**
- **Engagement**
- **Relationships**

- **Meaning**
- **Accomplishments**



External support agencies

See, Hear, Respond is a new partnership between Barnardos and the DfE to provide a specialist support service for children and young people who are experiencing harm and increased adversity during the Covid-19 pandemic. See, Hear, Respond will contact every referral made to them, so no child is missed. For more information, please click [here](#).

Buckinghamshire 24/7 Mental Health Helpline offers support for anyone who feels they would like support from mental health professionals during the Covid-19 pandemic. More information is available [here](#).

Child Mind Institute provides a full range of advice on Mental Health issues with specially-produced booklets for coping with stress, anxiety and uncertainty during the Covid-19 pandemic. To read their guides or contact them directly, visit its website [here](#).

Walking With You is a parent-led support group for anyone supporting children and young people, up to the age of 25, experiencing mental health difficulties. You can take part discussing shared experiences with other parents and carers as well as having mental health professionals from CAMHs on-hand to support and answer any questions you may have. [Click here](#) for more information.

Free webinar from the British Dyslexia Association

The British Dyslexia Association is hosting a free webinar on 3 February, 7-8pm, focussing on writing skills. It will include guest host and British Dyslexia Association ambassador, Sally Gardner, a dyslexic multi award-winning novelist. For more details and to register, follow this [link](#).

Free SEND Virtual Conference - Getting it Right for Me!

Getting it Right for Me! is a FREE Virtual Conference for Professionals & Parents working with Children and Young People with Additional Learning Needs and Disabilities. This event will run from Tuesday 9 February through Friday 12 February. Each day will be packed with amazing speakers who are ready to share all their knowledge for working with children and young people who have additional needs. [Click here](#) for more information and to book your place.

There is lots of wellbeing advice and contact details for external organisations that can help on the [Wellbeing page](#) of the school's website. If you are struggling with parenting an anxious child, please contact the school for further advice and assistance.

Year group-specific notices

YEAR 9

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award: All students in Year 9 are invited to join this year's Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. If any student has not yet enrolled, please could they refer to the [letter](#) sent out by Mr Tebb and Miss McCarthy on 18 December and use the following link to the online [application form](#) by 29 January 2021. Even if your child does not wish to participate, we would be grateful if they could complete the first two questions on the form to let us know.

YEAR 11

Applying to Sixth Form: applications to our Sixth Form are still open and can be accessed via the [Applications Page](#) of our website. The first-round deadline for applications is 29 January 2021.

Parents' Consultation Evening: This will take place virtually for Year 11 families on Thursday 4 February. Families will need to book video appointments via SchoolCloud, using the same login details as for previous parent consultation evenings. If anyone is new to the academy and does not have a login, please contact your child's school base. Bookings will open at 6pm on Thursday 28 January. Full details of how to make appointments will be sent home separately closer to the time.

Relationships and Sex Education (RSE): Year 11 will be commencing their statutory Relationships and Sex Education unit this term in Learning for Life (PSHE). This will help support families in equipping them with the knowledge and understanding to have healthy and happy relationships. It will also ensure they know how to stay safe and look after themselves as they continue to mature into young adults.

Whilst we are undergoing remote learning, our lessons will focus initially on the 'relationships' content from the Department for Education's (DfE) framework, and will be adapted to suit online learning better. Later on this term we will endeavour to teach the sex education framework, where appropriate.

If you do not want your child taking part in the sex education framework you must download and complete the consent form [here](#) and return it to cbartington@themisbourne.co.uk

If you have not read our Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) policy, which was previously circulated to families for our parental consultation, please take a moment to do so. This provides a breakdown of our whole school RSE curriculum as well as the DfE framework for relationships education and sex education. The RSE policy link we provided in last week's Families Bulletin was incorrect. For the up-to-date policy, please click [here](#).

YEAR 13

Parents' consultation evening: We are sorry for the problems some families experienced in connecting to video calls yesterday evening as a result of the technical difficulties experienced by SchoolCloud. SchoolCloud has emailed us today to apologise for the inconvenience caused. We will be offering families the opportunity to re-schedule any missed appointments in the near future and will be in touch next week with more information about this.

UCAS Applications: The national UCAS deadline has been put back to 29 January. More information can be found [here](#). Students who are finalising their applications should contact their form tutor or Mrs Cook (ccook@themisbourne.co.uk) for any assistance.



Headteacher: Ms Jo Meloni BA (Hons) NPQH

www.themisbourne.co.uk

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