



The Misbourne Families' Bulletin

20.09.21

Welcome to our Families' Bulletin for week commencing 20 September 2021. For more details regarding any of the information below, please click on the links or visit our website [here](#).



Headteacher's message

After our staggered start to term, we have seen our students starting to get back into the flow of school life this week. Year 7s are clearly starting to grow in confidence at finding their way around site; our Year 9s are settling into their new courses; and our new Year 12s are relishing the new freedoms, responsibilities and challenges that comes with being in the Sixth Form. There is definitely a buzz around the Academy and it's wonderful to take it in.

We had our first on-site event in many months for students and their families last night with our Making the Grade evening for Year 11s. I cannot express enough just how wonderful it was to be able to speak with so many families again, in person. Long may that last. Thank you to everyone who attended, we hope you found it to be an informative evening. For anyone who was not able to attend, the presentations will be available online shortly. The next Year 11 Making the Grade evening will cover

those just as important options subjects, and will take place on 30 September. We hope to be able to see all of your there.

The next 'big' event of the school calendar takes place next Thursday - our Open Evening for prospective students and their families. Please can I take this opportunity to encourage as many Year 8, Year 12 and Year 13 students as possible to sign up as tour guides [HERE](#). This is always a hugely well-attended event and we are expecting upwards of 1,000 visitors between 5pm-8pm so we really do need as many students as possible to volunteer as guides. Our Year 6 visitors and their families greatly value the opportunity to meet current students and talk to them about their experience of The Misbourne first-hand.

With best wishes,

Jo Meloni

Hot Chocolate with the Head

This week was the first time in over a year that Hot Chocolate with the Head was able to go ahead as it was originally intended - bringing together students across the year groups from one smaller school to celebrate their outstanding achievements and it was wonderful to feel a sense of normality returning. It was the turn of our Attenborough students this week and Ms Meloni enjoyed spending break time with students from Years 7 - 11 to congratulate them all on the excellent start they have made to the new term. They all talked about how they are finding the term so far and what their hopes and aspirations are for this academic year. Congratulations to them all!



Congratulations

The Music department would like to congratulate three of our talented musicians who have recently passed music exams. Many congratulations to Charlie in Year 8, who passed Grade 5 recorder with distinction; Keya in Year 8 who passed Grade 2 flute with merit, and Simran in Year 7 who passed Grade 2 piano. Fantastic achievements!



Whole school notices

Week commencing 20.09.21 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 each morning they are off school by emailing attendance@themisbourne.co.uk or call our Absence line on **01494 867843**.

For all other correspondence about your child, please use the relevant school base email account so we can achieve consistency and clarity of communication.

Open Evening - tour guides needed

We are asking all students in Years 8, 12 and 13 to sign up to act as tour guides at our Open Evening next Thursday, 23 September. All guides will need to be available from 4.30pm until the end of the evening at 8.00pm. Please complete this short [consent form](#) to permit your child to be in school for the evening.

There will be a short briefing for all tour guides in the Main Hall at break time (11.10-11.30am) on Tuesday 21 September. Please ask all guides to attend so they are prepared for Thursday evening.

Covid-19 information

Lateral Flow Tests (LFTs)

A reminder that the Government is asking all secondary school students to conduct an LFT at home twice weekly. All students have been supplied with a pack of test kits for this purpose. These tests ought to be spaced at least three days apart each week, such as every Wednesday and Sunday. Students should upload their results onto www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result. Please notify the school immediately via covid@themisbourne.co.uk if your child receives a positive test result.

The rules around self isolation changed in August. Please note the following DoH advice about when to self isolate.

Nut-free site

Please may we remind families that it is critically important that they ensure that students do not bring any food containing nuts onto the school site. We have several students who have a severe nut allergy therefore it is important that nuts are not brought into school at any time.

The Misbourne Bistro

Our new catering team has been working hard to deliver new and inspired meal options for all our students and they have made a great start to the term. However, this has not been without challenges and disruption. We wanted to share some of these with you, along with feedback, both positive and constructive:

Constructive feedback:

- long queues
- lack of choice
- food quality
- no time to get lunch
- no halal options

Positive feedback:

- Food is much healthier
- Food is much better quality
- Food is tastier
- Students like the new queuing system
- Students and staff really like the salad selection on offer
- Greater variety now on offer at break and lunch
- Cheerful staff and good to see Sixth Form students on the tills

Challenges:

- National disruption to food deliveries
- National disruption to food availability
- National disruption to purchasing of supplies

- National disruption to recruitment of staff

Progress to date:

- Queues have reduced and all students are through the Bistro within 10-15 minutes
- Increased production of grab and go foods
- Paninis and/or Pizza are now available at lunchtime
- Menus are now available on the website
- Halal options are available at the lunch service

The term started with a phased programme and a limited catering service as students returned. Having all students coming together in the Bistro is a significant change to the experience students have had over the past 12-18 months in their 'bubbles'. For example, our current year 8 students had never eaten or spent time with students from other year groups when on break/lunchtime. This will take some adjustment, and students are already getting to grips with this which is really pleasing to see. Like all best laid plans, sometimes the unforeseen happens, and with a newly fitted oven failing one day last week, food choice and quantity was impacted.

As we all know, for students to perform at their best it is important for them to have a healthy balanced diet. We informed families last year that we were reviewing our catering contract as there had been some dissatisfaction with the previous providers. We wanted to be able to provide food that was fresher, healthier and gave students the option of a well-balanced diet. We also wanted to work with a company who were invested in working with the students and in particular our student council who, in time will have an input on how the provision develops.

I am sure you can appreciate that these are early days and sometimes change needs time to settle and for students to get used to the new offerings. We have certainly had lots of excellent feedback from many students and staff so far. The company have introduced freshly cooked meals daily and will continue to develop other 'grab and go' options as they get to understand their stakeholders better. A student leadership group will be meeting with the caterers termly to work with them in developing the service.

The daily menu for this term is available [HERE](#) and on our website.

Please read a letter from Accent Catering to all our families [HERE](#).

For more information about the company, its ethos and promotions, please read its booklet [HERE](#).



Extra-curricular Clubs

Students in all years are invited to join the following extra-curricular clubs:

Performing Arts:

- ***Choir*** - Monday lunchtime (1.30-2.10pm) in Room 603
 - ***Band*** - Monday after school (3.10-4.10pm) in Room 603
 - ***Drama*** - Tuesday lunchtime (1.30-2.10pm) in Room 601
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Craft Club:

- ***Crochet/knitting club*** - Wednesday after school (3.15-4.15) in Room 308 with Mrs Clarke. Students can bring their own materials/projects to do. Any beginners wanting to learn how to crochet or knit should let Mrs Clarke know in advance and she will provide some resources to enable them to give it a try.
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Film Club:

- **Film club** - every lunchtime (1.30-2.00pm) in Room 203 with Mr Mallik. All film fans welcome. The first film showing will be Black Panther.
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For Year 11 DT Students:

- *GCSE DT club - specifically for Year 11 Design Technology students, the DT club will run from 3:15pm - 5:15pm every Wednesday until Year 11 have study leave in the Summer term of 2022. Students should liaise with Mr Clayton to attend.*
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As we continue to roll out our programme of extra-curricular activities, we will update you via this Bulletin and our website.



Careers update

To read the latest issue of Careermag, full of career tips and advice, please click [HERE](#).

Friends of the Misbourne AGM

Would you love to do more to support the school?

Why not come along to the Friends of The Misbourne (our PTA) AGM on Wednesday 29th September from 7pm in the school library.

You can find out more about what we've been up to and be part of our brainstorming session for new fundraising ideas.

We really look forward to welcoming some new faces and seeing everyone face-to-face!
#themisbourneschool



YOU ARE INVITED TO
ATTEND THE FOTM
AGM

- Be part of a friendly committee
- Help raise funds for the school
- Meet other parents and carers

WED 29th SEPT
7pm - 8pm
SCHOOL LIBRARY

RSVP: misbournepta@hotmail.co.uk
[facebook.com/friendsofthemisbourne](https://www.facebook.com/friendsofthemisbourne)

Community Notices

NATIONAL SATURDAY CLUB - CALL FOR NEW MEMBERS

The Bucks New University Art & Design Saturday Club is calling for new members. This opportunity is open to students aged 13–16 (Years 8, 9, 10 & 11) for the 2021/22 academic year, in particular those who may face additional barriers to success. Each year, the programme gives 1,500 young people the unique opportunity to study subjects they love for free on Saturday mornings.

The National Saturday Club is a UK-wide network, supported by Arts Council England and the Department for Education. This is a unique programme open to all abilities and will help to build skills and confidence as well as demonstrate pathways to further study and careers: [highlights film](#)

The FREE weekly club will start on the 2nd October at Buckinghamshire New University, High Wycombe campus with sessions from 10.00 until 12.30 delivered by industry experts.

For more information and to apply visit www.saturday-club.org/join

NATIONAL SATURDAY CLUB

Volunteering Opportunity - Great Missenden 1st Scouts

1st Great Missenden Scouts is seeking two female volunteers (Years 11, 12 or 13) to support its weekly Scout meetings - it could be an ideal opportunity for DofE candidates. This opportunity has arisen owing to the growth of the troop and the increased number of girls joining. The troop meets every Tuesday at The Misbourne from 19.30-21.00. If you are interested and would like to contact Doug for more details, please email lbrogan@themisbourne.co.uk who will pass on your details.

Phoenix Netball trials

Phoenix Netball is holding trials for its U16 league netball team. Trialists should have a good standard of netball competency and experience of playing league-level netball. To register for the trials please complete the google form [HERE](#).

