



The Misbourne Families' Bulletin

22.02.21

Welcome to our Families' Bulletin for week commencing 22 February 2021. For more details regarding any of the information below, please click on the links or visit our website [here](#).



Headteacher's message

The highlight of my week was having a hot chocolate break via Teams with some of our Year 7 students. I am continually impressed by the resilience and adaptability they have all shown over this period. It was also really lovely to hear about the extra-curricular activities they have been taking part in. In the photo you might just be able to make out two students proudly showing their work from Yarn Club with Ms Alani. They really are an inspiration to us all.

I am very encouraged by how well the vast majority of our students have coped with their learning in lockdown over the past half term. It is a testament to them, their teachers and support staff, that their learning has continued so well. Of course, we all look forward to the day when we can see one another again in person.

Our value for the first week back after half term is integrity. This is so poignant for all of us right now as we continue to model this in our day-to-day lives as we strive, through our individual actions, to keep members of our community safe at this time. As C.S. Lewis said, "*integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is watching.*"

I think we are all deserving of a rest this half term holiday. I hope that students and their families will use the time, despite the national restrictions, to relax and recuperate. Later in the bulletin, you will see some suggested activities in celebration of World Book Day, together with a new competition from our student leaders, which students may like to engage with during the break. Hopefully, there will also be opportunities to get out into the fresh air and enjoy some of our beautiful countryside. The photo opposite is from one of my local walks that I am looking forward to seeing more of in the coming week.

I wish you all a very restful week. On behalf of everyone at The Misbourne, thank you for your support this half term.

Jo Meloni



Hot Chocolate with the Headteacher

This week it was the turn of some of Year 7 students to have a hot chocolate break with the Headteacher. They were nominated for a variety of reasons, including making a fantastic effort during lockdown learning; showing pride in their work, being great ambassadors for their small schools and for

their engagement with extra-curricular activities. They enjoyed a Teams call with Ms Meloni, who praised them for their efforts and loved hearing about what they had been most proud of this term.

Congratulations to all the nominees!



Whole school notices

Week commencing 22.02.21 is timetable week B.

Remote learning and Satchel:One

All year groups will be continuing their full timetable via Teams remote learning until at least the end of the first week back 25 February. Further guidance is due to be released from the Government about how and when a full re-opening of schools will take place. At the moment we know this will not be any sooner than the week beginning 8 March. We will update families as soon as possible after that.

One week prior to students returning, we will need to complete our mass testing programme. Due to the disruption this will cause to 'live' lessons, it is likely that we will need to revert back to posting work on Satchel:One for the week prior to opening. This is tentatively therefore week beginning 1 March. Further information and guidance will be sent after half term once we have a clearer plan for reopening from the government.

Until then, our on-site provision for vulnerable children and the children of key workers will continue. If you would like to register your child for this provision, please complete this [form](#).

School Holiday Childcare Provision February half term

Buckinghamshire Council has thanked all schools for summarising parental demand for childcare over this coming February half term. Some holiday club providers and activity clubs are continuing to open around Buckinghamshire. The Buckinghamshire Family information website has contact details, up-to-date information and availability: www.bucksfamilyinfo.org or call 01296 383 293.

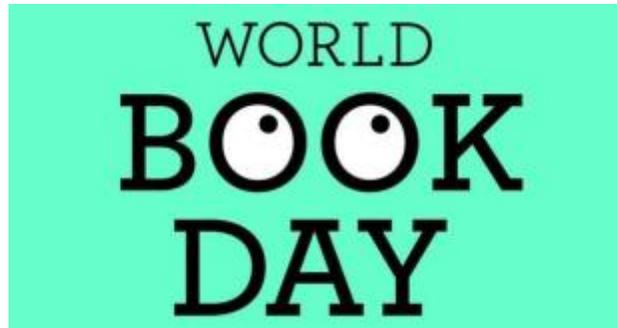
The Access and Inclusion team within Early years can provide help and support finding childcare after school or during the holidays for children 0-24 with SEND.

Contact the team: Call 01296 38 7000 Email brokerage@bucksfamilyinfo.org Apply online for help finding childcare

Attendance to Microsoft Teams lessons

If your child is unwell or unable to attend 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.

Get Set to Celebrate World Book Day 04.03.21



World Book Day is about celebrating a love of reading. Despite being in lockdown this year, we will still be sharing stories and book recommendations. Below are some of the ways students and their families can get involved. If you have any questions, please contact Miss White, our Librarian, at nwhite@themisbourne.co.uk

- **The Power List**

The theme this year is **empowerment**. The Misbourne Library wants to create a shortlist of books recommended by students, families and staff that have changed your world, mindset, or empowered you. We will purchase these books for the Library to ensure that the whole school can benefit from this experience. For more details [click here](#). **Deadline: Monday 22nd February**

- **The Cake Competition**

PRIZES will be announced on World Book Day! From Much Ado About Muffin to Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, we want your book-themed cake designs. You can pick a character, a book or whole genre. Either use the template or make the real thing and send us a photo! [Click here](#) for more details, including examples and a template. **Deadline: Friday 26th February**

- **The Book Quiz**

This online quiz will be shared with students to complete individually. It will be posted in the smaller schools Teams feed and shared with form tutors. Miss White will be keeping track to see which smaller school scores the best collectively and plenty of achievement points will be up for grabs!

- **The Voucher**

Please download this [here](#). You can start using the £1 Book Token from **Thursday 18 February**. To ensure that children have more time to use their token, participating bookshops will honour tokens beyond the 28 March, whilst stocks last. Each retailer will decide whether they are able to offer £1 off other children's titles. To explore the special issue £1 books visit: <https://www.worldbookday.com/books/>

We look forward to seeing your entries!

Miss White (Librarian) and Ms Weller (Literacy Coordinator)

Borrow a book

Access to the school library for all students

While students are learning remotely, we are offering a 'click and collect' service for students who wish to borrow library books.

Students are welcome to borrow more than one book at a time.

Please can you request books before the end of the day on Monday. Collection will be on a Thursday and details of the pickup procedures will be emailed out to the relevant parents/students.

Our librarian, Miss White, has created two short videos to remind students how to use the Library catalogue to search for books and how to take an Accelerated Reader quiz once students have read their books. Click on the links below to watch these videos:

[How to use the library catalogue](#)

[How to take an Accelerated Reader quiz](#)

Lockdown Heroes Competition

Our student leaders are working on a multi-media project to celebrate our Lockdown Heroes and they would love entries from students in all years. Please click on the poster below for more information about how to enter.

Lockdown Heroes Competition

What is it about?

Out of incredibly trying times over the last year have come moments of hope, kindness, and inspiration. We would like to celebrate just some of the people who have stepped up to support others in the form of a multi-media competition! Whether it's NHS Key Workers or Bus Drivers, Teachers or Shopkeepers, we would like to show our appreciation to those who have put their own wellbeing at risk to keep our country going, by creating something fantastic in their honour!

Exciting prizes to be won!

You can submit:

- A piece of artwork
- A piece of creative writing (a poem, an essay, a short story etc - 500 words max)
- A musical piece
- A video

Deadline: 12th March 2021

To submit entries, email: 16aiaie@themisbourne.co.uk

Judges: Poppy, Nancy, Alice & Amelia in Year 1!

Extra-curricular daily programme

Students may like to get a head-start on the next Thursday Taskmaster challenge over the half term break. [Click here](#) to watch the video from our student leaders. We can't wait to see what you come up with!

We encourage all our students to participate in our extra-curricular clubs every afternoon at 2.30pm. The links for all the activities for week commencing 22.02.21 are [here](#). Students will be able to open all of these in their Office 365 accounts.

We'd love to see and hear how students are getting on with these sessions, so feel free to email any photographs or comments to your child's school base or you can send a Tweet to **@TheMisbourne** or **@MisbourneHead**

Half term holiday fun

We hope that all our students use the half term break to relax and recharge. However, if they are looking for some ways to while away the hours during a holiday in lockdown, we have put together some [suggestions](#) for fun activities that they may like to try.

Safer Internet Use



To mark Safer Internet Day 2021 this week, the UK Safer Internet Centre has produced a variety of information materials and activities for families to promote safer internet use. This is particularly important at this time, when the majority of children are spending their days online. To download the parent and carer pack, please [click here](#).

Vodafone has also produced a guide to Digital Parenting: helping your family live a safe and happy digital life. To read the guide, [click here](#).

Wellbeing



Tackling sleep problems in teens

Child Psychology expert Dr Lucy Russell has written a very helpful article on supporting the all-too-common issue of sleep problems in teenagers and pre-teens. All the strategies suggested in the blog are easily applied and Dr Russell has included a tracker so parents can build their own plans, which can be found in the summary of the article. <https://www.theyarethefuture.co.uk/sleep-problems-in-teenagers-and-pre-teens/>

Give a little TLC to a house plant

This week, challenge yourself grow and nurture a house plant. Consider what the plant may need to thrive:

1. Get the right plant. Succulents don't need much care. ... Or maybe challenge yourself with a flowering plant.
2. Let there be (not too much) light! Plants need different levels of light. ...
3. Be aware of the environment the plant is in. Change is bad. Be consistent with your plants.
4. Use the good dirt.. Feed your plant good food to help it to flourish
5. Cut the dead stuff... Prune it when necessary to take away the stuff that no longer works for the plant
6. Don't over-water your plants. Too much of the same thing can be as harmful as not giving it enough water.

As you look after your plant, it is a little reminder to check in and make sure that we are looking after ourselves as much as our newly-acquainted botanical friend.



Year group-specific notices

YEAR 8

The Year 8 parents' consultation evening will take place on Thursday 4 March between 4.20pm - 7.00pm. This will take place via video link. Bookings will open at 6.00pm on Thursday 25 February and more information on how to make appointments with your child's teachers will be sent home at the beginning of that week. Please note that there will be a limit of 5 bookings initially. This restriction will be lifted at 6.00pm on Monday 1 March.

YEAR 11

We are really pleased to again see so many of our Year 11 students choosing to apply to our Sixth Form and most as their first choice again this year.

As the deadline has now closed, we will begin the process of analysing all applications to inform our staffing, timetabling and option blocks.

Our intention is to offer guidance meetings and to confirm offers of places by the end of the Spring term. If you still wish to apply but have not done so yet, please see our information about late applications, on our website: [Sixth Form Application Process 2021 - The Misbourne](#)

YEAR 13

Student Finance applications open in the next couple of weeks and we know that this is always a time of uncertainty for students and families as they navigate this sometimes tricky area. Bucks New University is hosting a Facebook Live event on [Thursday 25 February at 5pm](#) where students and parents can ask all their questions to a panel of experts and students. They have also created a [short video](#) explaining the basics of how student finance works, much you can borrow and how you pay it back.

Community notices

Opportunity for young performers

Garsington Opera Youth Company is recruiting for its production of *The Selfish Giant* (composed by John Barber) to be performed at Garsington Opera on Thursday 29 July 2021. No experience is necessary and all places are fully-funded. Anyone interested in auditioning should [click here](#) for more information. All sessions will follow the Covid-19 Performing Arts regulations and will be rehearsed in a socially-distanced manner until the regulations are relaxed. If necessary they will also have a socially-distanced performance.



**GARSINGTON OPERA
YOUTH COMPANY**

Are you destined for the stage?

We are looking for singers and performers aged 9-25 for a new production of *The Selfish Giant* to be performed at the stunning Wormsley Estate, Stokenchurch in summer 2021.

The Youth Company is led by a professional creative team and the production will include professional singers and musicians.

No experience is necessary and places are fully funded.

Details of audition materials and how to apply can be found here: www.garsingtonopera.org/youthopera

Application deadline: 1 March 2021

Composer: John Barber
Librettist: Jessica Duchan

Director: Karen Gillingham
Vocal Director: Suzi Zumpe
Designer: Ruth Paton

Giant: Matthew Self
Linnets: Barbara Cole Walton




Headteacher: Ms Jo Meloni BA (Hons) NPQH

www.themisbourne.co.uk

[@TheMisbourne](https://www.instagram.com/themisbourne)

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