



The Misbourne Families' Bulletin

Welcome to our Families' Bulletin for week commencing 25 January 2021. For more details regarding any of the information below, please click on the links or visit our website [here](#).



Headteacher's message

It has been another busy week, with students really knuckling down and engaging well with their online learning. While we appreciate that some students still feel awkward conducting their learning via video calls, it would really help levels of engagement if they ensure their cameras are on in every lesson. There is nothing more disconcerting for a teacher than having to speak to a blank screen of initials all day. Seeing students' faces and reactions is such an important part of what we do. Those non-verbal signs of engagement are subtle but they are key to a successful lesson. Teachers find it easier to identify if a student is struggling or indeed if they have a sudden eureka moment! If parents could help to reiterate this message to your children, we would be very grateful.

Following my announcement about our sports hall re-development in last week's Families' Bulletin, we were delighted to be able to spread the news more widely. The Bucks Free Press ran a wonderful article about the investment in its online edition, which you may like to read [here](#).

You will see later in the bulletin that the first fundraising totals for our small school charities have been announced following our very successful non-uniform day at the end of last term. It was wonderful to

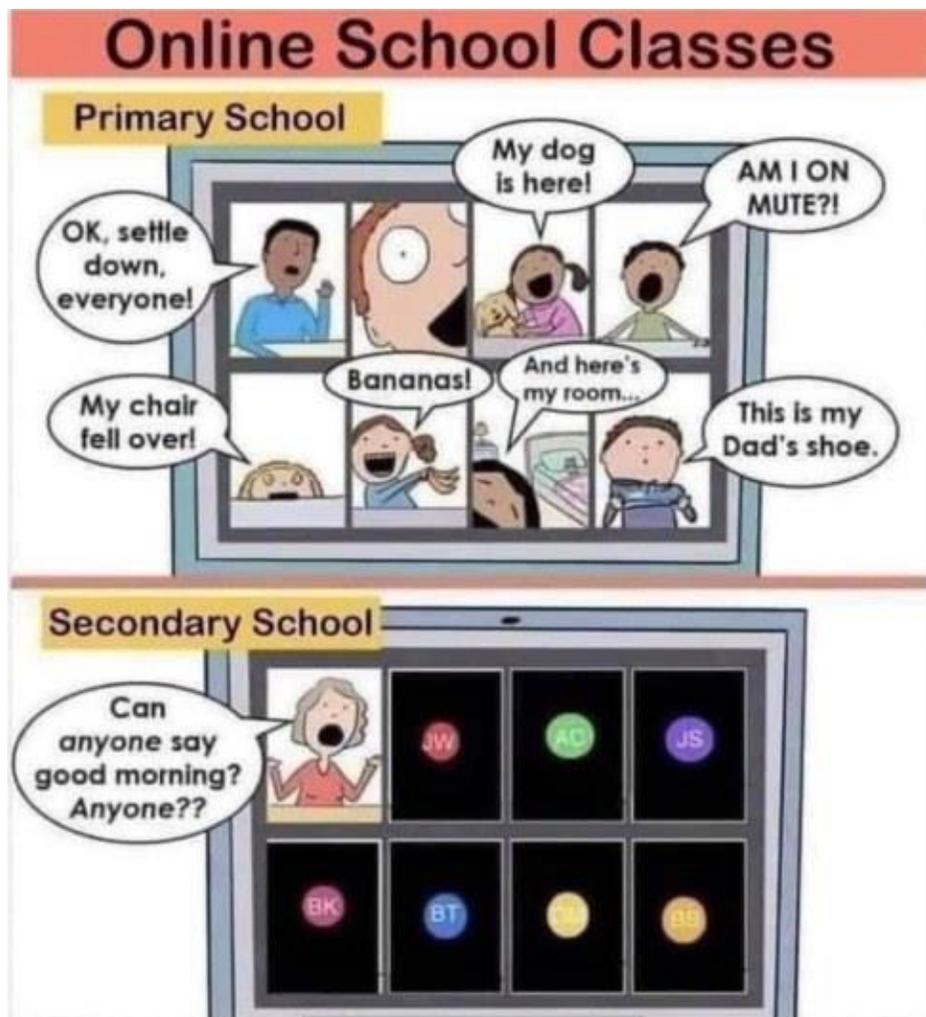
see all our students having fun while raising valuable funds for these worthy charities and we will look forward to running more initiatives along these lines in due course.

Finally, a reminder from me to our Year 11 students who are thinking of applying for a place in our Sixth Form - the deadline for first round applications is next Friday. I know that everything feels very uncertain at the moment, but it is important that we all stay focused on making plans for the future. Despite not sitting exams in the usual way this Summer, we know our students really well and are ready to support them through the next two years in the Sixth Form. Of course, if any of them would like any advice or to talk any aspect of their application through first, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

With best wishes,

Jo Meloni

Headteacher



Whole school notices

Week commencing 25.01.21 is timetable week A.

INSET Day - 25 January 2021

A reminder that Monday 25 January is an Inset Day for the whole school. There will be no remote learning, nor any on-site critical worker/vulnerable student provision, on Monday.

Remote learning

All year groups are expected to engage with remote learning whilst we are in the national lockdown. 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 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.

Updated guidelines on wearing of face masks in school

In line with Government requirements, we have updated our Covid-19 Risk Assessment for this term, which is available on the Covid-19 information hub on our [website](#). One change to highlight is that all students on-site from Monday 25 January (currently vulnerable students and children of critical workers) will be required to wear face masks at all times while inside the school building. That includes in classrooms during lessons. We will be informing students of this change when they are in school and we would appreciate families' support in also discussing this with your child. As with all other control measures we are taking, this will be under constant review, but we felt it a necessary step to take whilst the rate at which the virus is spreading remains on the increase.

Covid-19 testing in school

Our weekly lateral flow testing programme for staff and critical worker / vulnerable students in school is going smoothly. Prior to all students returning to school on site, we will require consent for them to have this test. If you have not yet given consent for your child, please [click here](#) for more information and a link to the consent form.

We do not yet know when all students will be returning to school but we are preparing for this to be straight after half term and will need to complete two tests for each child prior to their return. If we are left with families who have not responded to the survey it will mean that we then have to follow-up with individual phone calls which will cause an understandable delay. We would therefore appreciate you giving this your attention and reminding other families who may not have seen this notice.

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! And new from this week - student-led Thursday Taskmaster sessions. Whether you're into Taskmaster or not, we encourage everyone to take a look at the fantastic [video](#) created by our Student Leaders.

The links for all the activities for week commencing 25.01.21 are [here](#). Students will be able to open all of these in their Office 365 accounts.

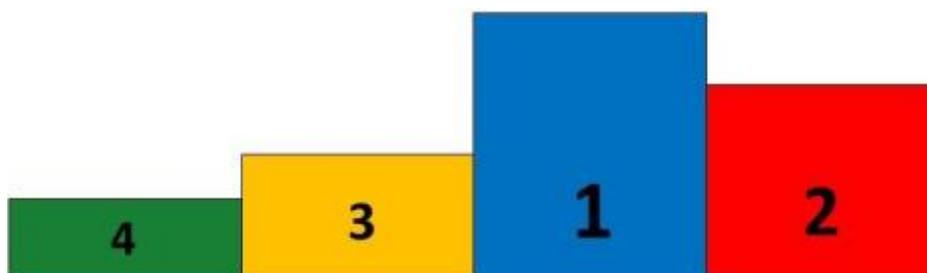
We'd love to see and hear how students are getting on with these sessions, so feel free to email any photographs or comments to your child's school base or you can send a Tweet to [@TheMisbourne](#) or [@MisbourneHead](#)

Fantastic fundraising

We are delighted to announce that our non-uniform day before Christmas raised a huge **£795** for our four nominated charities. The title of 'most successful fundraiser' was closely fought between the small schools, with the final rankings standing at:

1. **Holmes School** - fundraising for Mind
2. **Attenborough School** - fundraising for Thames Valley Air Ambulance
3. **Turing School** - fundraising for Dogs Trust
4. **Franklin School** - fundraising for Tiggywinkles

Thank you to everyone who donated - all monies will be very gratefully received by our charities.



Careers advice

Apprenticeship information

The January Parents' & Carers' Pack - Apprenticeship Information can be found on our [website](#) along with a lot of other useful information. In the [January issue](#) they look at getting ready for National Apprenticeship Week 2021, suggest a plan for finding an apprenticeship in 2021, identify new

Traineeship resources, provide a guide to Higher and Degree apprenticeships and showcase life as a new apprentice at the BBC.

Wellbeing



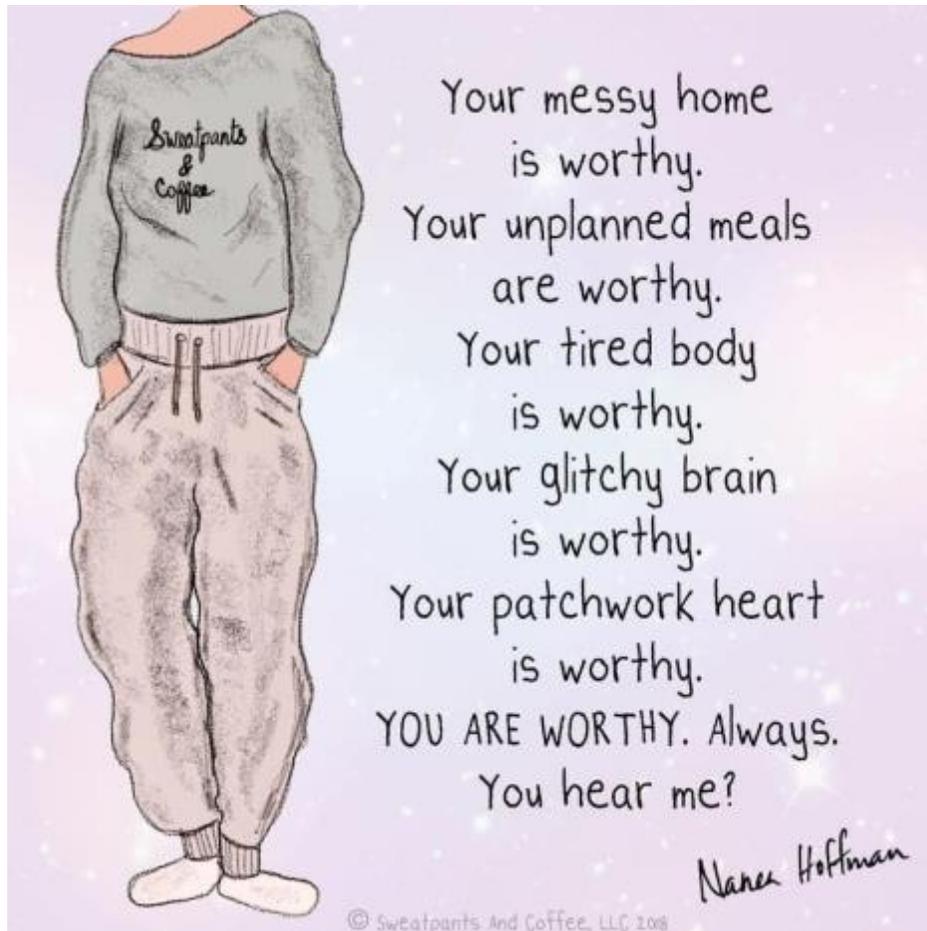
Take time for self compassion

"It's not only the scenery you miss by going too fast - you also miss the sense of where you are going and why." Eddie Cantor

Another week of lockdown is over so it is time to slow down and think.

One of the best ways to help children with their feelings and behaviour is to make sure that everyone feels regulated, nourished and supported, which is of course challenging when we do not have the usual resources to turn to. Self compassion is important here, and taking time to tune in to how you are feeling. This is a time of global upheaval so 'business as usual' is not to be expected.

There is a useful guide to how to help children to self-regulate on our website, [here](#).



Support for children with ADHD

Childmind.org is sharing resources for helping children with ADHD stay connected, [navigate remote learning](#) and [manage their behavior](#), including user-tested strategies for [getting organized](#) from someone who's been there.

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 11

Applying to Sixth Form: There is one more week to apply for a place in The Misbourne Sixth Form this September. The online application form can be accessed via the [Applications Page](#) of our website. The first-round deadline for applications is 29 January 2021.

Consultation evening: the parents' consultation evening for Year 11 students and their families will take place virtually on Thursday 4 February from 3.30pm - 7.00pm. 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. More information on how to book your appointments will be sent out on Monday. Bookings will open at 6.00pm on Thursday 28 January.

YEAR 13

Parents' consultation evening: A reminder that we are offering families and students who missed their teacher appointments at the Year 13 consultation evening on Thursday 14 January as a result of the server outage at SchoolCloud the opportunity to re-book them on Monday 25 January between 2.15pm and 3.10pm. To re-book your appointments, please visit <https://themisbourne.schoolcloud.co.uk> You will need to log in with your details and your child's date of birth.

UCAS Applications: The national UCAS deadline is Friday 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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DfE Number 825/4042 Tel. 01494 862869

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