Welcome to our newsletter that we the primary have put together especially for you to read. Our newsletter is about our school and nursery and things we get up to! My name is Dhriti, and I am the editor of this newsletter. With the help of my friends Ben, Finley, Amanda and Alice we have worked hard to put together this newsletter. We hope you enjoy reading it. We will send it to you electronically to you every month.

Dhriti Balakrishna, Editor

Headteachers Update Helen Everley

Welcome back to all our children and parents, and welcome to all the new children and parents. This term has started really well, all the children have settled in very well and are happily learning. I do hope you enjoy the first edition of our new monthly magazine put together by our primary children. So grab a cup of coffee or tea and sit back and enjoy the read.

Can all children that stay for lunch have a cold pack in their lunch box. This will ensure that their food remains cool and without risk. Also, we are prohibited to reheat home cooked rice, so please do not send it in. Rice is a very high risk food.

Mrs Everley

As children in the nursery are going through potty training, please send them in clothes that are easy to pull up and down. The Montessori philosophy encourages independence in children so clothes with elasticated waists help. PLEASE no baby grows or pants over the top of pull ups.

When thinking about your child’s development, coats and shoes with easy fastenings such as velcro and big poppers are much easier than laces or zips.

Thank you. Mrs Fletcher

Please can all items of clothing be named. We have a lot of children at school all wearing the same uniform so it can be very confusing for the staff if there is no name to match clothing to child. It would be helpful to have bags, coats and lunch boxes named too.

Thank you. Mrs Manning

We are planning our spring garden already. Please would you send in any spare bulbs and seeds that you may have for us to plant this autumn.

Thank you. Mrs Bee
Despite the wet forecast we were able to enjoy our first experience at forest School last week 17th Sept. The walk back to nursery School was a great success and the children were able to experience walking across fields, climbing over stiles and descending down many steps through a beautiful woodland area.

Please remember to clothe your children with waterproof leggings and jackets, and layers of clothing underneath according to the temperature outside on the day. Wellies, hat and warm gloves/mittens and socks for hands and feet. If the children are warm and comfortable then we all have a great time!

Don't forget the plastic bag for the dirty wet clothing when they get back to school.

Thank you.

Mrs Burge

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Our first forest school visit was short due to a bad weather forecast. However it stayed dry and we all enjoyed our walk back to school. At the farm we saw chickens, lots of apples on a tree and some polo ponies. On our walk back all the children learned how to climb over a stile. We also observed the beautiful woods, blackberries and we saw some ducks when we got to the river Alne. When we got to the fire station the garage door was open and a friendly fireman let us try his helmet on. It was a fun morning!

Please make sure your child is properly dressed with waterproof trousers, gloves and warm socks under wellies.

Mrs Rulon Miller

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I would like to start by introducing myself as there might be one or two people that don't know me. My name is Mrs Pidgeon, I am Montessori qualified and teach in the Primary but I am also the SENCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) for the school and nursery.

In my role of SENCo I support children with special needs, liaising closely with parents/guardians and any outside agencies to ensure that children get help in their specific area of need.

What is a Special Educational Need?

This is when a child would benefit from additional help and extra support in a certain area to aid their development and reach their potential. Additional help may be sought in language skills, physical skills, handwriting, communication or social skills.

Sometimes extra support is only required for a short period of time, others longer and sometimes outside agencies can be brought in for additional support if the parents wish so.

I will keep you updated via this school newsletter of any updates regarding legislation/changes to Special Educational Needs.

If anyone has any concerns regarding their child's development please come and see me. I am in school everyday from 8.30am to 3.15pm.

Mrs Pidgeon, SENCo
The difference between a mainstream School and a Montessori primary school
By Amanda Nkemena

I moved to Henley Montessori when I was moving into year 2. When I came for a visit it was very different and its not like I thought it would be... its BETTER!
All the year groups are together in the same classroom but we do different work. There are lots of projects that aren’t in other schools, for example we can choose to do practical activities to help us with our grammar, maths, fractions, geometry, writing, the world, the list is ENDLESS.
We can have our snack when we want to rather than having it at a certain time. We study French with Patrice and on Wednesday afternoon we do cooking with Mrs Manning and it is delicious. We have to write the recipe down as well the cooking and washing up. On Thursday afternoons we have dance with the ballet teacher Miss Anne and it is fun. When we do PE sometimes we use balls, we run a lot, we can choose our games at the end.
When we play outside we play with all our friends together from the reception through to year 5.

WE ARE ALL FRIENDS AND WE LOOK OUT FOR EACH OTHER.

Mrs Everley would like to remind the primary to practise their spellings, reading, music and french at home every week. You all have a spelling test on a Friday!
Always check the website for updates particularly about forest school

What the nursery children like about Merrydays. Roving reporters Finley Owen and Ben Cornfield McMahon asked the children. They said

“I like stories, forest school, when the photographer takes our photo, and insets.” Milly Bull.

“I like snacks, books and sticking.” Emily Knight.

Ben likes to stack the geometric shapes.

“I like to play outside in the mud kitchen, painting and books.” Ellie West.

Anna Lawrence likes painting, outside and cooking.

“I like outside, books, painting, cooking and sinking and floating.” Alexander Nkemena.

Shane McMahon likes the magnetic road and George Bull likes the cars and the friction boards.

“Always check the website for updates particularly about forest school”
Parents can you help?
If you have any of the following it would really be appreciated.

- Any spare tubs of artex
- Tissue paper
- Old paint brushes for forest school
- Wrapping paper and ribbon
- A salad spinner please!
- A4 paper
- A3 paper
- Paper and card
- Encourage your child to bring things for our nature table

My friend David, his daughter Zoe and myself reached Paris after leaving London on 5th September. We covered 207 miles of lovely roads and raised £35000 for the Diabetics. It was a great adventure, filled with fun, drama and success at the end.

Patrice Legros

All the French classes have restarted. The primary children are divided into three groups. First group today they counted up to doute). Second group talked about their maison(house). The third group(troilism) were able to say J’aime(what they liked) and Jan’aime pas(what they don’t like). The pre-school (13) are learning at a very fast pace. They can sing a French song, count up to three and name the colours of the French flag. Every body seems to enjoy French. Even your editor reads every day in French.

Thank you, from the news team.
We hope you enjoy the read.

STOP PRESS: Don’t forget your Bags2School on Monday no later than Tuesday at 9.00am.