



# Midsomer Norton Primary School

Head teacher: Mr Alun Randell



Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very good start to the term. We could see by the end of last term that children, families and staff were very tired after the challenges and changes of the spring terms. It was clear we all needed a much-deserved rest! I am delighted to say that our children seem to have come back to school rested and full of enthusiasm. They also all seem much taller!



Behaviour in school is very good. Our children did need to practice how to deal with the normal highs and lows of interacting with others - the fun, the excitement but also the frustrations of, for example, losing a game - once again. Since the holiday, we have noticed the children's empathy, tolerance and patience towards others has returned in full.

## Learning gem

Last terms, learning gem was Sapphire Power - Being Resilient - and adults and children had to dig deep at times! This term's focus is Amethyst power - Keeping Focused. Amethysts are awarded for:

- Listening to instructions and advice;
- Managing distractions in school;
- Taking pride in everything you do in school;
- Maintaining concentration.

## Toys in school/ Fidget spinners

The new craze with toys seems to be the return of fidget spinners and relaxation aids. Some children with anxiety do indeed benefit from such aids; however, their use in class must be in agreement with the teacher so that they do not become a distraction to others. Other than this, such toys should currently only be brought to school on a Friday to be played with during Greenie Time because of our COVID measures. I would like to remind parents and carers that all other toys brought to school on Fridays must be wipe-able. Please avoid soft, cuddly toys.

## Science

Today our children have participated in the City Nature Challenge - recording nature in school and at home. You can find out more about the challenge [here](#). In 2021 400+ cities across the world are collaborating to find and record as much wildlife as possible to help track how nature is bouncing back this spring!

The wildlife records are logged using the free and simple [iNaturalist](#) platform, which can be used on a mobile app or on a computer.

We really do recommend giving the app a go as it is super for finding out more about wildlife.

## Swimming

Unfortunately, due to reduced capacity Midsomer Norton Swimming Pool is not able to accommodate our school this term. This means that those children in Year 4 who have missed out on swimming lessons during both lockdowns will have make-up swimming lessons in Year 5.

## Amazon Wish List

Last year, we were overwhelmed with the support of our families who bought a huge range of books from our Amazon wish list enabling us to overhaul our library. Our

## Child sick?

If your child has a temperature, continuous cough or loss of sense of taste and smell, they (**and any siblings**) must not attend school unless they have had a negative COVID test and the symptoms have disappeared.

## School Dinners

Please book school dinners on ParentPay, they need to be booked one week in advance

## Online Book Shop

Visit our [scholastic book shop](#) to buy books to shop and the school receives 25p for every £1 spent! All funds raised will be spent on books for our library

## Healthy packed lunches

Please ensure that your child's lunchbox is healthy and **DOES NOT CONTAIN ITEMS THAT CONTAIN NUTS AS WE ARE A NUT FREE SCHOOL AND WE HAVE BOTH CHILDREN AND STAFF WITH SEVERE NUT ALLERGIES. FOODS CONTAINING NUTS WILL HAVE TO BE REMOVED FROM CHILDRENS LUNCH BOXES.** No fizzy drinks are allowed in school. Drinks bottles that children have in the class should only contain water.

children absolutely love it! We have developed a follow up wish list to expand our range of books further. If you would like to support the school through the purchase of a book, please watch out for next week's letter.

### Dance Workshops

And also, please watch out for a second letter next week with the exciting news about the dance workshops we will be holding for all of our children from Reception to Year 6, 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> June, provided by the West End in Schools theatre company <https://westendinschools.org.uk/>.



### Volunteers

It has been wonderful to be able to restart Forest School. This is only possible to do with volunteers. We do need a mini-army of volunteers - particularly to listen to children read. If you are able to support our children in this way, please contact the school office. We would love to hear from you!

Have a lovely long weekend!

Mr Randell  
Headteacher

Thank you to our sponsors:



## News

### Can we help?

Midsomer Norton Primary School holds Foodbank Vouchers. Please speak in confidence to reception who will be able to give you further information.



Don't forget that you can catch up with what's going on in school on our twitter feed:

<https://twitter.com/MSNPrimary>



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All letters are uploaded to the school website.