



Murrayfield Primary
A Paradigm Academy



Dear parents/carers,

I can't believe I am writing the newsletter again and it's nearly the end of December and the end of the Autumn term!

We have had a really busy half term leading up to our break. Year 3 have visited Toby Carvery for their 'Restaurant experience' and Year 1 had a wonderful visit to Holywells Park. Along side this and all of the hard work, I of course need to mention the fantastic Winter performances from every year group, I think we can all agree that the children and staff gave it their all and they were very enjoyable to watch.

I hope you enjoy reading what the children have been doing and wish you all a peaceful and restful break and thank you as always for your support.

We look forwards to seeing everyone back on Tuesday 7 January 2025.

Kind regards
Claire

TERM DATES

Monday 6 January 2025 - INSET Day

Tuesday 7 January 2025 - First day of Spring term 1

Friday 14 February 2025 - Last day of half term

Monday 24 February 2025 - First day of Spring term 2

Friday 4 April 2025 - Last day of Spring term

Wednesday 23 April 2025 - First day of Summer term 1

Friday 23 May 2025 - Last day of half term

Monday 2 June 2025 - First day of summer term 2

Tuesday 22 July 2025 - Last day of Summer term

DATES FOR THE DIARY

January

06/01/25 INSET Day
07/01/25 Pupils return to school
14/01/25 Academy Council Meeting
17/01/25 Year 1 Parent Share
23/01/25 Springboard Parent Share
24/01/25 Young Voices

February

05/02/25 Parent/carer consultation evening
06/02/25 Parent/carer consultation evening
07/02/25 Year 2 Parent Share
07/02/25 Leappad 1 & 2 Parent Share
10/02/25 Robert Ramsden, Author visit
11/02/25 Kate Rolfe, Author visit
w/c 17 February - half term Year 6 revision sessions

March

01/03/25 Year 6 revision session
04/03/25 Academy Council Meeting
06/03/25 World Book Day
08/03/25 Year 6 revision session
14/03/25 Year 5 Parent Share
15/03/25 Year 6 revision session
22/03/25 Red Nose Day - wear one red item for Comic Relief
22/03/25 Year 6 revision session
26/03/25 Nursery Parent Share
29/03/25 Year 6 revision session

April

02/04/25 Year 3 Parent Share
05/04/25 Year 6 revision session
w/c 07/04/25 Easter holidays - Year 6 revision sessions
09/04/25 Year 3 Parent Share
22/04/25 INSET day
26/04/25 Year 6 revision session
29/04/25 Reception - Jimmy's Farm Trip

May

03/05/25 Year 6 revision sessions
05/05/25 Bank holiday
07/05/25 Academic Council meeting
10/05/25 Year 6 revision sessions
w/c 12/05/25 Year 2 SATS
21/05/25 Parent/carer consultation evening
22/05/25 Parent/carer consultation evening

June

19/06/25 Academy Council meeting
26/06 - 27/06/25 Year 6 Mersea Island Residential Visit
30/06/25 Nursery - Coast and Picnic Trip

July

w/c 07/07/25 Year 10 work experience pupils in school
11/07/25 Sports Day
18/07/25 Year 6 Trust Sports Day
22/07/25 Last day of term

'The nursery children have been learning through the topic of 'Celebrations' this half term. They have been exploring festivals such as Diwali, Hanukkah and Christmas and have been linking the themes to our learning through crafts, construction, small world and role play. The children really enjoyed 'Art' week and developed their printing skills by making firework, leaf and fruit prints. In maths we have continued learning their numbers to 10 and have also been exploring 2d shapes. We have recently had a special visit from a Police Officer who talked to us about their job, it was very exciting! Finally thank you to all the parents that came to our Autumn themed parent share, the children loved sharing their learning with you!

Jasmine & Hannah, Nursery Teachers

This term, reception have been learning all about celebrations. We have learnt all about Bonfire night, birthdays, weddings and Christmas. The pupils have enjoyed creating and writing celebration cards, and dressing up to celebrate! In maths, we have been learning how to add and subtract, as well as naming 2D and 3D shapes. Pupils have been making fantastic progress with their phonics and are enjoying beginning to read new words. We enjoyed our parent share, where pupils were able to spend some time sharing their learning with their adults. Thank you to all the parents that attended. We have had two exciting visits this half term, one from a radiographer and one from a police officer, who told us all about their jobs. Our topic next term will be 'Dinosaurs'.

Georgina, Hannah & Kiri, EYFS Teachers

This half term year 1 has been action-packed and full of learning! Our favourite book this term was Room on the Broom, which sparked lots of excitement during story time. In maths, we worked hard on adding and subtracting within 20, using fun resources like ten frames and the part-whole model to help us. We also had the chance to visit Holywell Park, where we explored the wildlife through a variety of exciting activities, deepening our understanding of nature.

Art week was another highlight, as we designed and created slider inspired by our favourite stories. We loved making moving parts for our stories.

It's been a busy but enjoyable half term, and we can't wait to share more updates with you next year!

Ana & Charlotte, Year 1 Teachers



"This half term in year 2, we demonstrated great skills while learning how to create a lever. We had lots of fun using different materials and designing the background for our projects. In maths, we've been working hard on multiplication and division, exploring different arrays to deepen our understanding. We also really enjoyed our shared reading sessions, and one of our favourite books so far has been *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark*. It's such a lovely story, and we used it as inspiration for many exciting writing tasks.

It's been a busy but rewarding half term, and we've learned so much. We're looking forward to an equally productive and enjoyable time next half term.'

Year 2 Teachers

In year 3 we have been exploring units of measurement, the children showed great aptitude measuring objects themselves. In science the children have been exploring space they have impressed us with their knowledge of space and facts they have brought into class. The children continue to produce some wonderful creative pieces of writing. They especially enjoyed creating writing that shows suspense and mystery. In reading this term we have completed *The Twits* by Roald Dahl and loved the humour and creativity of the story. Lastly our french lessons are going beautifully with the children learning their numbers, days and months.

Laura & Florence, Year 3 Teachers

This half term we have been reading *The Boy at the Back of the Class*. The children have really enjoyed this book and look forward to writing about it next half term.

In our maths lessons we have been focusing on multiplication and division, the children worked particularly well on word problems, using bar models to help them work out each answer.

We have been learning about animals, including humans, in our science lessons. Last week we looked at the different types of teeth we have, the children enjoyed looking at the models of teeth.

We wish all of year 4 a happy and restful Christmas.

Gemma & Hazel, Year 4 Teachers

In Year 5 this half-term, the pupils had the opportunity to hone their sewing skills. In textiles, they designed and made their own pencil cases. In maths, we continued working on our multiplication and division unit before moving onto fractions and decimals. For shared reading, we have been reading the novel *Holes* by Louis Sachar. It's a powerful story about a young man who was wrongly accused of a crime and sent away to a juvenile detention centre. Our literacy this term has been based around our previous shared reading book - *Cirque Du Freak*. The children have enjoyed writing a setting description along with producing a newspaper report about events in the story. Christianity is the topic in humanities and in science, we have been learning about living things.

Donna & Kudzie, Year 5 Teachers

In year 6 we have been exploring decimals, fractions, percentages and coordinates! In science, we have been learning about the lungs and the heart; ask us anything! The children continue to produce some wonderful creative pieces of writing. They especially enjoyed descriptive writing that describes the atmosphere, as well as characters. In reading this term we have read *The Enemy* and loved creativity of the story. We have been learning about Christianity in RE and did amazingly in our assessments.

Please note: we will be inviting pupils in for breakfast and Reading Plus. Look out for a message in the first week back! We will also begin teaching intervention sessions for reading, writing and mathematics on Saturdays after the February half term.

Yvonne & Becky, Year 6 teachers

This term in Maths, Leappad 1 worked on addition and subtraction within 20. Pupils used facts they already knew to help them add and subtract. They also learned about time as a way to measure. Pupils put the months of the year, the seasons, and the days of the week into the right order to show events in time.

In Shared Reading, we read the story *The Owl Who Was Afraid of the Dark*. Pupils in Leappad 1 really enjoyed reading about Plop, the little barn owl.

In Writing, pupils worked on sequencing events from *The Wizard of Oz*. They focused on how Dorothy and her friends traveled to the Emerald City.

In Science, pupils explored the properties of everyday materials. They looked at how materials are different, and they learned to identify which materials are man-made and which ones are natural.

In Topic, pupils learned about Christianity and its main beliefs. They talked about how, why, and where Christians worship. They also learned about Jesus and why he is special to Christians. Pupils explored how the Bible teaches Christians to live and how Christians celebrate Christmas.

Lusna, Leap Pad 1 Teacher

As the Autumn Term 2 comes to a close, here's a quick update on what our Leappad 2 students have been up to.

In science students have been learning about the planets in our solar system, exploring their unique features. As well as this we have studied animals, focusing on habitats and ecosystems, alongside the digestive system and how our bodies process food.

In RE, students have been exploring Christianity, its key teachings, and significant celebrations such as Easter and parables such as the prodigal son, deepening their understanding of different cultures and traditions.

For reading students have been reading *The Boy at the Back of the Class* by Onjali Q. Rauf, a touching story about friendship, empathy, and standing up for others, sparking important discussions around kindness and inclusion.

In Maths, We have been working on fractions, decimals and on multiplication, division, and interpreting graphs. All students have been applying their skills to solve real-life problems. It's been a very productive term, and we're excited for what's to come next year!

Thank you for your continued support.

Robert, Leap Pad 2 Teacher



Thank you to everyone who has signed up to the My Child at School App. We are continuing to get a really good uptake on this App which is becoming used more and more.

There is now a self sign-up service on the App. Just download 'My Child at School' from the App Store (it is free) and click 'Sign Up'. You will then be asked for the schools name and it will take you through to a sign up page where you will enter your email address and create a password.

All clubs, trips, attendance information, school reports and parents evenings will be operated through this App so please do sign up. If you need any assistance please call the office and they will be able to help you.

PE & SWIMMING TIMETABLE – JANUARY 2025

	08:50 - 09:15	09.15 – 10.15	B R E A K	10.30 – 11.30	11.30 – 12.30	L U N C H	13.15 – 14.15	14.15 – 15.15
Monday	Springboard (PE)	LeapPad 2 (Swim) 5A (PE)			4A (Swim) 5B (PE)		4B (Swim) 2A (PE)	
Tuesday		LeapPad 1 (Swim) 4A (PE)		RB (Swim) 4B (PE)	RA (Swim) 2B(PE)		2A(Swim) 3A (PE)	Springboard (Swim) 3B (PE)
Wednesday	Nursery (PE)			1A (PE)	1B(PE)		RA (PE)	RB (PE)
Thursday		LeapPad 2 (PE)		3A (Swim)	3B (Swim)		1A (Swim)	1B (Swim)
Friday		LeapPad 1 (PE)		5A (Swim)	5B (Swim)		6A (Swim)	6B (Swim)



We are delighted to announce that we will be working with the Ipswich Town Football Club Foundation from January 2025.

Mondays - Year 4 - 6
After School Football Club
3.15 - 4.15pm
[Book here](#)

We will have a ITFC Foundation coach working with us for two days a week (Monday and Tuesday) to assist Curtis in the delivery of our PE programmes. Curtis will continue to take PE sessions along with more swimming lessons throughout the week.

Tuesday - Years 1 - 3
After School Football Club
3.15 - 4.15pm
[Book here](#)

As part of this partnership ITFC will also be running an after school Football Club on Mondays (Year 4 - 6) and Tuesdays (Years 1 - 3) between 3.15 and 4.15pm. These clubs will be bookable for the term. Please see further in the newsletter for all other clubs.

Attendance Update

Attendance has been good at Murrayfield this term apart from a three week period in the middle of November where there was a lot of illness through the school. Thank you all for your help in communicating absences to us each day.

The last day of school is Friday 20th December and we return in the New Year on Tuesday 7th January with gates opening at the usual time of 08:40am. We look forward to seeing you in 2025 and wish you a happy holiday.

Sean Alcock, Attendance Officer



Thank you for all of your kind donations for Children in Need.

The school raised a total of £90 for this incredible cause.

Playground Etiquette at Drop off and Collection Times

Please could we politely remind adults that drop off and collect children to be mindful of the language used in our playground, particularly around our children. We would also ask that any smoking/vaping is done away from the school site and gates.

Parking

Just a gentle reminder to be considerate when parking in and around the school. With the Murrayside Community Centre works being undertaken in the car park, we appreciate parking is difficult but please do be mindful when parking.

Donations and gifts

We would like to express our gratitude to **Gainsborough Labour Club**, in particular Sue, Kirsten and Jo for their generous donation, which they have raised for the school. They have also put together multiple food hampers for some of our families and we are very grateful to them for this.

Children's Author Visit

We are delighted to announce that we will be having a visit in the Spring term from children's authors Robert Ramsden, writer of the series 'In the Garden' which teaches young children all about nature and Kate Rolfe, award winning illustrator and writer as part of the Red Hat Reading Festival.

Parent/Carer Survey

Thank you to all those that participated in the parent/carers survey in November, we are very grateful for all of your feedback. Congratulations to Sarah Young who won the £50 shopping voucher as a result of taking part.

Nut Free School

A polite reminder that we are a nut free school, therefore please do not send your child into school with anything that may contain nuts - including chocolate spreads such as Nutella. Thank you for your co-operation.

After School Clubs Spring Term

w/c Tuesday 7 January - w/c 31 March 2025

In addition to the two new football clubs being ran by the Ipswich Town Foundation we will be running our usual after school clubs during the week as below. The bookings will become live on My Child at School under 'Clubs and Trips' on **Friday 3 January 2025**

Monday

Swimming Club Years 1 - 3

Gardening Club Years 1 - 6

Computer Club Years 4 - 6

Tuesday

Swimming Club Years 4 - 6

Share & Learn Years 3 - 6

Wednesday

Art Club Years 1 - 6

Dodgeball Club Year Reception - 6

Thursday

Ukulele Club Years 1 - 6

Friday

Gymnastics Club Reception - 6

Activities taking place throughout Ipswich over the Christmas holiday



Inspire

We are a dedicated youth charity, empowering under 25s to achieve a better future. Working closely with young people, we support their personal development and wellbeing, as well as helping them overcom...

 eequ.org

Inspire Suffolk are offering a number of holiday clubs throughout half term. Go to www.eequ.org to see what is available.

Weekend Wildlife Club

Meet new friends, get outdoors and learn about nature. Join us in the beautiful, historic Holywells Park every month for a different wild theme

Join us on every second Saturday of the month, with different wild themes for 6 - 11 year olds to get stuck into

You could...

Discover all about trees, investigate invertebrates, learn about birds, build wild skills, and more!



Suffolk
Wildlife Trust

Follow the QR code to the Ipswich events page, then look for Weekend Wildlife Club