

2026

The Meppershall Magazine

"God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God lives in them." (1 John 4:16)

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a year it has been! Watching the children continue to grow in their academics, their outside achievements and their confidence has been an absolute joy for all of us. This year has been packed with so many wonderful events, from Enterprise Day and the Colour Run to our school discos, the Spelling Bee, the numerous sporting events we've taken part in and the unforgettable PGL trip. The list goes on! We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to the PTA for organising so many of these fantastic events, as well as the School Parliament and our entire school community for continuing to support us so well. This is actually the longest newsletter we have written yet, simply because there is just so much to celebrate across the school!

As we look ahead to the holidays, we leave you with the words of Psalm: "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." We wish you all a deeply joyful, peaceful, and happy summer spent making memories with your families.

Miss Corcoran and Mrs Newman

Information

Messages

A reminder: the children return to school on Monday 7th September.

Messages

Our value when we return will be: thankfulness.

Messages

In the coming days, we will be adding our Autumn dates for the diary to our website.

Messages



Mrs Newman

Dear All,

I write this with very mixed emotions. It is hard for me to believe that my thirty year teaching career is coming to an end. Whilst I have excitement about spending more time with my grandchildren, travelling the world and exploring new hobbies, I also feel a great sadness in saying goodbye to what I consider to be the best job in the world. Saying goodbye to the Meppershall community will be really tough.

I have made a conservative estimate of the number of children I have actually taught over the past 30 years and came up with a figure of just over 4,000. To have the opportunity to work with so many families has been a real privilege. That is not to say that everything has been perfect; I have made mistakes along the way - hopefully learning from them and becoming a better educator because of them. Teaching is tough, but so rewarding and gives you a sense of making a real contribution to young people's lives. I have also had some absolute highs and I certainly have never been bored! Every day is different and I wouldn't have had it any other way. You can be hit with a hundred questions the minute you walk in the door together with many problems to solve including but not exclusively, 'There's a goose on the playground', 'Ofsted are on the phone' and 'There's a dead pigeon on the path' (this morning's problem). Being a head is about expecting the unexpected and that is part of the joy of the job ... and if it isn't a joy it makes for a good dinner party story!

It is my time to go and knowing that I am leaving the school in such safe hands is a real comfort. Miss Corcoran is more than ready for the role and has already done so well this year as we have worked together. She has a great team behind her and I know she will be grateful for your support.

Today, I have been completely overwhelmed by the kind words, gifts and gestures shared with me. I actually held it together really well until the children flash mobbed me on the playground to 'Dancing Queen'. It was a wonderful way to end my time with them. I shall really miss them and all of you. I will always have an affinity to Meppershall and I am sure I will be back for a visit or two.

Thank you all from the bottom of my heart.

Kind regards,

Margaret Newman

Mrs Newman

As this term comes to a close, we say a heartfelt and fond farewell to Mrs. Newman, a truly fantastic headteacher who has dedicated so much love, care and support to countless children and families across both Henlow and Meppershall.

We have thoroughly enjoyed celebrating her incredible legacy over the last few weeks, and we want to extend a massive thank you to all the parents and carers who generously contributed toward her retirement gift.

In our recent church service, Mrs. Newman shared her deep gratitude for our school community. In that spirit, we would like to say a huge thank you to: MAP-TA for funding our new Garden Room and to all the parents who volunteered their time, tools and hard work to help build it.

Anyone who knows Mrs. Newman knows that her absolute favourite thing to do with the children has always been sharing a great book. As a lasting tribute to our wonderful headteacher, we are thrilled to officially declare "Newman's Nest," our brand new library, open! "The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." — Dr. Seuss



Acorns



This half term we have...

This half term, Acorns Class have enjoyed a fantastic learning journey through our main theme, 'Under the Sea'. The children have been fully engaged in our high-quality texts, which have brought our learning experiences to life and inspired meaningful discussions and imaginative play. Through our theme work, the children have explored important themes such as the impact of pollution on our oceans and past and present experiences, helping them to develop their understanding of the world around them and think carefully about how we can care for our environment.

We are incredibly proud of the progress the children have made this year, particularly as they have completed phonics learning. Their confidence in reading and writing has grown enormously, and their hard work and determination have been wonderful to see. In Mathematics, the children have enjoyed lots of practical, hands-on learning, including exploring the properties of 3D shapes and using mathematical language to describe what they noticed. These practical experiences have helped the children deepen their understanding while having fun.



Acorns



This half term we have...

Sports Day was a huge success, and we were so proud of every child for taking part with enthusiasm, perseverance and a smile on their face.

The recent hot weather has certainly provided an additional challenge, but the children have coped remarkably well and shown great resilience in difficult conditions. As we come to the end of a wonderful year together, we would like to thank all of our Acorns families for their continued support. We wish everyone a fantastic summer and look forward to seeing all the amazing progress the children continue to make as they move on to Elm Class.



Acorns



This half term we have...



Finally, we would like to wish Miss Rios the best of luck and offer our congratulations as she is getting married over the summer and will be known as Mrs Rios next year. We hope the weather is kind and that every minute of her celebration is savoured and enjoyed!



This half term we have...

Elms have had an incredible, fun and hard-working final term. We loved finishing the last half-term with the amazing Colour run and had to share a picture! Thank you all for coming and supporting us with this fabulous event.



Elms have been fortunate enough to have the lovely Year 4's come in to help them with their computing lessons. The Year 4's have also visited us on a Friday afternoon, during Book Club. They enjoyed listening to the children read and discussing their favourite books.



Elms



This half term we have...

Last half-term the children planted their sunflower seeds and then were able to take them home. Abi, Daniel and Amelia's are growing very well in their gardens.



The children worked extremely hard during their DT Day, designing and making their very own, one-of-a-kind African necklace. First, the children looked at some pictures of African jewellery. They noticed the colours that were used: blue, brown, orange, white, red and green. They then went and designed their African necklace on their paper. Next, they used a paper plate as the necklace and drew their design on it and then they coloured it in. Finally, they glued their painted pasta on their necklace and used the left-over painted pasta as their hanging jewels. The children came up with the idea of selling their jewellery on our stall for the Enterprise Day. You can see their wonderful creations on the next page!

Elms



This half term we have...





This half term we have...

During the children's Art Day, we were looking at Kenyan art. The children used pastels to draw their African Sky pictures. They were inspired by the artist Edward Tinga Tinga, who was an African Artist, born 100 years ago. He lived in a poor village, and he loved music and art. He painted lots of pictures to sell to tourists, and he became rich and successful. The children cut out some African animals and designed them in the theme of Edward Tinga Tinga.





Finally, we would like to say a huge congratulations to Miss Hornsey, who is getting married this summer, and will be Mrs Spalis to us all in September! We all hope that her and Yanis have a fantastic day filled with sunshine.

We would also like to say a massive thank you to Mrs Gregory, who has built incredible relationships with all of Elms, making them feel valued and like they can achieve anything. We wish her the best of luck as she moves on to her next exciting venture.

Good Luck!

Willows



We have had an amazing year in Willows, from crafting, to learning new sports, to solving tricky maths problems, our class has never given up! Mrs Hendley and I would like to say a HUGE well done to all of Willows and a heartfelt thanks to all the parents for your continued support.

Willows learned about coastal features this half term and compared physical features with human features. We looked at several UK coastal locations and compared satellite images with photos of landmarks and what they looked like on a Google map. We then created a 3D model of a coastal location loosely based on St. Ives in Cornwall. We made the model using newspaper, cooked flour paste and coloured tissue paper. Children then planned their town which I believe they called Sunnyside (I think...the kids will remember!) and as teacher led/shared learning, we planned the human features that would be suitable for our coastal town. We decided on the shops the town would need as well as a castle, church and lifeboat station. Children each made a 3D paper model of one of the buildings using nets. I took an aerial photo of our large model and as a teacher led/shared learning lesson, children each chose a section of our aerial photo to use to create a 2D map with grid boxes and a key. I think that everyone will agree, the children did amazingly!



Willows



Willows



Willows



Birches



This half term we have...

We have had a fantastic final half-term in Birches, before the next exciting step into Oaks. A highlight for so many of the children was the Ark Farm visit.



Birches



This half term we have...



Birches

We also had a brilliant time at the Stone Age workshop!



Birches



Oaks



This half term we have...

The whole school enjoyed a visit from Rocksteady Music School, a provider of in-school pop and rock band lessons. The children were introduced to the main instruments that usually make up a band and some were lucky enough to have go at playing them. We all loved clapping and singing along. Our very first band members are already signed up for lessons in September, and will work towards preparing for their first concert. Spaces are still available if your child is interested in taking part. For more details on availability and cost, visit rocksteadymusicschool.com and find our school on the sign up page or call 0330 113 0330.



Oaks



It's hard to believe that we have reached the last half term for Oaks class and that the children will be soon all moving on to their new Year 5 classes.

We've had an exciting time from leading our teams at Sports Day, to working together with Elms class in Computing and planning our Enterprise stalls. The most enjoyed lesson this term has probably been our swimming sessions at Flitwick pool; in only six sessions we could see some incredible progress, particularly from our starter swimmers. Back in the classroom, we have continued our learning about North and South America in Geography. We linked this to English, where we wrote a report comparing Meppershall to Rio de Janeiro and learned about the Brazilian artist Beatriz Milhazes, completing our own art in her contemporary style.



Oaks



We also had an amazing time when the Ark Farm came to visit!



Oaks









Finally, a huge congratulations to all of our children in Birches and Oaks who have worked so hard in rehearsals, learning lines and songs for our end of term production, 'Class Act.' We're so proud of their performances and think there may be some budding actors amongst us who we may see in the West End in the future!





Choir



Our amazing school choir visited the New Meppershall Care Home on one of the hottest days of the year to entertain the residents. They had learned a range of old-time songs that the residents were able to join in with, and it was lovely to hear them join in with the children. After their performance, they were treated to a cooling ice lolly before the walk back to school.



Enterprise Day

Our Enterprise Day was a huge success and we would like to thank all of the parents, carers for their support. The pupils had incredible ideas and enjoyed spending the money that they made on an end of year treat. Well done to the School Parliament for this brilliant event and Mrs Wisson for helping to bring this idea to life!





We would like to wish Mrs Jones and Mrs Maxwell the best of luck in their next exciting ventures and thank them both for the fantastic ways that they supported all of our pupils.

Mrs Mitchell, Mrs Joynes and Mrs Carter will all be moving to our Henlow site to continue to support our Year 4s moving on. We thank them for their continued commitment to our trust and pupils.

Good Luck!

Last but not least, have an amazing,
restful and safe summer!

