



Happy New Year!

As the New Year begins, you may recall that this time last year we were immediately ordered into another lengthy lockdown due to the COVID situation. It's quite incredible that 12 months later we still find ourselves in a situation of rising infections and a record breaking number of positive cases. However, it appears that closing schools is not something that the government want to repeat; with the clear intention to keep schools open. While I know that this will cause some apprehension and concern for many families about the ongoing risks of mixing in large numbers, we are fully committed to ensuring your child is as safe as possible at school during this uncertain and challenging time. We will continue to put in place measures to reduce mixing of large groups as well as the regular hygiene procedures that we have become used to over the past couple of years.

While COVID does dominate the national news agenda and affects our lives on a daily basis, I want to assure you that we remain committed to providing the children with a high-quality and enriching education every single day.

Let's hope that 2022 sees the pandemic become a thing of the past and one day it might even be taught to school children of the future in their history and science lessons! Talking of science, the children will continue to get into the science lab over the course of the next two terms as we further develop our science specialism at MNA.

Information will be sent out to parents in the next few weeks about the areas of study that your child will be covering this term across all subjects. You can also pop onto the academy's website to view the curriculum offer that your child receives - it's all under the 'Curriculum' tab.

Immunisations

The Leeds Immunisation Team are organising a further two clinics for any children who missed out on the flu vaccination this flu season.

Parents and carers need to contact the below number to book an appointment if their child missed the flu vaccination previously. N.B. These clinics are not drop in sessions.

- 10th Jan 2022 – City & Holbeck Children's Centre – Hunslet Hall Road, LS11 6TT – 3.30-5.30pm
- 18th Jan 2022 – Aireborough Leisure Centre – LS20 9DA – 3.30-6pm



*"I keep writing 'Stone Age' instead of
'Bronze Age' on all my checks."*

bob

Play to the whistle!

We are delighted to let you know that on Wednesday 19 January, Premier League referee, Martin Atkinson, will be coming into MNA to speak to the children about his fascinating job. Mr Atkinson has been refereeing top flight football for many years and has also refereed international matches during that time. We suggest that children are on their best behaviour to avoid getting into bother with the ref...it might even have to go to VAR!



After-school clubs

In light of the current public health situation, we have slightly delayed the return of after-school clubs for this term. We plan to get them up-and-running again from w.c. 17 January. More details will be sent out to families by Mrs Higgins to give you the opportunity to sign your child up to an activity.

Cheerleading will continue from Monday 17 January until 14 February 2022; Singing squad will resume Tuesday 18 January until 15 February 2022.



Cold and frosty mornings

It looks like we are in for some very cold weather in the next few weeks. Please ensure that your child arrives to school in appropriate clothing to keep them warm on these chilly days. We also ask families to enter the site with caution as the playground and surrounding paths are slippery - sometimes involving black ice. We will continue to keep the site safe during the winter months.



Attendance

The attendance winners for last half term are Boron Class in Year 3 and Silver Class in Reception. Both classes will receive a treat in the next week - congratulations to both classes!

Thank you to all the families who have been so vigilant in keeping school updated in terms of COVID-related absence since the start of the week. The guidance is pretty complicated at times so I appreciate the efforts that families have gone through in making the correct calls in terms of keeping their children off school when necessary.

Have a lovely weekend - stay safe!