

# December 2024 The Meppershall Magazine

## What an exciting year 2024 has been at Meppershall Academy!

What a year we have had with much achieved and new friends made. Celebrating our Ofsted Good in March seems like a very long time ago. Nevertheless we are really proud of all the school achieved at that time but especially the way the pupils conducted themselves during the inspection.

We welcomed lots of new faces to our school community this year; both children and staff, and are delighted with how quickly everyone settled into our school. We welcomed Miss Toyne to Acorns Class in January and Miss Piper in Birches Class in September and they have both thrown themselves headlong into Meppershall Academy life.

We continue to cement our strong connections with Henlow Church of England Academy and were delighted that they gifted a beautiful Christmas tree to us. It really is stunning and the children enjoyed decorating. We would like to extend our thanks to the Trust for this gorgeous gift.

MAPTA have been super busy raising funds for the school as usual. It all started with The Shefford Christmas Light Switch On at the end of November. They also held our inaugural Christmas Cinema event which tied in nicely with our children singing at the village Christmas Tree Light Switch On. This was followed by our ever popular Santa shop where pupils could buy presents for their family. We are so lucky to have such an active PTA and it has been lovely to see new people join and get involved. They are an amazing group of people who put a huge amount of time and effort into planning great events for our pupils as well as raising funds for the school. I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank them (and helpers) for everything they do.

Our Advent window this year was lit on the 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Thank you Mrs Palmer who solely created our display - a beautiful nativity scene reminding us of the true meaning of Christmas.

On Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December, we had our Christmas Candlelight Service at St Mary's with Birches and Oaks. Each class performed so well accompanied by Mrs Allen on the piano and Mrs Earp (Executive Head of Poppy Hill Trust) and her daughter Verity playing their flutes. We would like to thank Rev Roni for hosting this event. Our relationship with St Mary's Church is really special to us and to start our Christmas Celebrations at Church is such a magical way to begin the Christmas festivities.

Our pupils have performed to packed audiences all week at school with additional Grandparents concert and performance dates added due to the high demand. Huge thanks to all the staff for pulling it together but especially Miss Corcoran for coordinating it all and to you the parents for all the wonderful costumes; the children looked wonderful.

A reminder if your child is due to start school next September and you are considering applying for a place at Meppershall Academy, we will be happy to show you around with a personal tour. Please contact the school on 01462 813293 or email [office@meppershallacad.org](mailto:office@meppershallacad.org). The deadline for applying for a space is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the staff who have given above and beyond this term. There has been much illness and people have pulled together and made sure that every class is covered and the pupils' learning remains uninterrupted.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your support and wish you all a healthy and happy Christmas and I look forward to welcoming the children back on Monday 6th January.

Mrs Newman

# Information

## Messages



Bible Exhibition—The children had a great time when The Bible Exhibition Team came in for an interactive presentation

## Messages



Remembrance Service 2024

## Messages

A big thank you to Doug and The Sugar Loaf who donated £166 to the school from their Race Night

## Messages

Our Advent Window

Thank you to Mrs Palmer for this years lovely advent window display.



# Acorns



## This half term we have...

This half term Acorns have been learning about 'Real Superheroes'. They have met a range of different people who help people in our community.



# Elms



## This half term we have...

Elms Class has had a busy and exciting half term! We've been learning all about Space and exploring the wonders of our universe.

We have also become real scientists, completing our very first experiments. We had lots of fun investigating different materials and testing how they react! We have looked at freezing, melting floating, sinking and absorption.



# Willows



## This half term we have...

This half term, the children in Willows have been busy preparing their version of the Nativity- Hey Ewe. Despite lots of the children suffering from multiple illnesses, they all worked incredibly hard at learning the songs, the dances and their lines. Alongside Acorns and Elms, they delivered three fantastic performances of the play and two carol concerts. I would like to say another thank you to you all for helping the children practise at home, for sourcing their costumes and singing along to 'We Wish you a Merry Christmas'. It was a real pleasure watching it all come together- they all did an amazing job! Have a lovely Christmas. Miss Corcoran



# Birches



## This half term we have...

Birches have had a fantastic and busy term settling into their new Year 3 routines. They enjoyed an inspiring trip to St Albans Cathedral where they explored the cathedral and created their own tiles with Christian symbols. They have tackled some amazing maths, especially loving column addition and subtraction. In English, they've written fantastic stories and an impressive newspaper report. They've loved exploring the fascinating world of Ancient Egypt, learning all about Egyptian life and even how to write in hieroglyphics! In Science, they've studied food groups and food waste, creating colourful and informative posters to share their knowledge. Next term will be just as busy and exciting, with plenty of new activities and adventures to look forward to!



# Oaks



## This half term we have...

Our Year 4 Young Leaders attended their first online meeting with other Young Leaders around the country. They talked about the meaning of flourish and how they could use their voices to help make changes in the community around them. We will discuss their ideas in the New Year.

Year 4 Sports Leaders have been busy providing activities for the younger children on the playground at lunchtime.

Year 4 delivering Class Worship with their Acorns buddies.



# Dates to Remember



## Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Additional Information
Monday 6th January	Return to School	
Friday 24th January	MAPTA Donut Day	Parents will be able to pre-order Krispy Kreme donuts for collection on this date
Tuesday 4th February	Young Voices	Choir at the O2
Friday 7th February	Adult quiz night	In the school hall, pre-order fish & chips and BYOB
Tuesday 11th February	Parents Evening	3.45pm—6.30pm
Thursday 13th February	Parents Evening	3.45pm—6.30pm
Friday 14th	Break the Rules Day	For a donation
17th —21st	Half Term	



# Information

## Charity from Meppershall Academy

Thanks to all your amazing and generous donations Meppershall Academy have been able to raise the below this school year:

£126 was raised by wearing yellow for The Young Minds Trust with our Wear Yellow day on Thursday 10th October 2024.

**YOUNGMINDS**

Meppershall CofE Academy raised £104.62 for the Royal British Legion by selling their poppy merchandise.



We raised £147.17 from our Non-Uniform day in aid of Children in need on Friday 15th November 2024.



On our Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 12th December 2024 we raised £73.50 for Save the Children.



The Need Project—Just a selection of the food you brought in from our Harvest Festival appeal to donated to families in need.



# REMINDERS

Please remember to park legally and considerately for our neighbours. The children have recently had a visit about Road Safety and we should all be teaching our children about keeping safe and to be considerate of others, especially our neighbours, who continuously support the school.

We are a nut free school—this includes Nutella products

The closing date for starting school in September 2025 is Wednesday 15th January 2025

## PE KIT

PE Kit is yellow t shirt and black jumper/hoodie and joggers.

On gymnastics days children should wear shorts under their joggers. Gymnastics days will be confirmed in the new year. Please ensure that shoes worn for PE are suitable for high levels of activity. If children are not able to do laces up, make sure they have shoes which they can easily do up themselves.

Children should not wear earrings or other jewellery for PE. These should be removed prior to the lesson by the child or parent. If this is not possible parents may choose to cover their child's earrings in plasters or tape. If tape is being used to cover earrings it will depend on the lesson whether the child will take a full participating role.

School Lunches are now to be pre-ordered—an online form will be sent out on a Monday for the lunches for the following week. If a form is not submitted, you will need to send your child into school the following week with a packed lunch.

The gate for School Drop off opens at 8.40am and closes at 8.55am. If you arrive after this time, your child may receive a late mark.