

# Newsletter



Next week in school, our school catering team will be celebrating New Year by hosting a special party lunch. The lunch will take place on Thursday 19th January and we invite all children to leave their packed lunches at home and enjoy a delicious school meal. This year, every child who has a school meal will be entered into a prize draw and have the opportunity to win a very special prize.

I wish you a restful and relaxing weekend!

Mr James

Headteacher



## Author Visit

We are delighted to announce that children's author **Phil Earle** will be visiting Malvern next Thursday (19<sup>th</sup> January). Phil is the author of many books, including 'Demolition Dad' and 'Superhero Street'.

While he is in school, Phil will lead a special assembly for KS2 children. During the assembly, he will tell children all about his background and talk about his two most recent books: 'While the Storm Rages' and 'When the Sky Falls'.

Meeting an author, illustrator, poet or storyteller in real life or virtually and hearing them convey their passion for their work can fundamentally alter a child or young person's relationship to books and ignite a life-long love of reading.

After the assembly, Phil will be doing a book signing to give children the chance to meet him in person and have a chat.



## Community Library

At Malvern, we are very lucky to have such a well-stocked library. Every class in school has a time each week when children can spend time in the library and borrow books.

From the start of this school year, we've been keen to share our library space with the school community and we're developing a 'Community Library' section for adult readers.

Each morning, our library is open from 8.00am for children and adults to come in and have a morning read. Children will go to class at 8.45am - but adults are welcome to stay until 9.15am. Why not come and enjoy a hot drink and a read? Please remember that all children must be accompanied by an adult.



## Coffee Morning

Our popular coffee morning has now moved from Friday morning to Tuesday morning from 9 - 10 am. All families are welcome to attend.



## Malvern Memories

In 2008, former Malvern pupil, Mark Campbell, published 'Malvern Memories' - a book that celebrated the life and times of our school, from its opening in the early 1950s to the date of publication. We are delighted to announce that Mark has started work on a sequel. With the working title of 'Malvern Memories Revisited', this new book will bring the story of Malvern Primary School bang up to date. If you have any photographs or memories that you would like to have considered for inclusion, please send them to Mark via email:

[mark@huytonpublishing.com](mailto:mark@huytonpublishing.com)



## Rock 'n' Roll Pantomime

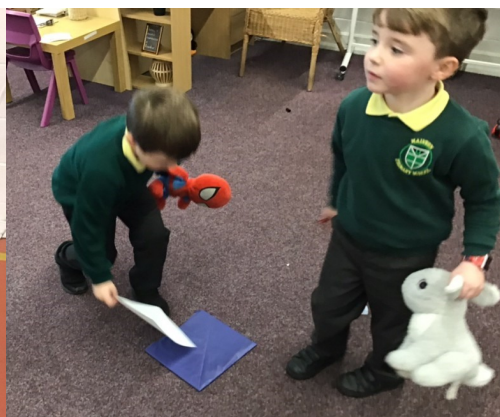
Last night, our Drama and Theatre Club children were out and about - again! This time, it was to the Everyman Theatre for their rock'n'roll pantomime: Red Riding Hood. A super-talented cast had the children on the edge of their seats from start to finish. (Oh no they didn't! Oh yes they did!)

Everybody had a rocking-good, laughter-filled time. Mr Kynaston reported: 'As always, it was a pleasure taking Drama & Theatre Club children to the theatre. Their behaviour was exemplary and they were superb Malvern ambassadors.'



## Have You Seen Mr Bear?

This week, to launch their topic 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' children in Reception and their cuddly companions enjoyed a teddies bear picnic. Surprisingly, there were footprints throughout the classroom. Could these belong to a bear?



# Attendance

## Spotlight On: Attendance

Here at Malvern, we are committed to raising the attainment of the pupils at our school so that they have the skills they need to be successful in the next stage of their education. To ensure all pupils achieve their potential, it is vital that they attend school every day possible. At Malvern, pupils are growing their knowledge and understanding every session of every school day. For this reason, we see a significant correlation between persistent absence and low attainment. This is a key driver in our school improvement planning.

We will continue to celebrate fantastic attendance through our fantastic rewards and incentives. These include:

**Attende of the week Prize** – This is awarded to a child who has made a sustained effort to improve their attendance or has demonstrated resilience in their determination to attend school.

**100% Attendance Class Prize** – Each week, any classes with 100% attendance are awarded a cash prize.

**97%** - If individual children have attendance of 97% or more they are entered into raffles and have the opportunity to win special days out and prizes.

**In2Win Attendance League** – Our whole school attendance league will continue to run throughout the spring term.

If your child is absent for any reason, it is imperative that you contact school on each day of their absence. This reduces the workload on our administration team and means we are able to keep accurate records in school.

**EVERY SCHOOL DAY COUNTS**  
**TIPS FOR PARENTS BY PARENTS**

- Don't give in! Follow through.
- Be organised! Get everything ready from the night before. Have their coats and bags at the door, their lunch made and their clothes on the banisters.
- Treat it like a military operation in the morning!
- Don't give them a choice to stay at home.
- Give yourself 15 minutes before the kids get up.
- No TV, iPad or phones allowed in the morning.
- Keep talking about the importance of school.
- Early to bed the night before school, especially after holidays.
- Come back to school after doctor/ dentist appointments.
- Know how many days your child has missed in school.

**TUSLA**  
An Ghníomhaireacht um Leanaí agus an Teaghlach  
Child and Family Agency

**CYPSC**  
CHILDREN'S YOUTH SERVICES  
Dublin City North

## Did You Know?

If your child is **30 minutes** late every day they miss **2 and a half hours a week**. That works out at **4 days a term** and **12 days a year!**

If your child is between 5 and 16 years old and is a registered pupil at school, it is your legal responsibility to make sure they attend regularly.

If your child misses **1 day of school** a week they miss **7 and a half weeks a year**. This is more than half a term's learning!