

Newsletter



Dear Malvern Families,

This time of year is exceptionally busy for everyone. Children, families and staff all come together to make the Christmas period a positive and memorable time in school. We do everything we can to ensure that the season feels magical for the children and it is a pleasure to see how much they enjoy the experiences we provide.

In recent weeks, pupils have taken part in a wide range of festive activities, from community events and shared celebrations to special experiences within school. Whether it has been coming together for Christmas dinner, taking part in the Santa Dash, enjoying performances or visiting our festive spaces, the enthusiasm shown by the children has been wonderful to see. None of this would be possible without the commitment of the staff team, who continue to go above and beyond.

The support of our families plays a significant part in helping these moments feel special for the children. Their joy and excitement remind us why we work so hard to create these opportunities. They remain at the centre of all that we do and continue to make Malvern a place where greatness grows.

Have a great week!

Mr James
Headteacher

Solar Panel Installation Update

As shared previously, we are delighted that Malvern has been selected to take part in a national programme that will support schools in reducing energy use and increasing sustainability through the installation of solar panels. This forms an important part of our long-term commitment to environmental responsibility and our aim to make Malvern one of the greenest schools in the country.

We have now been notified that the installation phase is ready to begin and contractors have already been on site over the weekend to carry out the initial preparation work. To enable safe access for contractors, a section of the school car park will be out of use for the remainder of the term. There will also be some temporary changes for Year 2. Scaffolding will be positioned outside the Year 2 classrooms, which means that children will enter and leave through the fire door at the end of the building until the end of term. These measures are in place to ensure that the installation can proceed safely. Staff will continue to supervise all outdoor areas carefully and we appreciate families supporting these temporary arrangements.

Although there will be some short-term disruption, the long-term benefit for our school is significant. The installation of solar panels will help reduce our energy use, support our sustainability goals and provide valuable learning opportunities for pupils in the years ahead.

Thank you for your continued support as we take this important step forward.



Department
of Energy &
Climate Change

Arbor Transition: Important Information for All Families

Following our earlier update about streamlining school communication, we are now ready to move to the next stage of our transition to Arbor. As shared previously, Arbor will allow us to bring together a number of systems into one place, helping to make information clearer, more consistent and easier for families to manage. Arbor will replace ParentPay and PA Connect from **Monday 5th January 2026**. From this date, all key services will move across to Arbor and parents will need an active account to access them.

School Clubs

All after school clubs, both free and paid, will be booked and paid for through Arbor. Clubs for next term will go live for booking on **Thursday 18th December**. Families will receive an in app notification when bookings open.

Trips and Consent Forms

All school trips, including information, consent and payments, will be managed only through Arbor.

School Meals

Payments for school lunches and nursery lunch provision will move to Arbor.

Wraparound Care and Breakfast Club

All bookings for Nursery and Reception after school care, Breakfast Club (Rec to Year 6), and wraparound provision must be booked and paid for in advance through Arbor. Bookings for the new term will also go live on **Thursday 18th December**.

Communication

All messages, reminders and updates from school will be sent through Arbor. Once the transition is complete, we will no longer use PA Connect.

Outstanding Balances

Parents with outstanding balances on ParentPay are asked to settle these amounts. Negative balances will transfer to Arbor and families will not be able to book certain items or provisions until debts are cleared.

Action Required

At present, around 20 percent of parents have not yet activated their Arbor accounts. Families who have not logged in will not be able to book clubs, pay for meals, receive messages or secure wraparound places once the system goes live.

We strongly encourage all families to activate their Arbor account this week to ensure a smooth transition and uninterrupted access to school services. Anyone requiring support is welcome to contact the school office, where staff will be happy to help. We remain committed to improving communication for all families and are confident that Arbor will provide a clearer and more efficient system as we move forward.



Arbor

Junior Leadership Team Learn About Parliament

Members of our Junior Leadership Team took part in a special UK Parliament Week workshop delivered by the LFC Foundation. The session introduced pupils to the structure of the Houses of Parliament and helped them understand the roles of the House of Commons and the House of Lords. Through discussion and interactive tasks, pupils explored how decisions are made and why democracy plays such an important role in our society.

The workshop encouraged thoughtful questions and supported the development of leadership, communication and critical thinking skills. Our JLT members represented Malvern with maturity and interest throughout the session.



Exploring Science Across the School

Earlier this term, pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 enjoyed a Hands On Science Day filled with practical investigations linked to their learning. Each year group explored a different scientific theme and took part in activities designed to spark curiosity and deepen understanding.

Year 1 learned about teeth and created their own plaster casts, while Year 2 examined skeletons and explored how bones support and protect the body. Year 3 investigated light through a series of illuminating experiments and Year 4 built and tested simple electrical circuits. Year 5 explored forces and motion through a lively rocket challenge and Year 6 carried out a heart dissection that offered a close look at how this vital organ works.

Pupils approached the day with real enthusiasm, and it proved to be a memorable celebration of discovery, enquiry and hands on learning across the school.



Developing Orienteering Skills

Year 3 have enjoyed beginning their introduction to orienteering and developing the key skills needed to navigate using a map. Pupils learned how to orientate their maps correctly, identify important features and select the most effective routes. They then put these skills into practice by locating points positioned around the school grounds.

The children approached the challenge with enthusiasm, working carefully to interpret symbols, plan their movements and check their accuracy. This first step in their orienteering journey has given them a strong foundation and a real sense of excitement for the activities still to come.

It was an enjoyable and purposeful experience that supported teamwork, problem solving and growing independence.



Parking Near School

We have received a number of calls from local residents who are experiencing difficulties at drop off and pick up times. One resident recently reported that a car had been parked across her driveway and that the situation became unpleasant when she attempted to address it. Incidents of this nature cause distress to our neighbours and place unnecessary strain on relationships within our community.

We kindly remind all families to treat residents and their property with respect and to avoid blocking driveways or parking in a way that causes inconvenience. We fully appreciate that the area becomes busy at school times. However, we ask for patience, courtesy and consideration at all times.

We also need to remind parents that the school car park must not be used for dropping off or collecting children. There continue to be occasions where parents follow staff vehicles through the gates or wait for staff to leave before driving in. This creates unnecessary risk and compromises the safety measures we have in place for pupils and staff.

Thank you for helping us maintain positive relationships with our neighbours and for supporting a safe and respectful environment around the school.



Bikes & Scooters

It is encouraging to see so many children and families choosing to walk, cycle and scooter to school. These active journeys support healthy routines and contribute positively to the start and end of the school day.

To help keep everyone safe, we would like to remind families that scooters and bikes should not be ridden on the playground or courtyard at the start or end of the school day. We politely request that all cyclists dismount before entering the school gates. This simple step helps ensure the safety and wellbeing of all members of our school community.

Key Dates - Autumn Term

Date	Event
Monday 15 December	KS1 Nativity 2.30 pm
Tuesday 16 December	KS1 Nativity 9.30 am
Wednesday 17 December	Drama Theatre Club Evening Performance
Thursday 18 December	Drama Theatre Club Evening Performance
Friday 19 December	School closes 1.30 pm

Attendance League Standings

POSITION	TEAM	PLAYED	WON	DRAW	POINTS
1	The Happy Horans	10	8	0	26
2	The Smashing Sheikhs	10	6	0	25
3	Brown's Busy Bees	10	8	0	24
4	Pyne's Pynecones	10	5	1	21
5	The Fiery Phillips	10	5	0	21
6	Resilient Reception 1	10	4	0	20
7	Worthington's Wishmakers	10	3	1	19
8	The Magical Murphys	10	5	0	19
9	The Corn Dogs	10	5	0	17
10	Donno's Dragons	10	5	1	16
11	Resilient Reception 2	10	3	0	15
12	The Corn on the Cobs	10	4	1	15
13	The McMinions	10	4	0	12
14	Davo's Dino Nuggets	10	1	1	5

Attendee of the Week

We are thrilled to celebrate Daniel as our Attendee of the Week. Since the beginning of Year 3, Daniel has shown outstanding commitment to his learning. He has made significant improvements in his attendance and approaches school each day with consistency, enthusiasm and a positive attitude.

Most impressively, Daniel has not missed a single day since September. This is an exceptional achievement and reflects real determination and pride in his learning. We are very proud of the progress he has made and the dedication he continues to show.

Well done, Daniel - keep up the amazing effort!



Weekly School Attendance

95.4%

Overall School Attendance

96.8%

HOT Winners (Here On Time)

Cristian M	George Mc
Savanna R	Audrey W
Mayiah D	Heidi J
Alfie E	Vaughn FE
Connie R	Ada M
Samuel K	Carter C
Isaac C	