

Tickford Times

22nd October 2020

End of Autumn 1

After 34 days back in school, the children have certainly earned their half-term break. I've enjoyed getting to know the school, meeting many of you and working with your children – with whom I've been very impressed.

I'd again like to thank all of the parents, pupils and staff of Tickford Park for giving me such a warm welcome this term. I've enjoyed my first couple of months here and am looking forward to the challenges and adventures that lie ahead.

I'd also like to thank you all for working with us to keep our school community as safe as we can. I know that this hasn't been easy, as it is very different to how we are used to functioning, but I've been grateful for the collaboration, communication and support from parents.

I wish you all a pleasant and safe half-term and look forward to seeing the children back in school on Monday 2nd November.

School Photographs

Your child should have brought home their individual school photo proof yesterday. If they didn't do so please check with their class teacher.

If you wish to purchase copies of these photos, please return the order form to school by 9am on Monday 9th November. Alternatively, you can order online, which is our preferred method in the current climate. Details of how to do this can be found on the proof that children bring home.

Staying Safe

Please see below an extract from a Milton Keynes council press release regarding Halloween. The full article also suggests some ways in which families can celebrate Halloween safely and can be found [here](#).

Should we go trick or treating?

Milton Keynes Council is asking local families to take extra precautions if they are planning Halloween activities this year, in light of COVID-19.

Milton Keynes is currently at the lowest Government COVID-19 alert level, medium, which means gatherings inside and out of up to six people are allowed. However, local cases of the virus are rising, and the council's public health experts are asking people to think twice about whether to go trick or treating at all.

Stops at multiple houses – where some vulnerable people may be shielding and may already feel concerned about answering the door – increases the risk of spreading COVID-19.

Secondary Applications

If you have a child in Year 6, please remember that Saturday 31st October is the deadline for making Secondary school applications. You can do this online, by clicking [here](#).



Attendance – Autumn 1

Please see below the superb attendances for each year group in the first half of the Autumn term:

Year	Classes	Attendance
FS	Pearl & Ruby	97.7%
1	Amber & Quartz	97.5%
2	Diamond & Malachite	97.2%
3	Jet & Topaz	97.6%
4	Peridot & Turquoise	96.8%
5	Emerald & Moonstone	97.1%
6	Amethyst & Sapphire	96.8%

Whole School:	97.2%
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Hot Meals

We are looking forward to restarting hot meals after the half-term break. We've been working hard with Chartwells to ensure that we can offer this provision without compromising the safety precautions we have in place.

Hopefully you've had a chance to see the menu which I posted to Class Dojo earlier this week. You can order your meals using Chartwells' ParentPay. If you need help with this, or are using the service for the first time, our office team will be available on Friday to help you out. Please feel free to give them a call.

Having never worked with Chartwells before, I'll be trying out their meals and talking to the children about their views on them. As with all aspects of our provision, I always welcome any feedback that you have on the school meals, so please drop me a line with your views once hot meals have resumed.

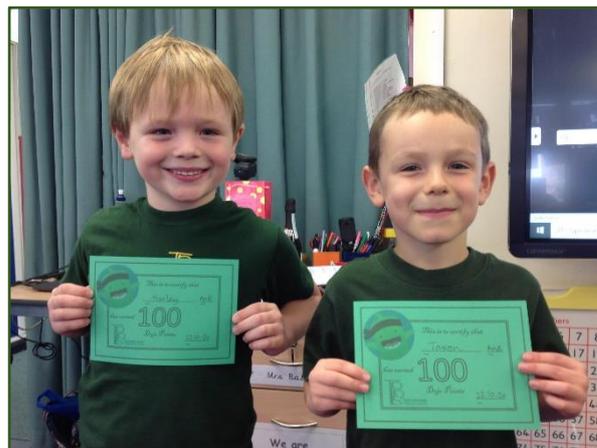


Dojo Points – Autumn 1

Congratulations to the following pupils who are the highest Dojo Point earners in their year groups:

Year	Name	Class	Dojos
1	Harley/Jaxon	Amber	109
2	Charlie	Malachite	113
3	Daisy	Jet	173
4	Lacey	Peridot	116
5	James	Moonstone	115
6	Mia	Amethyst	139

Congratulations to everyone who achieved their 100 certificate this term – I look forward to giving out some more after the break, along with some 220 certificates and our first special awards for reaching 250 Dojo Points.



Harley & Jaxon with their 100 certificates!

Staff Commendations

Has a member of our hardworking and dedicated team particularly impressed you this half-term? Has one of the teachers or teaching assistants gone above and beyond to support your child? If so, we'd love to hear about it. We've created a simple form for you to use to say thank you to the staff member in question, which you can find [here](#).

Harvest

We'll be having our harvest celebration on Friday 6th November. If you support our donation to MK Food Bank, please send your items in to school with you child during the first week of November. Please see [last week's newsletter](#) for full details.