



MacIntyre Academies
Quest Academy

JANUARY 2022 EDITION 1 NEWSLETTER



“Quote of
the week”

“We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year’s Day”
Edith Lovejoy Pierce

WELCOME



Dear Parents/ Carers,

Welcome to our first newsletter of the New Year. I hope you managed to have an enjoyable and restful break. I'd like to thank you for your support with testing at the start of term and pre-testing before the learners came back into school. LFD testing at home is one of our main defences against the virus. I ask that you please continue to test on a Sunday and Wednesday evening and if your child suffers from any symptoms that could be associated with a cold – headache, sore throat, runny nose, cough. Please continue to upload your child's results to the DfE website.

We've had a good start to the new term and the learners have settled back well into their learning. We are currently recruiting for a Deputy Principal and a number of potential candidates have visited us this week. I have had some wonderful feedback from them with all of them expressing how overwhelmed they are by our wonderful facilities and the incredible welcoming calm and productive atmosphere around the school. Thank you to the learners who had the opportunity to speak with them and make them feel welcome.

As you are aware it is the Queen's Jubilee this year and as a school we will be celebrating this event on Thursday 26th and Friday 27th of May. We will let you know the details nearer the time. I would also like to confirm that as a result of the extra bank holiday the Trust have agreed that the extra bank holiday can be taken on the last day of term. Our last day of term will therefore be **Tuesday 26th July.**

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity for your support in ensuring your child wears their school uniform. Due to the on-going spread of the virus learners can still wear their PE kit to school on the days they have PE but should be in their school uniform for the other days. If you require support with purchasing of school uniform please

Kind regards,

Nicola Wells

We are successful because...

...The mother of one of our learners said that she is very pleased with her son's progress at Quest and that the school is doing 'amazingly' with supporting his needs. He now loves coming to school, has made friends and can now access Forest School sessions.



QUEST TERM DATES FOR 2021 - 22:

SPRING TERM 2022	
INSET day (no learners on site)	Tuesday 4th January 2022
Starts	Wednesday 5th January 2022
Half term	Monday 21st – Friday 25th February 2022
Trust INSET (no learners on site)	Friday 11th March 2022
INSET day (no learners on site)	Monday 14th March 2022
Ends	Friday 8th April 2022
Spring (Easter) holiday	Monday 11th – Friday 22nd April 2022
SUMMER TERM 2022	
Starts	Monday 25th April 2022
Bank Holiday	Monday 2nd May 2022
Half term	Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June 2022
Ends	Wednesday 27th July 2022

ADDITIONAL DATES FOR DIARY

Year Group	Vaccines to be given	Date
All Year 9	Td/IPV & Men ACWY	27/01/2022
All Year 8	HPV 1	25/03/2022
All Year 9	HPV 2	25/03/2022
All years	Mop up Session	19/07/2022

Book of the Week

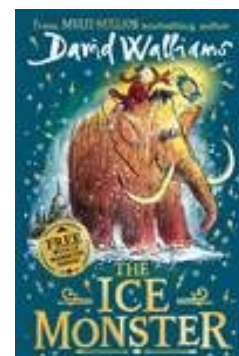
Interest age: 6-11

Reading age: 7+

The Ice Monster by David Walliams

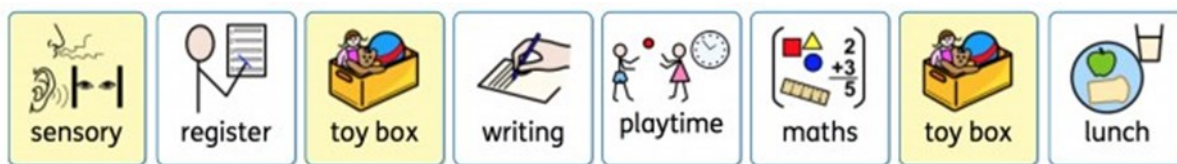
The Ice Monster is an epic, loosely historical adventure that is funny, easy to read and shoots along at a rocket pace. Tony Ross' glorious cover and artwork on almost every page are also a joy.

When Elsie, an orphan on the streets of Victorian London, hears about the mysterious Ice Monster – a woolly mammoth found at the North Pole – she's determined to discover more... A chance encounter brings Elsie face to face with the creature, and sparks the adventure of a lifetime – from London to the heart of the Arctic!



VISUAL TIMETABLES

At Quest we use visual timetables to support learners to understand the daily routine.



Visuals are helpful because:

- They are permanent (spoken words disappear)
- They allow time for language processing
- They prepare learners for transitions
- They help learners see what you mean
- They help learners build independence and become less reliant on adult support
- They can help reduce anxiety
- They are transferable between environments and people
- They can develop memory and recall skills
- They can support time management
- They can help communicate unexpected change

How to Use a Visual Timetable

- At the beginning of the day, attach each symbol onto the visual timetable board or wall with Velcro/ blue tac in the order that it will be happening throughout the day.
- When the child wakes up or comes back from school, take them over to the visual timetable to explain the activities that will be taking place.
- Once each activity has been completed, return to the visual timetable and take the finished activity symbol off the timetable and place it in the 'finished' box/ envelope.

Top tips for home

- **Visual timetables grow with the child.** They should be age and developmentally appropriate. Most adults use diaries and lists - I'd be very anxious (not to mention, totally lost) without them.
- It does not matter whether it is horizontal or vertical.
- Make a visual timetable using photos or picture symbols.
- Encourage the child/ young person to approach and look at the timetable. They will need support to use it at first.
- Be consistent in use of the timetable and refer to it at each point of transition.
- Use key words whilst pointing at the sequence of the session's activities i.e. coat off, outside, play, singing etc.
- Provide them with time at the beginning of the day to discuss the change in their routine and to answer questions they have. Add any important information discussed to the visual.



I have included some generic symbols that can be cut out and used to support your child at home with morning and evening routines.

If you require anything more personalised or specific, please contact me and I will be able to support you with additional symbols.

If you need support with printing or preparing symbols, please contact me.

Symbols can be customised to different skin tones/colours as required.

Amy Wilkins

Speech and Language

Therapist

Amy.wilkins@macintyreacademies.org



BIG GARDEN BIRDWATCH

What better way to start the new year than by enjoying time with nature. It's a great time to watch garden birds, as the colder weather means that more birds will take advantage of any food you put out for them. Read on for our top tips on what to feed your hungry visitors.

Out and about, you can also be treated to fantastic sights. Be sure to keep an eye out for two tiny jewel-like birds, goldcrests and firecrests (pictured). Our local populations are often joined by flocks from Scandinavia in winter.

If the weather is putting you off, you can simply settle back and enjoy nature from your own home with our live feeder camera at RSPB Arne.

Be one in a million!

In 2021, more than one million people took part in Big Garden Birdwatch, all coming together to look out for birds. Why not join in and be one in a million for 2022?

Shockingly, we've lost 38 million birds from UK skies in the last 50 years, so it really is vital we do all we can to look after our birdlife.

As a conservation charity, we depend on your support to save nature and to look after places where wildlife can thrive. By taking part in Big Garden Birdwatch, you can also make a difference. Wherever you are, whatever you see, it counts!

How to take part in Big Garden Birdwatch

It's fun, free and for everyone. Join in 28th -30th January
Taking part is as easy as 1,2,3

1. Watch the birds around you for one hour
2. Count how many of each species of bird **lands** on your patch
3. Go [online](#) and tell us what you saw.



SOUTHAM YOUTH CLUB

CALM returns this week. 2nd Friday of the month. Year 6 children are welcome, to help support them with transition to secondary school.

After February half term we will run a primary age youth group, Details to follow.

Dates

14th January

11th February

11th March

8th April



HOT CROSS BUNS

Ingredients

50g butter or soft baking spread
150ml semi-skimmed milk
2 x 5ml spoon fast action yeast (or 1 sachet)
400g strong flour
1 x 5ml spoon salt
1 x 5ml spoon mixed spice
½ x 5ml spoon cinnamon
½ x 5ml spoon nutmeg
75g golden caster sugar
150g currants
100g mixed peel
2 eggs



Glaze

1 x 15ml spoon granulated sugar
2 x 15ml spoons water

Equipment

Weighing scales, measuring jug, measuring spoons, saucepan, wooden spoon, sieve, large mixing bowl, baking tray, pastry brush, cooling rack.

Method

1. Mix the fat and milk in a saucepan and warm until the fat has melted.
2. Sift the flour, salt and spices into a bowl.
3. Add the yeast.
4. Add the currants and peel and stir to ensure they are well coated; then add the sugar.
5. Beat the eggs.
6. Stir in the liquid and beaten eggs to the dry ingredients to form a soft dough.
7. Turn onto a well-floured surface and knead for 6-8 minutes until smooth and no longer sticky.
8. Divide the dough into 12 and shape into buns.
9. Place the buns well apart on greased baking tray.
10. To make crosses, slash the buns with a sharp knife or use thin strips of pastry or pipe on crosses using a paste made from 2 x 15ml spoons each of plain flour and water.
11. Cover the buns and leave to rise in a warm place until double in size - about 1 hour.
12. Bake in a hot oven, 200C/gas 6 for 15-20 minutes until golden brown.
13. Whilst the buns are baking, gently melt the sugar and water in a saucepan until the sugar has dissolved and the mixture has become syrupy.
14. Turn out onto a cooling rack and brush the buns with a sugar/water syrup.

Top tips

Add dried cranberries and orange zest instead of currants and mixed peel.

Food skills



Weigh.



Measure.



Melt.



Sift.



Stir.



Beat.



Knead.



Divide.



Shape
& form.



Prove.



Bake.



Glaze.

REGULAR ASYMPTOMATIC COVID19 TESTING



It is vital that staff and learners continue to test twice weekly (Sunday & Wednesday evenings) in order to identify asymptomatic cases of Covid-19.

If your child has had three tests on site, lateral flow tests will be periodically sent home from school.

Tests can also be ordered from the Governments website:

<https://test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/order-lateral-flow-kits/condition>

All Covid-19 test results, positive or negative, should be uploaded to the NHS portal.

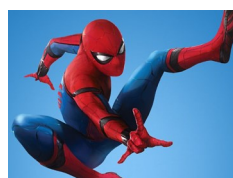
VACCINE AVAILABLE TO 12 TO 15-YEAR OLDS

Young people aged 12 to 15 in England are now being offered a second dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine at a minimum of 12 weeks from the first dose, following advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI). Around half of 12 to 15 year olds have now received at least one dose.

Parents can book vaccinations for their child, if aged 12 or over, through the [NHS booking system](#).

Vaccination for this group will also continue to be carried out by the school age immunisation service (SAIS). In school vaccination will **begin** from **Monday 10 January**.

FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE CLASS: AMAZING CLAY WORK



MENUS JAN– FEB 2022

We have lunch delivered by a company called Educaterers, menus run on a three week revolving basis (please see menus below.) If there is a day where your child does not like

MONDAY WEEK 1 W/C 03/01, 24/1, 14/02	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
TUNA MAY SANDWICH	SLICED TURKEY BAP	CHEESE BAP	HAM SANDWICH	EGG & CRESS BAP
BACON BAP	CHEESE & TOMATO PIZZA	LOVES JOES BURGER	CHICKEN POPPER MINI BAGUETTE	FISH FINGER BAP
VEGGIE FINGER SUB	VEGAN HOT DOG	HOT PASTA POT	BBQ JACKFRUIT PIZZA	VEGGIE FINGER BAP

MONDAY WEEK 2 W/C 10/01, 31/1	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
CHEESE BAP	CHICKEN SANDWICH	HAM BAP	TUNA MAY SANDWICH	CHEESE BAP
MEATBALL SUB	LOVES JOES BURGER	CHEESE & TOMATO PIZZA	CHICKEN POPPER MINI BAGUETTE	FISH FINGER BAP
BBQ JACKFRUIT PIZZA	HOT PASTA POT	VEGAN HOT DOG	HOT PASTA POT	VEGGIE FINGER BAP

MONDAY WEEK 3 W/C 17/01, 07/02	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
CHEESE SANDWICH	TURKEY SANDWICH	TUNA BAP	CHICKEN BAP	CHEESE BAP
LOVES JOES BURGER	CHEESE & TOMATO PIZZA	CHICKEN POPPER MINI BAGUETTE	HOT DOG	FISH FINGER BAP
HOT PASTA POT	VEGAN HOT DOG	VEGGIE FINGER SUB	HOT PASTA POT	VEGGIE FINGER BAP



JOB VACANCY



School Cleaner required for a site on Anderson Ave, Rugby area .

The site is cleaned 5 days per week, Monday to Friday, this is 2.25 hours per day. totalling 11.25 hours per week. To be cleaned between the hours of 3.30 pm and 5.45 pm

Cleaning experience preferred but not essential as full training will be provided to the successful candidate. Individual must be reliable, well presented and capable of cleaning to a high standard. A DBS is required for this site, or for the right candidate a DBS will be carried out.

To apply for this position please call the Recruitment Manager on 07495 702345 or [Apply Here](#)

SAFEGUARDING & FAMILY FOOTINGS



- **Stevie-Jayne** is responsible for lower school families and is available on;
Stevie.JayneFarrell@macintyreacademies.org Work mobile 07504001918



- **Joan** is responsible for upper school families and is available on;
Joan.goodrich@macintyreacademies.org Work mobile 07377990796

We are available to help families with things like accessing family support, Early Help, Child In Need Meetings, Child Protection Meetings, taxi queries, support working with other professionals such as CAMHS, general safeguarding questions and much more.

Quest Contact details:

Quest Academy
Anderson Avenue
Rugby
Warwickshire
CV22 5PE

E: quest.office@macintyreacademies.org

T: 01788 593 112



How to contact members of staff:

Please contact Reception if you would like to speak with a member of staff. You will either be transferred or reception will email the member of staff to let them know that you have called.

Reporting pupil absence and lateness:

If your child is absent for more than 7 days you will need to provide a doctors certificate. If we do not receive a doctors note and have not seen your child we will have no alternative but to refer the matter to the Safeguarding Board in line with our safeguarding procedures.

Please can we remind parent/carers to call school on **01788 593 112**, before 9am if your child may be late or is unwell.

You will also need to contact the taxi company to let them know.



Putting children and families *first*

