



MacIntyre Academies
Quest Academy

December 2017 Newsletter



“Quote of the week”

“Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

Nelson Mandela

WELCOME



Dear Parents/Carers,

Over the last two weeks we have had a number of visitors to the school who have commented on the positive attitude of pupils during their visits. We also had our first monitoring visit by the DfE this week. As a free school we will have termly monitoring visits each term until we have our first Ofsted inspection in 3 years time. As soon as we receive the report I will share the content of the report with you.

I am particularly pleased to see that the vast majority of pupils are now producing work of a much higher quality compared to when they first joined the school. I would like to give a special mention to Y7 who worked exceptionally hard in one of their maths lessons this week. Amazingly they were so determined to complete all of the extension tasks set by their teacher that their maths lesson lasted for an hour and twenty minutes! Well done Y7.

At the end of November we held our first Pupil Voice Meeting. During this meeting pupils discussed how they would represent the rest of the school so that everyone's views were heard. Lee Martin, who is overseeing Pupil Voice, also outlined how the school would support them in their roles. In January the pupils will attend a leadership day at Leicester Outdoor Pursuit Centre.

This week some of the pupils have been learning how to use the school's radio station. They are also planning their first radio broadcast. During our celebration assembly on the last day of term you will have the opportunity to listen to this.

Kind regards

Nicola

DO THE RIGHT THING

The target is to encourage pupils to make the best choice when faced with a decision.

Facts

Pupils who cannot rely on social understanding to predict and control the behaviour of others might imitate poor behaviour without understanding the inherent complexity or the context in which it occurred

Suggested Script

You need to make the right choice: Walk away and do not get involved

Hints and Tips

Give clear alternatives so that pupils are able to make an informed decision
Remember to build in Time to Think, allowing the pupil time to process the information and reach a decision

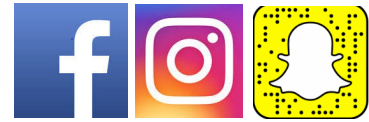
Pupils need to be reminded that they are responsible for their own understanding and given strategies to be able to request repetition

Do the Right Thing



SAFEGUARDING FOCUS-SOCIAL NETWORKING

RISKS OF SOCIAL NETWORKING FOR CHILDREN



The more you know about the kind of social networking sites your child belongs to and what information they like to share, the more likely you'll be able to keep them safe:

- The lower age limit for most social networking sites is 13.
- The most popular social networks include Facebook, Instagram, Youtube, Twitter, Tumblr, Ask.fm and Snapchat. Sites aimed at younger children, like Club Penguin and Moshi Monsters, also have a social networking element.
- Many sites include an instant message function which allows private conversations between site members.
- You can set privacy settings on most social networking sites so that only close friends can search for your child, tag them in a photograph or share what they've posted.
- Most social networking sites have an app version available, meaning your child will have access to the social network from their smartphone or tablet. Some app versions of social networks use the location of the phone.
- Facebook has a setting that allows your child to approve or dismiss tags that people add to their posts.
- Information shared between friends can be easily copied and may spread widely.
- It isn't easy to take back information that has been posted – and can be impossible if it's already been shared.
- Not everyone your child meets online will be who they say they are. Chatrooms and forums can connect people who are complete strangers and can be unmoderated.
- Chatrooms and forums are one of the places online groomers go to connect with children. They can also be places where people use a lot of sexual language and engage in online flirting. This is sometimes done through video chat programs such as Skype.

If you are worried about any of this please contact me or there for further advice you could visit <https://www.internetmatters.org>

Book of the Week

The Land of Neverendings by Kate Saunders Faber £10.99, Age 9-12

The cat flap opened. Emily thought a wild animal was coming into the house. But the muddy creature that climbed through had four little wheels and a tail. It spoke in a voice like rough sandpaper. 'Come on, you two – it's nice and warm in here.'

What if there exists a world powered by imagination?

A world of silliness, where humans and their toys live on long after they've left the Hard World . . . and what if the door between that world and this one was broken?

Welcome to the Land of Neverendings.

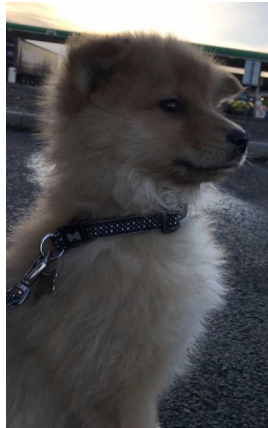
Moving, raw and funny in all the right ways, *The Land of Neverendings* is a rip-roaring adventure, but it also gives an honest portrayal of grief for young readers, and shows us that whilst sadness does exist in the world, it doesn't have to cancel out happiness, or silliness, even when you lose someone you love.



PET CORNER

Cathy W. on her new pet: Loki – the 9 week old, Chowski puppy.

Interview by Adam G.



How to look after a puppy:

- Food – Loki eats dry kibble twice a day, as he is only young he has a small amount (a coffee cup size).
- Water – He always has fresh water available.
- Bed – He has a small dog bed, mat and a safe crate for him to sleep in.
- Bath – He gets a bath every 6-8 weeks, we also brush him every day.

We wanted him because:

Our family wanted a dog because we were really sad when our last dog died. We are an active family and we like long walks.

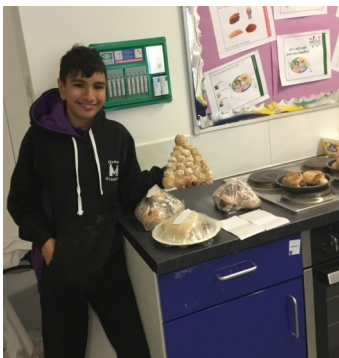
Puppies need lots of training. Young puppies have short attention spans but you can expect them to begin to learn simple obedience commands such as “sit,” “down,” and “stay,” as young as 7 to 8 weeks of age.

Our other pets are cat called Bobs, who is 13 and we have 2 turtles called Atlas and Michael Angelo who are 4.

3 facts about Chowski's:

- 1) They are a cross between a chow chow and a husky. Dad's name is Ted, Mum's is Almera.
- 2) They love the cold weather (maybe because they are part husky?).
- 3) Their life span is 10-13 years.

FOOD TECH



Pupils have enjoyed making curry and chilli this half term, as we move towards Christmas pupils will be making more seasonal items, chocolate bread and mince pies have been popular so far

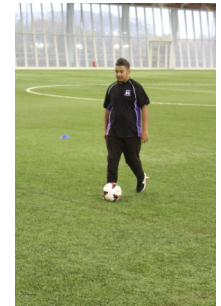
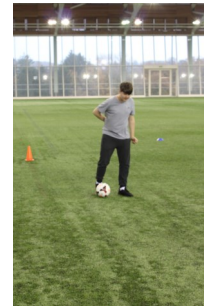
The food shout out goes to Alex and Ben in year 9 for their Awesome designs, and thank you Tobi for helping with the year 5/6 classes this half term



Kind regards, *Cathy*.



ST GEORGE'S PARK TRIP 16.11.17



Have a Safe Merry Christmas and

Safety Services



A Happy New Year!

Regards,

Ryan, Facilities Manager.



We are constantly working on attendance as a school in order to encourage the best possible outcomes. Please may we remind you of a couple of daily procedures:

1. We require under safeguarding regulations to be informed of any absence on a daily basis. Please telephone 01788 593112 prior to 9:20am if your child is absent. You will also need to contact the taxi company to let them know.

2. If you have not rung to confirm your child's absence, you will be contacted to confirm that your child is off school.

3. Please be aware that any contact regarding your child's absence will occur after 9.30am (after registration has been taken). If we are unable to verify your child's absence, home visits may be undertaken to ensure the safety of your child.

If you have any concerns regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact the school. We would also like to take this opportunity to remind you that absence has a direct impact upon final grades for pupils.

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.

The following indicates how much learning time is lost due to absences:

90% Attendance = ½ day missed every week

1 school year at 90% attendance = 4 whole weeks of lessons missed

90% attendance over 5 years of secondary school = ½ school year missed

17 missed school days a year = one GCSE grade drop in achievement threshold

SAFEGUARDING

Keeping children safe in school is every school's priority. As part of our Visitors' Policy, we require all visitors to sign in at reception and read and sign our Visitor's Code of Conduct. Please, therefore, do not take offence when our office staff ask you to adhere to our procedures. Should any parent /carer feel unable to comply, we will be unable to let you past the reception area.

PARENTPAY



ParentPay is now up and running. It enables parents/cares to pay electronically online for school meals as well as other items such as trips, uniform etc.

The cost of school lunches is £2.40 per day. We have sent out activation letters which detail your login information for ParentPay. If you require this information resending, information regarding your balance or payment plan please contact reception on 01788 593 112 or emailing quest.office@macintyreacademies.org

QUEST ACADEMY CHRISTMAS WEEK

Please can you discuss this timetable at home to help them prepare for the week.

Monday 18th December	Normal Timetable
Tuesday 19th December	<p>Christmas Dinner Day Christmas Jumpers can be worn all day 12:00—12:30 Lunchtime</p> <p>Pupils Xmas Shopping Experience: 5/6 out 9.30am -10.30am 7/8 out 10.30am -11.30am 9/10 out 1pm – 2pm Ricoch Arena</p> <p>Normal Timetable</p>
Wednesday 20th December	Normal Timetable
Thursday 21st December	<p>Tutor based enterprise or enrichment activities all day. Christmas Fayre preparations ready for Friday</p>
Friday 22nd December <p>*Any parents who would like to attend these festivities, but have issues with transport please contact the school office on 01788 593 112 and we shall try to accommodate you.</p>	<p>9.30 – 10.00 Celebration Assembly with parents 10:00 - 11:00 Parent Forum 10:00 – 10:15 Pupil break 10.15 -11.30 Pupils tutor based/ setting up the Fayre 11.30 – 12.30 Christmas Fayre including buffet for all the family. 12.15 Finish.</p>



PARENT'S AFTERNOONS

- Thursday 14th December: KS3 Parent's Afternoon 4:00-6:00

TERM DATES 2017- 18

- ♦ Term starts Monday 8th January 2018 - Thursday 29th March 2018

Half Term - Monday 19th February - Friday 23rd February 2018

- ♦ Term: Monday 16th April 2018 - Friday 20th July 2018

Half Term – Monday 28th May - Friday 1st June 2018

- ♦ Term starts Monday 4th June - Friday 20th July 2018

INSET DAYS (no school)

- Thursday 29th March 2018

Quest Contact details

Quest Academy,

St David's Way,

Bermuda Park,

Nuneaton

CV10 7SD

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 e-mail the member of staff to let them know that you have called.