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Dear Parents, Carers and Children of West Melton,

We have had a lovely first term and we are so proud of the progress that your children are making. Our school environment looks wonderful as it is filled with their beautiful work. The children have also experienced many different learning opportunities and experiences, which have contributed towards this too.

### Wickersley Partnership Trust

The children have enjoyed their lessons with our new PE teacher Mr Pilgrim from the Trust, who provides specialist PE lessons and an afterschool football club too. As part of the specialised provision, KS2 classes also have weekly music lessons with Mrs Forshaw from the Trust and Spanish and French lessons from Mrs Dodds and Mr Bartle too. Additional to this, our Y6 have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to do 'rafting' at Ulley and experience science in a lab at Rawmarsh Comprehensive school. Our Y4's have thoroughly enjoyed attending swimming lessons at Aston Lodge's Pool each week – which are additional to the Y5 swimming lessons that school provide. The Trust are providing many learning opportunities for your children to experience. We have even more planned too!

### Educational events and visits

Our Y6 pupils really enjoyed their trip to Eden Camp, which has inspired them to produce some fabulous writing this term. They have learned about how to keep themselves safe in a variety of ways and about the laws linked to these important messages during a trip to crucial crew.

Our Y5's have produced some amazing writing during and after an inspirational trip to Grimm and Co. They have also been learning about our local area, having

Our Y4 pupils thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Cusworth Hall, where they had the opportunity to dress up and experience life as a Victorian Child.

Our Y2's have learned about the history in their local area and were fascinated during a visit to Wentworth Woodhouse.



Our y3's and 6's enjoyed the opportunity to write and compose their own poetry to music with a visiting music specialist.

### **Sporting news**

Many sports festivals and events have been well attended by many of our children – these have included football festivals for upper and lower key stages, cross country events. Well done to Corey and Dawson in Y6 for coming first and second place in the Trust, fantastic effort of all the pupils who made it to the finals at Herringthorpe stadium. Y5/6 girls have also enjoyed football lessons provided by RUFC too.

### **Extra-Curricular Clubs**

The children have enjoyed a very energetic mini-trampolining club and African drumming afterschool clubs this half term.

### **Anti-bullying workshops**

Our classes have worked with anti-bullying officer Ann Foxley Johnson who ran conflict resolution workshops with the pupils. This work is contributing towards an Anti-bullying award.

### **A musical school!**

We are proud to share that A music mark has been awarded by the Local authority in recognition for all the musical opportunities we provide our children. Well done to all our staff and children!

### **Breakfast Club**

This has been a huge success this term. We had 30 pupils attend in the first session and now have between 50-60 pupils who attend this. The children enjoy the delicious bagels, enjoy the activities after and spending time with their friends, and are ready and settled to learn afterwards. Thank you to parents for their support and positive feedback.

### **Parent events**

We raised over £100 for Macmillan Cancer Support with our Coffee Morning. Many thanks to those who attended this for your support. It was lovely to see more parents this year.

Thank you to those who attended our Foundation Stage Family Pumpkin Carving event. Always a popular and well attended event.

The Harvest Festival was a successful event and extremely well attended this year too. Thankyou kindly for all your donations of food, the Salvation army were delighted at the amount.

Many thanks to Mrs Griffin, who organised another successful PTA Pumpkin Ball event enjoyed by all. Thank you to parents and staff for their help. The children had a great time and looked fantastic in their costumes too.

We hope that the parents who attended the Curriculum showcase event today enjoyed having the chance to celebrate some of the beautiful work produced on their class projects and literacy work, which are also proudly displayed around school too.

### **Parent/Pupil meetings**

These will take place in all classes on different days next week and your children from Y1-Y6 are welcome to attend these with you too. Please check that you have been given an allocated time by child's class teacher. Please enter school through the main entrance. We will be providing times after school on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> Nov for any parents who are unable to attend any of the daytime sessions. There will a treat given to the class with the best parent attendance too.

### Staff news

Congratulations to Mrs Arnold who is expecting her second child this December. Maternity cover support will be arranged for after Christmas.

### West Melton celebrates 100 Years Armistice

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November pupils and staff can wear something red, white and blue for a donation of £1 that will go towards the Poppy Appeal. 100 years ago the guns fell silent on the world's first truly global war. The children will take part in a range of learning activities to help them to think about all of those who lived through this tragic and remarkable time - and who put Britain on the path to becoming what it is today.

### Change of weather

The lovely weather we have enjoyed seems to have turned more autumnal – please ensure your child brings a coat to school every day!

### Website

Please check out our school website to see photos of all the events that have taken place and the calendar for further exciting opportunities.

School starts back for the children on **Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November**. We hope you have a wonderful half term with your children and look forward to another exciting term ahead.

Yours sincerely,

*J Norris*  
Headteacher