

### Whole School Messages:

Please visit our school website for our most up to date information  
<https://malvinclose.wiseacademies.co.uk/>



### Diary Dates

Thursday 15th February - School breaks up at 3.30pm for Half Term  
Friday 16th February - Teacher training day (School closed to pupils)  
Monday 26th February - School reopens for pupils at 8.30am (Breakfast club at 7.45am)  
Thursday 7th March - 5CL - STEM Day at Blyth Port, info on Parent Pay.  
Friday 8th March - 5KE - STEM Day at Blyth Port, info on Parent Pay.  
Friday 8th March - World Book Day - costumes will be encouraged - More info to follow  
Monday 11th March - Year 1 Trip to Plessey Woods - Information on Parent Pay  
Thursday 14th March - School Disco - Tickets available to purchase through Parent Pay.  
Monday 18th March - Year 3 Trip to Rising Sun for a Stone Age Workshop info on Parent Pay.  
Monday 18th - Friday 22nd March - Book Fair in school - More information to follow.

### Attendance

**"Every child has the right to an education."**

Nursery - 93.42%  
Reception - 93.3%  
Year 1 - 94.79%  
Year 2 - 96.61%  
Year 3 - 96.48%  
Year 4 - 96.35%  
Year 5 - 94.19%  
Year 6 - 96.44%  
Whole School Attendance - 95.32%

Remember to report your child's absence for each day that they are off school. This should be done by contacting the main school office on 01670 354082. Before 9am

Please do not report your child's absence by email, all absences must be reported in person or by calling the School office.

Failure to report an absence will result in a home visit. All children should aim to have 100% attendance.

Thursday marks the end of the first half term of 2024! It's hard to believe we are already 6 weeks into 2024. The children have worked incredibly hard since Christmas and are all ready for a well-deserved break.

Recently, I have been discussing 'aspirations' with children. This links to our school values of 'Resilience' and 'Ambition'. I'm pleased to share with you that all of our children have incredibly high aspirations! Some aspire to be astronauts, some aspire to get full marks in their SATs and some aspire to be 'Malvin's Marvels!'

It would be great to see as many adults as possible at upcoming parent events; however, we appreciate that working and child care commitments mean it is not always possible to attend. All materials that are shared at these events will be available via email

As always, thank you for your continued support.  
Mrs Holmes

### Class Spotlight:

This month we are shining our spotlight on Year 1.

Year 1 staff are Miss Slipper, Miss Simmons and Miss Robinson. We are all so proud of our year 1 children, they have all made a lot of progress this half term. This week we have been learning about The Gruffalo and have been creating our own woodland monster. We have used lots of adjectives in our writing and have been trying hard to improve our letter formation. Year 1 has a big focus on phonics as we have a phonics screening test in the summer term. Your children may come home saying they have completed a phonics quiz, this is so we can see what phonic sounds the children know and what they need some more support with. Year 1 have phonics daily following the Read Write Inc program. We will be sending some phonics sound mats home in the near future for you to work on with your child. Phonics helps children in all areas of their learning and they love it! We are particularly focusing on alien words, these are words that are made up. Children need to spot the special friends before they read the word, this helps them to sound out the words correctly. If you have any questions regarding phonics please speak to one of the year 1 teachers. In our maths lessons we have been working on missing number problems, they are very tricky! We have been using cubes to find the missing number and representing them in a part part whole model.

Little reminder: Please remember to send your child to school with a named coat and without a backpack. Our pegs in the cloakroom are not very big and they fall on the floor. Children also have their reading records checked daily, please make sure you send your child to school with their reading book and record every day. We change their reading for pleasure and phonics books every Friday.

### Subject Spotlight: Computing

Everyone is enjoying using Purple Mash at the moment!

Year 6 are making their own personal blogs to share, while Year 5 are investigating and creating their own databases, using search functions to filter and show results. Year 4 are having a great time researching and developing short animations using the tools on Purple Mash, while Year 3 are learning how to send emails. Year 1 and 2 are learning how to log on and navigate Purple Mash so they can load up tasks in their lessons and complete them collaboratively. Year 2 have also been learning how to search for information safely online, which helped when researching answers for questions about dinosaurs.

Every year group refreshes different elements of e-safety each lesson (passwords, SMART, secure/unsecure sites etc) and are looking at more significant individuals such as Larry Page and Grace Hopper too.

### Share a story

EYFS & KS1 - Grandad's Island by Benji Davies



KS2 - Sam Wu is NOT afraid of the DARK by Katie Tsang, Kevin Tsang, Nathan Reed



### PE and School Sport updates:

The Year 5/6 girls' football team had a brilliant day at the second round of the National League Trust Tournament in Stockton! They worked incredibly hard as a team and finished in 3rd place! Well done, we are all immensely proud!

### Online Safety Updates

Snapchat: new controls

Snapchat is a social media app used for messaging and sharing photos and videos. You must be 13+ to sign up. Users can send messages (snaps) to others that are only seen for a set time e.g. 10 seconds and users can also upload snaps to stories, which disappear after 24 hours.



Family Center: new features Snapchat are expanding the features available to you in their Family

Center, allowing parents to view:

- story settings: you will be able to see who your child is sharing their story with e.g. all their friends or a smaller group.
- contact settings: see who your child can be contacted by (by people they have added as a friend or their phone contacts).
- if your child is sharing their location with friends on the Snap Map.

The NSPCC provide further information about Snapchat, the risks involved with using Snapchat and tips to help keep your child safe if they are using Snapchat.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/onlinesafety-blog/is-snapchat-safe-for-my-child/>

### **Pastoral Team Update:**



On Tuesday 27th February we will be having a visit from Blue the Newfoundland and his owner Mark. Blue is a registered Therapy Dog and registered with the **Kennel Club Bark and Read Programme**. We are hoping that after Blue's initial visit we will take part in The 'Paws & Read Scheme'. This is an initiative whereby sociable and specially trained Therapy Dogs help children to develop a passion for reading.

Reading to dogs can help children to develop their reading skills and can also help children to build confidence, and self-esteem and can encourage positive behaviour.

To find out more about the scheme visit the Therapy Dogs Website:

<https://tdn.org.uk/schools-2/>

Our Designated Safeguarding Leads are:

							
Mrs Holmes Headteacher	Mrs Campbell Deputy Headteacher	Hollie Rankin Family Team Lead	Miss Felgate Family Team	Mrs Rushworth Early Years Assistant Headteacher	Mrs Stonebanks Key Stage One Assistant Headteacher	Miss Canner Key Stage Two Assistant Headteacher E-Safety Officer	Mrs Quinn Special Educational Needs Coordinator (SENCo)