



22<sup>nd</sup> January 2016

Dear Parents

## Year 6 Take Over the School!



Year 6 have shadowed the teachers, planned their lessons and prepared their teaching resources. Year 6 Take Over Day is such a valuable learning experience. The younger children are eager to impress their new teachers and Year 6 finish the day with first-hand genuine respect for the amount of brain-work and practical organisation needed to be a great teacher. Thank you to all of Year 6 for their commitment, professionalism and energy.

## Landscape-changing News – HS2

You will remember that the school petitioned against HS2 in September. We submitted another petition just before Christmas, to challenge the Additional Provisions Bill (AP4) which involved a haul road being constructed from the Link Road roundabout to the top of the hill above Great Missenden (near Potter Row), carrying potentially more than 300 spoil lorries every day during the construction phase, lasting up to 8 years.

This would not only have affected the already congested traffic around the Link Road, but would have been a visible blight on the landscape of our village.

We combined forces with the Parish Council and one of our Governors, Mr Withers, and I went up to the Houses of Parliament again on Wednesday to speak to the select committee.

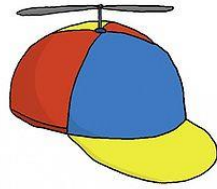
We took photographs of our school grounds, including the wonderful EYFS mud kitchen, and the traffic problems already existing around the Link Road/Buryfield. The Parish Council highlighted the proximity of the skate park, and the risks of lorries coming down the haul road so close to the play area.

## GREAT NEWS! – They listened!

HS2 has agreed with Bucks County Council to move the haul road away from the village, further North along the A413, near to Leather Lane. The MPs accepted the need to reduce the impact on the school and play areas. This is a major achievement.

It's not over – we are still pushing for an extension of the tunnel to the edge of the AONB (area of outstanding natural beauty).

Looking forward to the House of Lords!



### **Charity Change**

As Ollie the monkey has sadly retired, we have decided to switch charities this half term. The day is still the same – Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February, but instead of Sign2Sing, we will be supporting the Thomas Ball Children’s Cancer Fund and International Childhood Cancer Day by wearing caps/hats/wigs to school along with their usual Mufti gear.

This is a local charity, set up in 1999 by Thomas Ball, who was a student at The Misbourne, who suffered from neuroblastoma. <http://www.thomasball.org.uk/>

We will raise money for this important cause with a Mufti Day – please donate £1 or more. Many thanks.

### **Mobile Phones**

Children are not allowed to bring phones into school – please check to make sure your child does not have a phone in their bag.

### **Message from Mrs Humphries – Oddizzi**

Oddizzi is an e-learning resource that Great Missenden teachers occasionally use to support children’s understanding of the people, places and cultures of the world, primarily in Geography and History areas of the curriculum. Currently only teachers access the site and they can show clip, resources and play on line quizzes with the children during lessons.

However we have now arranged for children to have their own access to Oddizzi which will enable them to view pages in the ICT suite and at home. Teachers will be giving children their individual logins over the next few days. Please do look at the site with the children as it does have a lot of great information and is very interactive.



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