



Milton Mount Primary School

Friday 17 January 2025

Newsletter



Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents,

I want to start this week with a **huge congratulations to our Year 6 Team who competed in the Inspire Sportshall Athletics** on Wednesday morning, finishing in first place and earning us a place in the County Round. Well done for representing our school with so much respect, enthusiasm and determination to succeed - we are very proud of you!

Elsewhere in the school, we have been extremely busy with **Astronaut day today in Reception**, conducting **Science experiments across KS2** and **cooking in Forest School** - an enjoyable time has been had by all. I hope you enjoy the photos of everything we've been up to in this week's Newsletter.

As you may remember from the Autumn Term, our school improvement priorities relate to phonics, attendance and our pedagogy (how we teach certain things). I want to give you a short update on these.

This week, our friends and colleagues from Read Write Inc visited us to check out how we are doing in our phonics lessons and support us with our future development. I'm delighted to say that we are really delivering phonics effectively now and that children are enjoying reading the storybooks with their partners. **I'm very impressed with how quickly and effectively our staff team have taken on the Read Write Inc programme and their amazing collaboration with each other.** We are now in the process of introducing some afternoon phonics tutoring for children who need a little bit of extra practice.

Our whole-school attendance is currently at 94.7%, which is not bad but I would like to improve before the end of the Spring Term. Hopefully some warmer weather will help us to avoid illnesses! I am however pleased that the number of requests for term-time holidays has significantly reduced, and the number of children who have been persistently absent is gradually coming down. **Thank you for all the parents who have met with us to discuss any attendance concerns - it's good to talk!**

Finally, we've been discussing as a school how we check children's understanding of what is being taught within a lesson, and how we respond depending on whether some or all children are understanding. At home you can check for understanding by doing a little bit of reading with your child and asking some simple questions about what has happened. I do this with my children at home and the answers can be fascinating and lead to interesting conversations!

I hope you all have a fantastic weekend.

Tom White

Early Years

We have been learning about planet Earth and the moon. We took part in an Astronaut training day and carried out six missions to learn how to be an astronaut. These included Stargazing camp where we made telescopes, Fitness Camp, Mission camp where we had to wear gloves and sort moon rocks and we learnt how astronauts live in space. All the children completed their missions and took home a certificate. Well done space cadets!



Year 1



Writer of the week

Acorn - Aurora

Berry - Jesse

Catkins - Maddy



Star of the week

Acorn - Samuel

Berry - Mia

Catkins - Primrose

This week in year 1 we have enjoyed exploring how we can use our bodies to imitate movements of tall and small animals, thinking about how we can imitate their movements. We also used some apparatus to help us imagine we were in the jungle and add some more challenge to our travelling sequences! The children have been busy designing their mechanisms for D.T, they have learnt more about David Attenborough in History and they've written some brilliant sentences using 'and' inspired by our book 'Duffy's Lucky Escape'.



Year 2



Writer of the week

Bracken - Harlow

Fern - Mila

Ivy - Ivy B



Star of the week

Bracken - Izayah

Fern - Miley

Ivy - Jeremy

Year 3



Writer of the week

Apple - Poppy

Cherry - Henry

Damson - Deniz



Star of the week

Apple - Onur

Cherry - Raajan

Damson - David

In Year 3 we have continued our work on the novel *The Iron Man*. We have been looking at subordinating clauses and how to use these in our writing. The children have been working together to edit and improve their work. In Science, we have been investigating different types of rocks. We looked closely through magnifying glasses and recorded our observations. In Geography, the children have been learning what a mountain is and its main features. We have researched different ways mountains are formed. The children are enjoying our gymnastics and basketball sessions in PE.



Year 4



Writer of the week

Beech - Gracie
Chestnut - Ruben
Hazel - Jake



Star of the week

Beech - Victoria
Chestnut - Myla
Hazel - Shasmeen

We have had a fantastic week in Year 4. We have been continuing our rivers topic by exploring the features of rivers including the source, the mouth and meanders. The children have also been practising their tension in gymnastics with fantastic partner balances.

Our science has taken us to a microscopic level as we delve into the particle formations of solids, liquids and gases. We acted out the bonds between the different particles; solids have tight bonds, liquids have looser bonds and gases have really weak bonds and just seem to run all over the playground!



Year 5



Writer of the week

Hornbeam - George
Sycamore - Ellie
Willow - Archer



Star of the week

Hornbeam - Darina
Sycamore - Aini
Willow - Karen

This week in Science, we learned about thermal insulators. The children had a great time insulating their cups with their chosen materials and checking the temperature every five minutes to see how much it had gone down. We even heard comments like, "We really enjoyed this lesson today."

In Art, we created visual notes about our environment outside our classroom. It was inspired by the work of Kittie Jones. The children enjoyed going outside and checking the size, shape, texture of trees and leaves and recording the emotion that this evokes in them. Back in class, we used different mediums such as charcoal, pastels and gold and silver to add to their notes.

In Maths, we continue to use long multiplication to calculate 3-to-4-digit numbers by 2-digit numbers. The children are growing in confidence, and we hope that this continues with more exposure to the method.



YEAR 6



Writer of the week

Field Maple - Archie

Mountain Ash - Aiza

Silver Birch - Jna



Star of the week

Field Maple - Maryam

Mountain Ash - Ronnie

Silver Birch - Sam

This week, the children have been imitating how to draw a fantasy map. The children were given several different examples of zoomed in maps to which the children then had to try and imitate, using only pen and playing with the thickness and style of each image. We think they look AWESOME!

In science, the pupils carefully observed and recorded the different rate in which blood (red food coloring water) could pass through different sized holes. This lesson showed the children the importance of having healthy arteries to demonstrate blood flow and how arteries walls can change shape due unhealthy diet choices.





We have had an extremely busy week in the forest this week! Beech class made flatbreads, Apple class used the storm kettles to heat water for a hot drink and Ivy class made minestrone soup. These were all thoroughly enjoyed by the children – especially the chocolate spread on the bread! Hornbeam class some amazing rainforest animals from wooden disks and Field Maple class dismantled our old shelter and started building a new one. Finally, Catkin class loved finding and decorating their stickmen. We hope they are settling into their new homes!





This week, the children in Year 4 were using technology to make music by using BusyBeats on Purple Mash. They composed their own simple rhythms by adding different percussion instruments and then experimented with the tempo to see how it changed the mood and feeling of their piece.



Lupin

Being a school dog, I really do go around and smell and hear how imPAWtant education is. I hear all the children around the school making connections and constantly learning new things (I can hear things from over a mile away, so I hear a lot!). I sense teachers' constant thoughts; they are always thinking of your children and how to better them or support them. Sometimes when I sense a child is sad, I carefully watch these adults console them. As a dog, it's my job to sense these things you see. Happily, I can whole heartily report from my observations that these big and small humans really do form such bonds between each other. It makes me think that the human race is really quite kind. I like this school.

So in the name of education, I wanted to share my photos from when I graduated from puppy school. My education from puppy school was the foundation for my career as a school dog. Next: Pawminister!

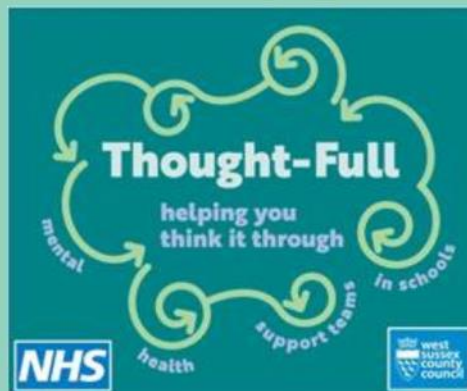


TERM DATES 2024 – 2025

INSET DAYS:

- 5 & 6 September 2024
- 4 November 2024
- 14 February 2025
- 21 & 22 July 2025

Autumn Term	Starts: Monday 2 September Half Term: Monday 28 October – Friday 1 November Ends: Friday 20 December
Christmas Break	Monday 23 December to Friday 3 January 2025
Spring Term	Starts: Monday 6 January Half Term: Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February Ends: Friday 4 April
Easter Break	Monday 7 April – Monday 21 April
Summer Term	Starts: Tuesday 22 April Half Term: Monday 26 May – Friday 30 May Ends: Tuesday 22 July



Thought-Full parent workshops

Please let the school office know (office@miltonmount.co.uk) if you wish to attend any of our Thought-Full parent workshops run by Max our Thought-Full Practitioner.

These themed workshops will run from 2pm to 3pm on the following dates:

Wednesday 29/01/2025: Sleep
Wednesday 26/03/2025: Routines and Boundaries
Wednesday 21/05/2025: Regulation
Wednesday 16/06/2025: Anxiety

We are hiring!

Teaching Assistant

Fixed term, 1 day/wk

Closes: 22 January 2025



Headteacher

Permanent, full time

Closes: 20 January 2025



Breakfast Club Playworker

Perm, term time, Mon-Thurs

7am-8:45am

Closes: 28 January 2025



*Free club place for staff member's child(ren)

View vacancies at:

greensandacademytrust.co.uk

Internal candidate application form can be found on Edupay (via Doc store).



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