

Milton St. John's CE Primary School

Newsletter

Monday 14 January

Remember to subscribe to the newsletter on our website to receive an electronic copy.

The Pride of Milton Winners are Evie M in Key Stage 1, Naomi W in Lower Key Stage 2 and Nell S in Upper Key Stage 2.

The winners from our Achievement assembly this morning are:



| Fantastic Friend | Arts Award | Learner of the Week | Milton Manners |
|------------------|------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Tehya B | Owen B | Hewey J Evie S Casey-Louise H Oscar C Alex T Max H Noah T | Presley L Elaina L Abi H |

| Playtime hero | Team Player Award | Sports Award |
|---------------|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Daisy P | Isaac F Lyla S Robert C | Erin G |



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NEW NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Nursery for September 2019

Please note the deadline for Nursery applications is Monday 11 February 2019 at the latest. We have availability for 15hrs funded child care and also the extended 30 hrs.

Please enquire at the School office for an application form and further details.

Thank you

Miss Stacy Proctor (previously the Chair of Governors) has made a difficult decision and decided that she is unable to devote the time needed as a Governor due to increasing work commitments and is sadly leaving the Governing Body. The Governors and staff would like to thank Stacy for all of her support over the last 5 years, particularly during our Ofsted and SIAMs inspections in 2017/18 as our Chair of Governors. Her expertise in SEN and her passion for ensuring the Governors and Staff do their very best for every child in the school will be greatly missed. Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication.

Governor Vacancy

Information about a vacancy on the Governing Body is being sent home today so please check your children's bags. Nominations need to be made and school notified by Friday 25 January please. Following this a period of time will be given to allow parents to vote. We will keep parents informed via the newsletter.

New planters

Some of you may have noticed the new planters near the field being built just before Christmas. We would like to thank the PTA who have contributed considerably towards these planters, funding three out of four of them. They will be planted with vegetables and flowers in the coming months during Forest School sessions. The added seating will also enable staff to use the area as an outdoor classroom. A big thank you to everyone on the PTA!!

Informal 'Drop In' Sessions - All Parents and Family Members Welcome

Class teachers will have already informed you through Class Dojo about the upcoming 'Drop in' sessions. Due to the positive response received from parents who have attended our 'Drop In' sessions in the past, we will be holding our next sessions at the times stated below. The purpose of these sessions are to enable the children to share their work with their families. The children enjoy showing their parents and family members what they have been doing in school. Please see dates below.

All sessions run from the end of the school day until 4pm with the exception of Nursery which will be at 12pm.

Nursery (12pm) - 18 January

Reception - 17 January

Year 1 – 14 January

Year 2 (both classes on the same night) – 18 January

Year 3/4 - 17 January

Year 5/6 – 16 January

Clubs

Due to Staff run clubs changing around this half term they will start again next week (wc 21 Jan) once allocations have been made. Year 3/4 Sports club on a Tuesday and Year 5/6 Sports club on a Friday will continue as normal this week.

Reception 2019 – deadline is tomorrow

Reminder – online applications for those children that are to start in Reception in September 2019 are now open and close on 15 January 2019. Can parents please note that if your child attends our nursery your child does not automatically have a place in Reception. Online applications, by the deadline, must be completed please.

PTA Tea towels

If you missed out on purchasing a PTA tea towel before Christmas we still have some for sale in the office. They are £3 each. The tea towels incorporate pictures drawn by the children of themselves and are a lovely memento.

Penalty Notices for Non- school attendance – Information for Parents/Carers

Section 444(A) of the Education Act 1996 empowers the local authority to issue Penalty Notices in cases of

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unauthorised absence from school. This means that when a pupil has unauthorised absence of 10 sessions (5 days) or more, in a 12 week period (where no acceptable reason has been given for the absence) or if their child persistently arrives late for school after the close of registration, their parents may receive a Penalty Notice of £120, which is reduced to £60 if paid within 21 days. The Penalty Notice will need to be paid in full before 28 days of the notice being served. Failure to pay a penalty notice may result in prosecution (a separate penalty notice may be issued to each parent for each child).

In law, an offence is committed if a parent fails to secure a child's regular attendance at school. Tameside Education Welfare Service, in conjunction with schools and Greater Manchester Police, will use these powers as an early deterrent to prevent patterns of unauthorised absence developing.

Parents may also receive a Penalty Notice without a warning letter for the offence of failing to secure regular school attendance under the following circumstances:

- Their child is stopped on a truancy sweep
- Where the unauthorized absence of a minimum of 10 sessions occurs on consecutive days

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 also makes it an offence if a parent fails to ensure that their child is not in a public place during the first 5 days of a fixed term or permanent exclusion. Penalty Notices may be issued for such an offence.

The Local Authority and schools are committed to providing the best possible future for your child. If you have concerns about your child's attendance at school or if you are experiencing any difficulties, please contact your school and ask for help.

Staying Healthy At School

Laura Whiting, the Nutritionist for Mellor's Catering Services who provide the school lunches for Milton St John's Primary School came into school on 8th January 2019 to deliver an assembly on staying healthy at school with pupils in years 1-6. It was a great way to start the New Year and the new term!

During the assembly she talked about why it's important to be healthy and what a healthy diet is. She gave pupils her top tips on how to stay healthy at school, which included to eat a rainbow of colours, have a healthy breakfast before school starts to fuel their learning in the classroom and drink at least 8 glasses of water each day.

She also looked at the sugar content in a juice drink, a packet of sweets and a cereal bar which gave us all some food for thought.

The pupils were encouraged to think what New Year resolutions they could make to be healthier in 2019, for example, try new fruits or vegetables at lunchtime, or to try and drink more water throughout the school day. The children were engaged throughout the whole assembly and keen questions on the topic.



Thank you to Laura for delivering this healthy eating assembly and we hope to see more valuable sessions from Mellor's in the future.

Winter Warmer

We are offering children on packed lunches a school meal on Thursday 17 January. If your child would like to try a school meal the cost will be £2.18 but please pay at the office by 9am Tuesday 15 January.

Road Closure

We have been informed by Tameside Highways that Roughtown Road will be closed only on Monday this week but should reopen on Tuesday 15 January. Mill Lane should remain open.

PTA Fashion Show

Our annual Fashion Show is back by popular demand and likely to sell out... Tickets cost just £5 for a great night out & lots of bargains. Bring your friends to the Royal George on Friday 1st March, from 7pm. Tickets will be available later this week from the School Office or PTA members.

The next PTA meeting will be held Thursday 17 January in Aurora. All welcome.

PREVIOUS NEWLESTTER ITEMS

Sickness bugs

Please could we remind Parents that if your child has a bug and is vomitting or has diarrhoea we follow the Public Health Agency Guidance for Schools and other childcare settings, where it is recommended that children should be kept away from school for 48 hours from the last episode of diarrhoea or vomitting. This is to reduce the spread of bugs across the school. Although we understand that childcare may be an issue, trying to prevent other children becoming sick is our priority. You will be asked to take your child home if you bring your child back to school too early.

Snow Closure

We will always try and keep the school open! However, under certain circumstances and for various reasons this is not always the case;

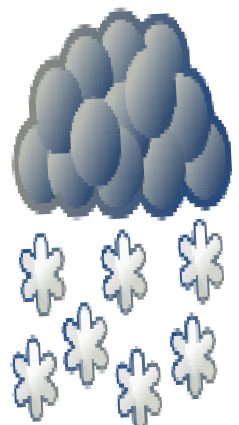
1. We do check with local weather stations and liaise with the Local Authority to try and gauge whether there is a likelihood of heavy snowfall. Unfortunately, forecasts are not always accurate and there is heavier snowfall than predicted.
2. The school has a number of staff who live outside the Mossley area. If there are not enough qualified staff available to come into school to open up and manage it safely then it cannot open due to Health & Safety reasons.
3. If the roads are dangerous then the school may not receive food deliveries and may be unable to provide a hot meal or food for the children at lunch time.
4. If the school boilers fail to operate we would need to call out an engineer to repair the fault. The School would have to close if we are not able to heat the school. If the heating fails during the day we would make a decision about school closure and contacting parents.

If there is heavy snowfall and also taking into account the above points, this is what will happen.

1. If necessary a decision to close will be made by 8.15am (or earlier if possible). However if the weather deteriorates throughout the day, we may also need to close school. A text will be sent to all Parents advising them that school is closed or closing.
2. The website will be updated throughout the day, providing that it can be accessed.
3. We will pass school closure information to TMBC and they will update their website.
4. If school remains open, Classes may need to be split and shared amongst others if we do not have enough members of staff to cover all classes.
5. If snow is set to continue over a number of days and we are aware of disruption to traffic, we may look at opening at 10am so that school can remain open.

Sending text messages is the most effective way that we can communicate with our parents.

Could you please ensure that the school has an up-to-date contact number, if you have recently renewed your mobile phone this is particularly important!



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