



Our Mission and Ethos Statement at Milton St. John's CE Primary School is to embrace each child's spiritual, moral, social and academic abilities so that they all have the opportunity to **SHINE** in the love of God.

Milton St. John's CE Primary School

Newsletter

Monday 11 September

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

Welcome back to the new school year and a big warm welcome to all the new children, staff and parents who have recently joined us.

As always, the start of the new school year is quite an exciting time for everyone. Let us hope once again, that this year proves to be just as rewarding and enjoyable to everyone as the previous one. The school has many interesting and exciting things planned for this year and we will always try our best to ensure that you are given as much notice as possible about these events. Please understand however, that things do not always go according to plan and information for events etc. can come through the school mail system at the last minute. Communication between home and school, as always, is very important to us. Evidence shows that if there is good home/school communication, then the whole school community is able to work more effectively and efficiently. Please remember - if we are not aware of an issue then we cannot attempt to address it!

Class teachers are available in the playground after school every night and parents are also able to arrange alternative times to meet before and after school if more privacy is required. I will also be out and about after school whenever possible, so please feel free to approach me or just say hello! Mrs Titterington will also be available where possible in the playground each morning should you need her. To enable me to get to know the EYFS families, I will be around the EYFS unit every Thursday morning as much as possible.

Managing Nut and Other Allergy Policy

Please may we bring to your attention to our Managing Nut and Other Allergy Policy. This is attached to this newsletter and can be found on the website also. As you may be aware, **ANAPHYLAXIS** is a severe allergic reaction at the extreme end of the allergic spectrum, affecting the entire body and can occur within minutes of exposure. The main causes are attributed to nuts, seeds and seafood.

One approach could be to ban nuts from Milton St John's; however, the **Anaphylaxis Campaign** highlights a number of problems with this approach as follows:

- It would be impossible to provide an absolute guarantee that the School is nut free, given that pupils regularly bring in food from home and food items bought on the way to School
- There would be a risk that children with allergies might be led into a false sense of security
- The nut ban would be seen as a precedent for demands to ban other potentially 'risky' foods.

However, can we strongly urge parents to be careful with what food is brought to school by their child. Although we accept that it isn't sensible to ban nuts completely, we would hope that parents support us by not sending in items such as bags of peanuts etc. We do have children in school that have nut and other allergies that could result in anaphylaxis.

Policy on Food

Please could we remind parents about our Policy on Food. Children from Year 1 - 6 are allowed to bring a snack for mid-morning break should they wish. However, we encourage that snacks are healthy (no chocolate or sugary foods/ low fat and low salt foods). Children in Key Stage 1 also have daily access to the fruit trolley. Children are encouraged to bring their own water bottle to school so that they are able to keep hydrated throughout the day. Children in Reception and Nursery have access to fruit and water throughout the day. Please see the following extract taken from the Policy on Food.

'We will ensure that our school environment promotes healthy eating. We do not encourage sweets or chocolate to be used as rewards or treats. Pupils and parents are also encouraged not to send sweets or chocolate into school for snacks. Special celebrations (birthdays, Easter, etc.) and events during the school year will be celebrated with either non-edible alternatives or given to the children at the end of the day and encouraged to be eaten after their evening meal.'

We will encourage children to drink plenty of water by encouraging them to bring their own water bottle to school which can be kept in the classroom and filled up with water from the drinking taps. If a water bottle is not available for the child we will provide them with a cup and regular opportunities to drink water throughout the day.

Children will be encouraged to bring healthier foods such as fruit or foods that are sugar free and lower in fat and salt to eat at break times if they wish to have a snack.'

Your PTA needs you!

Please join us! Whether you would like to get involved regularly or help out just occasionally at events, we'd love to hear from you. Our first meeting of the year will take place on Tuesday 19 September at 7pm in the Rising Sun pub. We'll be talking through various ideas for the year and everyone is welcome. You can also connect with us by requesting to join the Milton St John's PTA Events Facebook group.

Achievement Assembly - Mondays 9.10am

To show how proud we are of our children, we will continue to hold an Achievement Assembly for them each week. To make the assembly even more special, we invite the parents of any child receiving a certificate to the event. We are aware that sometimes a parent cannot attend; in this case any family member would be welcomed. In order to inform you that you are invited we will be sending a text out on a Thursday for the Achievement Assembly on the Monday. We understand that this is short notice but unfortunately we are unable to do this any other way.

The Midday Assistants will also be awarding the children a 'Playground Hero' throughout the week and the children will receive a certificate during the Achievement Assembly. Once again a text will be sent out to inform you if you are invited to the assembly.

Macmillan Coffee Morning – Thursday 28 September 9.05am

We would like to invite all parents/carers and family members to our Macmillan Coffee Morning. It will be held on Thursday 28 September from 9.05am. Cancer is the toughest fight most of us will ever face, and, as treatments improve; more and more people are living with cancer in their daily lives. The money we raise at our coffee morning will help make sure no one has to face cancer alone, from the moment they are diagnosed, through treatment and beyond. Being one of many people having first-hand experience of being supported by the Macmillan nurses, to be able to arrange anything to help them is an honour. Any donations of cakes, biscuits etc. for the event would be greatly appreciated and we hope that you can all join us on the morning and enjoy the refreshments, have a chat and catch up with others and donate something towards the cause.

Data Collection Forms/Local Trips/E-Safety/Home School Agreement

For classes 1-6 Data Collection sheets will be sent home by the end of next week, if there are any amendments please indicate on the sheet and return to school. For Nursery and Reception, Data Collection sheets have already been sent to parents, if you have not already done so please return to school. Consent forms for local trips, e-safety etc. will be sent home by the end of next week. All forms need returning by the date indicated.

As stated on the forms we are only requesting permissions once during your child's school career, unless there is a major policy change, therefore if you wish to remove your consent for local trip, internet use or photography please inform the school office in writing.

School Meals

Please be advised that if you wish to change your child's school meal preference, we require one week's notice to make the necessary amendments and to inform our catering team. On Wednesday last week we had 12 dinners leftover due to parents not advising us of changes.

Homework/PE Kits

Children receive homework and spellings weekly. We also encourage parents to read with their child every night. The children have PE twice a week and will therefore need their kits on the days indicated. Please see the table below for the correct information for your child's class.

Class	Homework	Spellings	PE Days
1 (Sea Turtles - Miss Bates' class)	Reading everyday	Given out Friday - test following Friday	Tuesday and Thursday
1 (Dolphins - Mr Powell's class)	Reading everyday	Given out Friday - test following Friday	Tuesday and Wednesday
2	All classes set their homework on a Friday and must be completed and handed in by Wednesday the following week. Unfortunately homework handed in after that will not be marked.	Given out Friday - test following Friday	Monday and Wednesday
3		Given out Friday - test following Friday	Thursday and Friday
4		Given out Friday - test following Friday	Monday and Friday
5		Given out Friday - test following Friday	Monday and Friday
6		Given out Monday - test following Monday	Monday (swimming) and Friday

School Uniform

It has been lovely to see how smart the children look this week and how proudly they wear their uniform. There are, however, a few children that have arrived at school in trainers (that are very expensive) or wearing other items that are not school uniform. The Department for Education states that it...

'strongly encourages schools to have a uniform as it can instil pride; support positive behaviour and discipline; encourage identity with, and support for, school ethos; ensure pupils of all races and backgrounds feel welcome; protect children from social pressures to dress in a particular way; and nurture cohesion and promote good relations between different groups of pupils'

From 18 September we will be contacting parents if children continue to wear incorrect uniform. The school uniform is as follows and is based on the colour royal blue and red:

Red polo top	PE:	White t-shirt (plain or with School logo)
Royal blue cardigan or jumper		Black/blue shorts
Royal blue reversible fleece		Black/blue jog bottoms and top
Charcoal grey skirt/pinafore or trousers	EYFS/KS1:	plimsolls or velcroed trainers
White socks or grey tights for girls	KS2:	plimsolls or trainers
Grey socks for boys		
Black shoes		

For Summer the children can wear red gingham dresses or charcoal grey shorts

Class Assemblies

Please note the following dates for your child's class assembly. You are welcome to attend your child's assembly; they start at 9.05am in the school hall for 20-25mins approx.

Class 1 Sea Turtles	To be advised
Class 1 Dolphins	To be advised
Class 2	To be advised
Class 3	Friday 27 October
Class 4	Friday 20 October
Class 5	Friday 17 November
Class 6	Friday 29 September

Lost Property

Unfortunately due to the amount of lost property that accumulates at school, our policy is to retain all items until the end of every half term, at that point any items that are still unclaimed will be sent for recycling.

Dangerous Parking

Please can we remind you all to be mindful of where you are parking in the mornings and also in the afternoons when you are dropping off or picking up your children from School. We are constantly receiving calls/emails from local residents due to the thoughtless parking of some of our Parents we are sad to say. Please respect our neighbours and be courteous when parking. If you know you are going to be on the School grounds for a long period of time, please be mindful that our local residents are also trying to get home and park outside their homes later on in the day. Also delivery drivers struggle to reach our neighbours homes due to thoughtless parking by others.

Apart from the fact that thoughtless parking is upsetting our neighbours, it also makes it extremely dangerous for our children coming in to and out of school. Cars are often trying to manoeuvre in tight spaces and around other parked cars; they cannot always see the children/parents trying to cross.

- For illegal parking/causing an obstruction, i.e. On the pavement, contact the Police on 101
- For parking in restricted areas/on double yellow lines etc. contact TMBC Traffic Unit on 0161 342 8355

COMMUNITY NEWS

Dates for your Diary

28 September	MacMillan Coffee Morning
29 September	Class 6 Assembly
20 October	Class 4 Assembly
27 October	Class 3 Assembly
17 November	Class 5 Assembly



Our theme this week is new beginnings.

May we work hard to do our best and start each day with a grateful heart.