

# Milton St. John's CE Primary School

## Newsletter

Monday 9 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.

### **Brookfields Development Meeting Tuesday 10 September 6pm.**

I was approached last week by a member of the community, Dave Jones, to see if the school could be used to gather people in the community that are concerned about the proposed development off Archer Street. I'm sure you are aware of the impact two houses behind the school has made and continues to make e.g large trucks, road between the school constantly being used and damaged as a consequence etc. The proposed Brookfields development is for **21 houses** with no other way in or out of the development other than using Mill Lane. We as a school are against it and have objected but the meeting tomorrow is to discuss if anything further can be done to stop it. Anyone is welcome tomorrow night and it is anticipated that the meeting will last approximately 45 mins.

### **Managing Nut and Other Allergy Policy**

Please may we bring to your attention our Managing Nut and Other Allergy Policy which can be viewed on our website. 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.

The Anaphylaxis Campaign highlights a number of problems with saying that we are a 'Nut Free School' 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, whilst we are not proposing that we are a 'Nut Free School' the Governors have made the decision to not allow nuts into school to help minimise airborne allergic reactions to nuts. Therefore, nuts such as peanuts, cashew nuts, monkey nuts, almonds, pistachio etc (nuts in their natural form) are not allowed in school and will be sensitively taken off children if they are seen and handed back to the parents at the end of the school day. Nuts that are contained within products are still permitted e.g cereal bars etc. We do have a new child in school that does have a severe peanut allergy and we would appreciate your support with this matter when you are preparing packed lunches and snacks etc.**

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## **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). 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.'*

*We have also introduced milk at dinnertime for any children wishing to have a drink of milk each day. This is regardless of whether they are on a school dinner or not.*

## **'SHINE' day 19 September**

Next week we are holding a 'SHINE day' where we will be reflecting on our mission and ethos statement 'Show Respect, Honesty, Include others, Never give up and Excellence'. It will be a very busy day for the children as they will be completing various activities throughout the day and will be asked to consider how they can 'SHINE' during their everyday lives both at home and at school.

## **Achievement Assembly – change of day**

To show how proud we are of our children, we will continue to hold an Achievement Assembly for them each week where possible. However, due to music tuition now being on a Monday we will have to change the day to a Wednesday. Please remember that 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 send a text out on a Friday for the Achievement Assembly on the following Wednesday morning at 9.05am. 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 – Friday 27 September Non Uniform day**

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. As we are aware a great deal of parents work and are unable to attend a coffee morning in school. Therefore, this year in order to still raise money and awareness we will be holding a non uniform day on Friday 27 September. The money we raise will help make sure no one has to face cancer alone, from the moment they are diagnosed, through treatment and beyond.

## **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.

## **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 (this is sometimes part of the Forest School sessions) and will therefore need their kits on the days indicated. Please see the table below for the correct information for your child's class.

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Class	Homework	Spellings	PE Days
1	Reading everyday	Given out Friday - test following Friday	Tuesday and Friday
2	Reading everyday	Given out Friday - test following Friday	Tuesday and Thursday
3a (Miss Hurst)	+  Year 2- 5 classes set their homework on a Friday and must be completed and handed in by Wednesday the following week.	Given out Friday - test following Friday	Tuesday and part of Forest School on Thursday
3b (Mrs Gerrard)		Given out Friday - test following Friday	Tuesday and Wednesday
4		Given out Friday - test following Friday	Thursday and Friday
5		Given out Friday - test following Friday	Wednesday and Friday
6	Year 6 hand homework out on a Thursday to be handed in on a Monday.  Unfortunately, homework handed in after that will not be marked.	Given out Friday - test following Friday	Monday 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 16 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	<b>PE:</b>	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	<b>EYFS/KS1:</b>	plimsolls or velcroed trainers
White or grey socks or grey tights	<b>KS2:</b>	plimsolls or trainers
Black shoes		

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

### After School Clubs

Sports clubs will start this week on Tuesdays and Fridays. All other clubs will start next week and children will be notified which club they are in before next week.

### 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

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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

### **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. Year 1 and 2 assemblies will be after Christmas.

Class 3a	Friday 4 October
Class 4	Friday 11 October
Class 5	Friday 18 October
Class 3b	Friday 25 October

### **Dates for your Diary**

<b>12 September</b>	Year 3 trip to Staircase House, Stockport
<b>19 September</b>	SHINE day
<b>30 September</b>	Spanish morning visit to Mossley Hollins for Year 3
<b>27 September</b>	Macmillan Day- Non school uniform
<b>17 October</b>	Parents Evening
<b>23 October</b>	Individual School Photographs
<b>24 October</b>	Harvest Service at St John's (Yr 1-6)

### **Community News**

#### **Mossley Hollins High School Open Night**

MHHS warmly welcome you to their Open Night on Wednesday 24 September at 6pm.

#### **Kids Cookery Club**

Kids Cookery Club takes place at the Tameside Wellbeing Corner in Ashton Indoor Market. The cooking club is more than just teaching children how to cook as it educates them in a fun way about different foods, healthy eating, how to cook, social and fine motor skills as well as getting parents involved so that they too can learn as well.

There will be six 30 minute sessions (on the following Saturdays Saturday 21st September, Saturday 19th October, Saturday 23rd November and Saturday 21st December. Moving into 2020 the Kid's Cookery Club will also take place on Saturday 11th January 2020, Saturday 22nd February and Saturday 21st March) that will take place at 11am, 11.45am, 12.30pm, 1.30pm and 2.15pm 11am-3pm. The monthly sessions are free and are an opportunity for kids of all ages to join our Chef to cook, eat, and learn about food. For further information and to register for a session please contact Ashton Market Office at [markets@tameside.gov.uk](mailto:markets@tameside.gov.uk)



Our theme this month is new beginnings.  
May we work hard to do our best and start  
each day with a grateful heart.