

Newsletter

Monday 29 June 2020

NEW NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Phased opening update...

Last week we welcomed some Year 1 and Year 6 children that wanted to return to school. As numbers were slightly lower than expected, we have also been able to offer places to Reception children and Year 5. Non-key worker Reception children start tomorrow and will be returning for mornings only and non-key worker Year 5 children started today and will be in school Monday – Thursday.

We are now full though and are unable to accept any other children, including any Key Worker children that have not taken a place already. Even though the social distancing rules change on the 4 July, we are still unable to take any more children as the children are already spaced less than 2 metres apart in classrooms.

In order for us to keep everyone as safe as possible, it's really important that start and finish times are adhered to please and that the correct gate/entrance is used at all times. We also expect Year 4 – 6 children to come into school on their own. It is also imperative that parents don't hang around the school grounds and chat due to the tight scheduled times for drop off/pick up. We obviously understand that some parents may have to drop off/wait for siblings due to different timings though. Please see the table below as a reminder.

Bubble	Location	Start time	Finishing time
Nursery/Reception key worker bubble	Reception classroom	9.10am (Reception entrance)	2.50pm (Reception entrance)
Reception bubble (mornings only)	Nursery classroom	8.50am (Nursery entrance)	11.50am (Nursery door)
Year 1 Key worker bubble	Year 1 classroom	9.00am (Year 1 entrance)	2.50pm (Year 1 entrance)
Year 1 bubble (Mon- Thurs)	Year 2 classroom	9.10am (access via rear gate)	2.50pm (access via rear gate)
Year 2 Key Worker bubble	Year 3a classroom	8.45am (access via rear gate, main building)	3pm (access via rear gate, main building)
Year 3 Key Worker bubble	Year 3b classroom	9.00am (access via rear gate)	3.10pm (access via rear gate)
Year 4/5 Key Worker bubble	Year 4 classroom	8.30am (access via main gate on Mill Lane)	2.50pm (access via main gate on Mill Lane)
Year 5 bubble (Mon – Thurs)	Year 5 classroom	8.40am (access via main gate on Mill Lane)	3.05pm (access via main gate on Mill Lane)
Year 6 Key Worker bubble	Year 6 classroom	8.45am (access via main gate on Mill Lane)	3pm (access via main gate on Mill Lane)
Year 6 bubble (Mon – Thurs)	Room of requirement	8.55am (access via main gate on Mill Lane)	3.10pm (access via main gate on Mill Lane)

Stay at Home Superheroes – Sports Day

For our Sports Day this year we are asking for our 'stay at home superheroes' to get involved in designing their very own obstacle course. It can be indoor or outdoor and we would like you to draw a diagram of your obstacle course on a plain piece of paper. Once you have drawn and labelled it, can you make it in your garden or at home?

When your obstacle course is ready, can you challenge the people in your house to complete it? Make it into a race and see who can do it the quickest. You should record your results on the table.

We would like to include some pictures of this event on to the school newsletter so please email any photographs of this event to admin@milton-st-johns.tameside.sch.uk by Friday 10 July.

Whole school opening in September

We are delighted that the Government has announced that they expect all children to come back in September. We are currently awaiting further guidance on this, but want to get back to normal as soon as possible. We anticipate that there will be different start and finishing times and staggered break and dinnertimes for different classes in order to minimise groups of children mixing. We will, of course, keep you informed as soon as we have further information.

For some reason, unbeknown to us, there is a rumour that our Nursery will not open in September. Can I just reassure parents that this is not the case, we are looking forward to opening for the whole school in September, including Nursery.

Art work

It has been lovely to receive such fantastic Art work. These are examples of the Artwork sent in from children at home:

Both by Elliott



Home projects

This is a great example of a gardening project by Solomon:



School meal preference from September for Year 2 children moving into Year 3

We have sent an email today to current Year 2 children who will be moving into Year 3 in September. It is asking their school meal preference in September as they will no longer be entitled to the Universal Free School Meal once they are in Year 3. Please return the form sent out to you by Thursday 9 July.

UPDATED NEWSLETTER ITEMS

Home learning

Parents need to be aware that Miss Collins is currently shielding, following Government advice regarding pregnant women, and is working from home, overseeing the home learning platform. In order for teachers to see what learning Miss Collins has commented on she will be signed in as the class teacher. As other class teachers are in school and Miss Collins is overseeing every year group, please be mindful that messages may not be able to be answered straight away. We have also added some more resources to our home learning pencil on the school website. Please take a look.

We would also like you to send in any photos of things the children have been doing to brighten up our newsletter each week and share what everyone at home is doing. Please send any photos to admin@milton-st-johns.tameside.sch.uk with the subject as newsletter item.

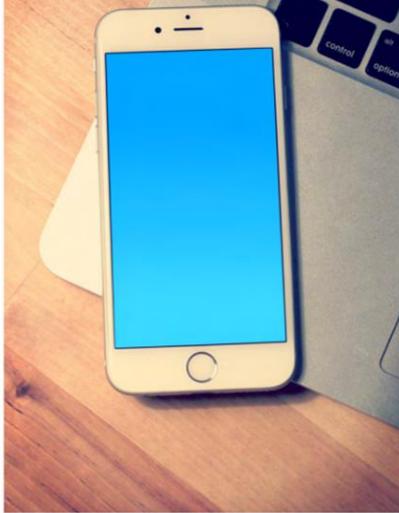
Looking into the rainbow

In the last few newsletters we have mentioned the 'Looking to the rainbow' song that we would like the children to learn. Details can be found here and it isn't too late for your child to learn the song.

<https://worshipforeveryone.com/looking-to-the-rainbow>

What we would now like you to do is send in any videos of your child singing the song please. Please see below for the best way to do this. For it to work, the clip needs to only have your child singing the song and not have the backing track playing in the background please. The clips can be sections of the song so that the videos aren't too large to email. We will then, hopefully try and put the song together to share with everyone. Please send your videos to admin@milton-st-johns.tameside.sch.uk by 17 July.

**GET THEM TO
RECORD
IN PORTRAIT AND NOT
LANDSCAPE!!**



Record the singer on a smartphone. The camera and mic quality is plenty good nowadays for this job. It also makes sharing the finished video easy. Tell them to get someone to hold the phone for them



It's probably a good idea to get the singers to perform in headphones, that way you only record their voices and not the backing track as well.



Make sure they SMILE!!

Increase in cost of School Meals

The cost of a school meal has increased to £2.28 from 1 April 2020.

Free school meals

Parents that are entitled to free school meals (not universal free school meals) have been informed that they are entitled to a weekly family care package of food. We have also been notified that this is to continue over the summer holidays. More details to follow about how this will work. Parents that are entitled to this must let the school know by emailing admin@milton-st-johns.tameside.sch.uk by 3.15pm each Wednesday should they require a care package the following Tuesday. If your circumstances have changed and you feel you may be entitled to free school meals please see the information below.

Please visit <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/schoolmeals#apply> for further information



As we all slowly tip-toe back to small snippets of our new normal life, may we know the peace and love of our Lord which surrounds us all.

Let us be kind, let us be patient and let us trust in each other.