



Millhouse Primary School

Newsletter

www.millhouseprimary.co.uk

A Small School with a Big Heart



Message from Mrs. Gray:

It has been a super first half-term full of fabulous learning. The children have adapted so well to the new routines in school. I wish everyone a wonderful holiday and hope that the children have a good rest – we definitely have some tired faces at the moment!

Seesaw

This year for class work, homework activities and as part of a future remote learning offer we are exploring the use of Seesaw (<http://seesaw.me>), a secure online journal.

Teachers are able to share work, including video instructions, via this platform. Class 4 began trialling Seesaw last week. We would like to be able to use the platform across school but due to GDPR regulations need parental consent. A separate letter will be sent with further details. We would be grateful if consent forms could be returned this week to enable us to use Seesaw immediately after half-term.

Special Mentions

Last week's Special Mentions were awarded to:

- Class 1 – Charlie and Nyla-Rose
- Class 2 – Reece and Emily R
- Class 3 – Holly M and Harrison
- Class 4 – Phoebe and Hollymae
- Class 5 – Lucas and Liam JC



Fantastic effort!

Attendance

Great attendance figures across school last week!

Well done to Class 2 who achieved the highest percentage.

Class 1 – 97.9%

Class 2 – 99.6%

Class 3 – 97.6%

Class 4 – 97.2%

Class 5 – 99.2%

Remember every day counts!



Tough Tortoises

We present Tough Tortoise certificates for being determined; persevering even when we find things hard; ignoring distractions.

In Friday's assembly, we awarded certificates to:

Kate (Class 1);

Harry M (Class 2);

Kiki (Class 3);

Jay (Class 4);

Callum O (Class 5).



Dinner Money

Please ensure dinner money is paid in advance. In line with the policy published on our website, parents will be asked to send pupils with a packed lunch if dinner money isn't paid in advance.

Harvest

Although we cannot hold our usual Harvest Festival, harvest is the theme of this week's assemblies in school. We would like to organise a collection of non-perishable items, as in previous years, to donate to the Barnsley Churches' Food Bank. If you would like to support this, please send items into school with your child (we will place a box in each cloakroom) by Thursday 22nd October.



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Parents' Evening

Thank-you to parents who have already booked their telephone appointment(s) for this week's parents' evenings. If you haven't yet arranged a time for the teacher to contact you, please get in touch with the school office by email or telephone

Dates:

Tuesday 20th October and Wednesday 21st October (4:00 – 6:00pm) – Classes 1, 2, 4 and 5.

Wednesday 21st October and Thursday 22nd October – Class 3.

If these dates are not convenient, please contact us and we will endeavour to arrange an alternative time.

Please be aware that staff will be telephoning from personal mobiles and therefore the caller ID will not be displayed.

Harriet Muncaster books

Apologies for the delay in the delivery of the Harriet Muncaster books purchased as part of our recent virtual author visit for Y4-6 pupils. The books have now arrived in school but we are awaiting the signed bookplates to insert into them. Hopefully these will be received this week so that the children can have their books before the holiday.

October half-term

We break up for October half-term on Friday 23rd October. There is an INSET day on Monday 2nd November. School re-opens to pupils on Tuesday 3rd November.

Reminder:

The School Council have requested that on **Friday 24th October**, a non-school uniform day will take place with a **Halloween fancy dress** theme in return for a £1 donation to FOMS. The FOMS group have agreed to buy prizes for the best costume in each class. We are sure that this will be popular across the school.

Children will need to play out in their costumes so please consider this when deciding what to wear!



Year 5 Bikeability

Please ensure bikeability consent forms are returned to school by Wednesday 21st October at the latest. We need to inform the staff delivering the programme of numbers and any bikes/helmets required. Y5 pupils in Class 4 will be participating in the Bikeability scheme straight after the half-term break. They will need to bring their bikes and helmets to school on Tuesday 3rd November. Y5 in Class 5 undertake the programme w/c 23.11.20 – consent forms still need to be returned this week.

Head Lice

We had a report of a case of headlice in school last week. Please can we ask that parents check their children's hair regularly to ensure that we keep this issue at bay. Many thanks.

Photographs

We are sending home order forms today for the individual photographs taken last week. Please return order forms to school by Wednesday 4th November. Any orders after this date will need to be placed directly with the company and will incur a delivery charge.



Email: schooloffice@millhouseprimary.co.uk Autumn Term 2020 Issue 7

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Covid-19: Important reminders

We all have a role to play in keeping our school and community safe. Contact school by telephone or email (k.gray@millhouseprimary.co.uk) if you are unsure about whether to send your child to school and need advice.

Do not send your child to school if:

- they have symptoms of Coronavirus (a high temperature; a new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual); a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste) or have tested positive
- you, someone in your household or support bubble has symptoms or has tested positive.

You should book a free Coronavirus (COVID-19) test and self-isolate in line with the guidance below and at www.nhs.uk/coronavirus.

When should you self-isolate?

Self-isolate immediately for at least 10 days if:

- you have any symptoms of coronavirus
- you've tested positive for coronavirus – this means you have coronavirus.

Self-isolate immediately for at least 14 days if:

- someone you live with has symptoms or tested positive
- someone in your support bubble has symptoms or tested positive
- you've been told by NHS Test and Trace that you've been in contact with someone who has coronavirus.

The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

You must not leave your home if you're self-isolating.

For more information visit www.nhs.uk/coronavirus

Please inform school immediately if your child or someone in your household/ support bubble has symptoms of coronavirus or has tested positive. If this is out of school hours, email k.gray@millhouseprimary.co.uk.

Access Policy:

We have moved Class 2's drop off and collection point to the front of the school. This is a trial until half term but so far it seems to be working well and has eased issues around social distancing on the lane alongside school, which a few parents had alerted us to. We will formally review and update the access policy as required at half-term.

Dropping off and collecting children from school

Please can we ask that parents do not arrive before the allocated arrival/ departure windows for their children if possible (we understand that this might happen if you have more than one child to collect). By allocating 10 minute windows for each class, we are aiming to minimise the number of people having to wait in order to support social distancing. In addition, we request that parents enter the school site and stand in the collection area if collecting pupils from Class 3 or 4 and do not wait on the pavement at the front of school – this needs to be kept clear to allow people to leave the school site safely. Many thanks for your co-operation.

Remote Learning

If your child is off school because they have to self-isolate due to COVID-19 (either because they or a member of their household has symptoms/ positive result), staff will provide home learning via Purple Mash. This will mirror as closely as possible the work that the children are covering in class. Please be aware that staff are teaching and will endeavour to issue remote learning as soon as possible once notified.

We will also use Purple Mash to communicate with pupils and set home learning in the event of a wider school closure, for example if we are advised by PHE to close a class due to a positive case of Covid-19 within school.