



14.09.18 1

Grow, Learn, Believe, Achieve

Dear Parents,

I'd like to extend you a warm welcome back to Milford School and hope that you have had a relaxing break filled with great memories. It has been brilliant to see how quickly the children have settled back into school after all those weeks away. I have been overwhelmed by the number of children that completed the Godalming Library Reading Challenge (I had to order more Headteacher certificates!) I have been asked by the library to let you know that it's still not too late to finish the challenge.

We are pleased to welcome three new members of staff to our school - Miss Nicola Jones our Deputy Head, Mrs Jo Taylor an LSA and Mrs Emma Carter an LSA and Midday Supervisor. I'm sure you will make them feel welcome and get to know them over the course of the year.

Finally I'd like to reaffirm our commitment to our School Vision for everyone in our community to 'Grow, Learn, Believe and Achieve'. With this in mind, over the academic year we will be trying to engage more with parents and grandparents to give you further help and support with your children's learning. Mrs Hearsom is running her 'New to Year 2 Maths' parent workshop again - keep an eye out for information. It will be at 6pm to enable as many parents as possible to attend. At Milford School we hold the highest aspirations and expectations for our children and believe that with the right positive mindset all of our children can do great things. We hope you share this and will continue your fantastic support of the school over the coming months.

Have a great weekend,

Andrew Stear
Headteacher

DIARY DATES

Wed	19.09.18	Y2 Pirate Day (details to follow)	Fri	07.12.18	Mufti Day for Xmas Fair
Wed	19.09.18	Reception - Meet the teacher 12.30pm or 6-7pm	Fri	07.12.18	Christmas Performance (Willow and Oak) for Grandparents and Toddlers 1.30-2.15pm
Wed	19.09.18	Y1 and Y2 -Meet the Teacher 6-7pm	Mon	10.12.18	Christmas Performance (Willow and Oak) for Parents 1.30-2.15pm
Fri	28.09.18	Sign-up for Parents' Evening 9am	Tues	11.12.18	Christmas Performance (Lime and Beech) for Grandparents and Toddlers 1.30-2.15pm
Mon	01.10.18	Whole School Flu nasal immunisation	Wed	12.12.18	Christmas Performance (Elm and Cherry) for Grandparents and Toddlers 1.30-2.15pm
Tues	02.10.18	Photographer (Individual)	Thurs	13.12.18	Christmas Performance (Lime and Beech) for Parents 1.30-2.15pm
Mon	08.10.18	Friday -12.10.18 Maths Week	Fri	14.12.18	Christmas Performance (Elm and Cherry) for Grandparents and Toddlers 1.30-2.15pm
Fri	12.10.18	Grandparents' Morning	Fri	14.12.18	Christmas Jumper Day in aid of 'Save the Children'
Fri	12.10.18	Quiz - 8pm (time tbc) in School Hall	Mon	17.12.18	Elm/Lime to Dower and Clockhouse
Mon	15.10.18	Parents' Evening 1 (4.30 - 7.30pm)	Tues	18.12.18	Christmas Fair (3.15 - 5pm)
Tues	16.10.18	M&M Productions 'The Wizard of Oz'	Wed	19.12.18	Carols Around the Tree - 9.15-9.45am
Wed	17.10.18	Parents' Evening 2 (3.45-6.15pm)	Wed	19.12.18	Last Day of term school closes at 1pm
Thurs	18.10.18	Harvest Gifts to School	Thurs	03.01.19	School resumes at 8.55am
Fri	19.10.18	Harvest Assembly 9am	Mon	25.02.19	Inset Day
		Elm/Lime to Dower House and Clockhouse	Wed	24.07.19	Inset Day
		Cake Sale 3.15pm			
Mon	22.10.18 -	Friday 26.10.18			
		Half-term			
Mon	29.10.18	Inset Day			
Fri	09.11.18	Y2 Remembrance Assembly (Parents welcome)			

Absences

We are required by Surrey County Council to send in an absence return every half term. As a result we ask that on the first morning of absence parents ring the school office and leave a message by 9.25a.m. explaining the reason for his/her absence. If a child is away and we do not get a message to explain, we will contact you to ensure your child is safe. If we are unable to contact you we will work our way through the contacts on your information form. Please ring the office every morning of your child's absence.

Request for Leave of Absence during term time

We will not normally authorise absence for holidays during term time and any such absences will be marked as unauthorised. Surrey County Council guidance gives Headteachers the power to authorise absence only in exceptional circumstances. Examples of exceptional circumstances, given by the Department for Education (DfE), are: service leave and family crisis.

Pupil Post

We try to use Friday as our regular day for sending parent mail and newsletters. **Please check your e-mails and your child's bag on a Friday to ensure that you keep up to date with school events.** We would also be grateful if you could help your children on a weekly basis, to clear their bags of all unnecessary items (apart from reading books and diaries). Sometimes it is unavoidable to send mail on other days so please bear this in mind. We update the website regularly with important information.



Updating Records/Information

Your child will receive an envelope next week which shows the details we currently hold. Please return the form unchanged and signed if the details are correct, but, if they are not, please alter them clearly on the form. Also enclosed will be 'The Wizard of Oz' theatre performance letter. Tucasi on-line payment registration details have been issued to new parents and existing parents who have not already registered. We would be grateful if these forms/data collection forms can be returned by **Monday 24th September.**



Medication and Inhalers

If your child receives medication, including inhalers for asthma, please ensure that the school is informed of this and medication is supplied for use in school. As with any medicine/inhalers that need to be given during the day, a form (obtained from the office) must be completed giving details of the medicines and clear instructions as to how they should be administered. Please refer to our 'Supporting Children with Medical Needs' policy. All medication must come via the School Office and not via the classteacher.



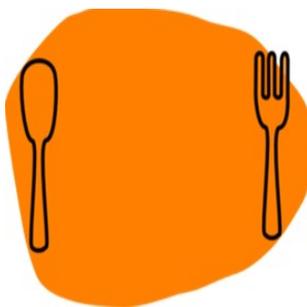
Dogs on School Premises

Please ensure that dogs are not brought on to school premises. Please tie them up to the fence at the front of the school building, away from paths and gates.

Free School Meals Eligibility and Pupil Premium

Although all infant school children are now eligible for a free school meal, it is still important to us that we are able to identify who would have been eligible if the system hadn't changed as this information is used for the school to be able to claim pupil premium-essential funding. You or your child's information is not given to anyone else but is used purely for the school to be able to claim the premium.

The Pupil Premium is additional funding given to schools so that they can support their disadvantaged pupils and close any potential attainment gaps between them and their peers. Please pick up a form from the School Office as soon as possible, even if you are not sure whether you are eligible, in order for us to make this claim as accurately as possible.



Bicycle and Scooter Shelter

Can you please ensure that as children come into the school grounds they do not ride their scooters or bikes. Please push them to avoid any unnecessary accidents, particularly during busy times. For our new parents, the bicycle/scooter shelter is near the side-door of the School Hall.



Breakfast and After School Clubs for Autumn term

Breakfast Club: Wed 5th Sept - Wed 19th Dec
Tennis (Monday): September 10th - December 3rd
French Y1 (Monday): September 10th - Dec 3rd
Football (Tuesday): September 11th - December 4th
Gymnastics (Wednesday) Sept 12th - December 5th
French Y2 (Thursday): September 13th - Dec 6th
Rugbytots (Thursday): September 20th (tbc) - Dec 6th
All Star Choir (Friday): September 14th - December 7th
Karate (Friday): September 14th - December 7th
The above clubs are up and running - please remember to book on-line. All after school clubs are open to Year 1 and 2 children only and Reception pupils will be invited to join later in the academic year once settled into school routines.

Photographer

The School photographer will be coming on Tuesday 2nd October to take individual and family group children's photographs. Older and younger children in your family who do not attend our school may be brought into school at 8.45a.m., if you would like them to be included in your school child's photograph. Priority will be given to older children, so that they can get to their school as soon as possible. Individual and family group photographs of children who attend our school will be taken during the remainder of the morning.



Parent Helpers and Safeguarding Children

We welcome parent (and grandparent) helpers in school and at 'Friends' events. Please be aware that if you wish to help with the children (in class or school trips) you will need a DBS check from the Disclosure and Barring Service. The school will pay for the cost of this check. Parents can start their own applications on-line (full guidance is available from the office). On-line applications generally take less than a week to process. After this you will be very welcome in school.

Gates Locking/Opening

Please note that all gates will be locked in the mornings at 9a.m. and will be re-opened at 3p.m. Please ensure that you vacate the site promptly after drop-off.



Star of the Week w/e 7th September, 2018

Cherry:

Reuben: Super Maths learning in class
Maddy: Amazing independent learning in Class

Beech:

Imogen: A wonderful picture of our School Rule
Jo: Super writing about his Summer

Lime:

Tamsin: Fantastic focus in Maths
Ted: Great effort in Maths and writing this week

Elm:

Joey: A fantastic start to Year 2 showing great enthusiasm and participation. Well done!
Maggie: Beginning Year 2 with a super smile and a positive attitude! Keep it up!



Meet the Teacher

On Wednesday 19th September all year groups will have an opportunity to 'Meet the Teacher' and to find out what will be going on over the course of the year, ask any burning questions, and help you to become familiar with the school. We have scheduled this for Weds 19th September from 6-7pm. Reception will also be holding a 'Meet the Teacher' meeting at 12.30pm on the same day. You do not need to attend both! The timings of the talks are as follows:

6-6.15pm - Reception

Go to your child's classroom then after the presentation, stay for an informal chat with the class teacher or come to the school hall for refreshments.

6.25-6.40pm - Year 2

Go to your child's classroom after having refreshments in the school hall and have an informal chat either before or after presentation.

6.45-7pm - Year 1

Have refreshments then go to your child's classroom to have a look around and an informal chat with the teacher prior to 6.45 start)

A busy summer of school improvements!

A team of builders and tradesmen have spent the summer sprucing up our school. Firstly, our much anticipated toilet upgrade has been completed. The old, dilapidated washrooms have been replaced with a bright and modern facility for our children to use. We are delighted with the results, and best of all the horrible smell of the boys toilets has disappeared!

SPL Group have worked incredibly hard to redecorate our Reception and Beech classes, as well as the school office. They have also painted our main building woodwork and door frames as well as numerous other jobs.

We also have a new trim trail on our school field. This includes a rope bridge, climbing wall and various other pieces of equipment to challenge the children's outdoor play. Staff have been busy trying out the equipment and teaching the children how to use it!



'Milford Mindset'

At Milford School we hold the highest aspirations and expectations of our children and families and believe that all children have the potential to do fantastic things. We see mistakes as really important steps towards learning and growing. We don't label children by 'ability' and try to help each and every child to be the best they can be. We hope our parents and grandparents can support us with this to help all of our children to maintain a positive attitude and approach and believe they can be successful in anything they put their mind to, even if it at first it seems a bit tricky. We will be putting a 'Milford Mindset' section in each of our newsletters this year with some things you can do as parents and grandparents to support our children to be the best learners they can be!

Cherry News

Learning indoors and out!

Cherry class have got off to a flying start this week. In English we have been retelling the story of The Three Little Pigs and some of the children performed on the outdoor stage in the lovely September sun. In Maths we have been learning to sort objects and explain our thinking. We have also been out collecting acorns and counting them using our ten frames. We found over one hundred acorns that had fallen from the oak trees. In art we have been discovering that primary colours can be mixed to make new colours.



First Day's back by Michael Rosen

First days back at school
Children clean and neat
New coats hang on coat pegs
New shoes shine on feet.

School hall smells of polish
Toilets smell of soap
Children meet new teachers
Faces full of hope.

Teachers give new books out
Children start a new page
Up the curtain rises
On the same old stage.

Welcome back everyone from all of us at
Milford School!

Achievements Outside of School

We have started a new display in our school hall titled 'Achievements outside of school'. This is an opportunity for you as parents to share achievements your child has made outside of school with everyone. We recognise that success and achievement comes in all sorts of different forms for our children and hope you will be able to send in some examples of things that happen outside of school for us to share. Just pop a photo and/or a description of what your child has achieved in to your child's class teacher who will pass it on for inclusion. Some examples might be - "took part in a first football match". "Passed a music/ballet/ etc examination". "Raised some money for charity". I'm sure you will be able to come up with many ideas!



Update from The Friends of Milford

Welcome to all new parents and welcome back to the old-timers!

The Friends have set some dates for events for this school year – there are still lots of dates to confirm but this is a start (and there is a disclaimer in that the dates are not set in stone, things could get rearranged or cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances etc!) So here goes:

Autumn term

Christmas card crafts with the children (yes, the C word already!), Wednesday 26 September (year 1), Friday 28 September (years R and 2)

Friends meeting, Thursday 27 September, 9am in the hall

Children's event, Friday 5 October (details TBC)

Grandparents morning (help with refreshments), Friday 12 October

Quiz (our popular quiz and curry night for parents!), Friday 12 October in the evening in the hall

Cake sale, to be run by Beech class, Friday 19 October after school

Children's event, Wednesday 21 November (details tbc)

Mufti (non uniform day), contribution to be bottles for the Christmas fair, Friday 7 December

Christmas fair, Tuesday 18 December after school

Parent helpers coffee, Wednesday 19 December in the hall after Carols Round the Tree

Spring term

Children's event, Wednesday 30 January (details tbc)

Cake sale, Thursday 14 February after school

Mufti, contribution of an Easter Egg for the fair, Friday 15 March

Easter Fair, Friday 29 March after school

Summer term

Cake sale, Friday 24 May after school

Children's event, Wednesday 19 June (details tbc)

Mufti day, contribution for summer fair tbc, Monday 8 July

Summer fair/picnic, Friday 12 July after school

The class reps will post updates on each class's Facebook group, so make sure you have joined the group to stay in the loop! Hopefully you all know who your class reps are, but just in case:

Elm – tbc

Lime – tbc

Beech – Lindsay Powell and Rosie Maxwell-Miles

Cherry – Victoria Embry and Katherine Marriott

Willow – Kayleigh Sparkes-Smith

Oak – Ruth Novak and Clare Brooker

Thank you to all of the reps for taking on this very important role!

Half term value - 'Resilience'

This half term we will be focusing on the value of 'Resilience'. Each week there will be a values assembly to help the children build their understanding and learn about what each value 'looks like' and how they can 'live' it. The children will learn about how they can be resilient learners and the importance of persevering and adopting a positive 'Milford Mindset'. We ask that you support us by referring to our value at home (and completing a value leaf when the class teachers send them home!) If there is anyone you feel we should be learning about who was or is a model for resilience, then please let us know so we can feature them over the coming weeks!

In assembly this week we talked about being resilient (not giving up when things get tricky and 'bouncing back'). The children watched a video about making resilience promises - things they said they wouldn't give up. If your child fancies a challenge over the next few days, maybe they could make a promise about not giving up? They could do it on half a piece of paper as a picture and writing promise. Here is the link to the video if you'd like to see some examples! -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MxCQReNtOZo>

All promises sent in will be displayed in the hall! Parents, you can join in too.