

March 2018

Everyone

I hope you have recovered from the travel chaos from last weeks snow days. Personally, it was an absolute pleasure walking the dogs Friday and Saturday and seeing so many families enjoying themselves playing in the snow. For many of us this was an unexpected treat, spending quality time with our families and for some of our children this was the first time they have experienced snowy conditions, the last snow days at Milton Park were seven years ago.

The term after Christmas has been a busy one for both staff and pupils. The pupils as always have been a pleasure to teach and their behaviour for learning remains to be outstanding. Two weeks ago we had our first school review as part of our Multi-Academy Trust new joined-up way of working and our school continues to grow upwards and onwards. Staff are enjoying sharing good ideas, resources and practices with our partner schools. Each curricular subject has a network. All staff from the MAT schools get together to share, collaborate and find new and exciting ways to engage our pupils with their learning. We are very excited to see Mead Vale joining our MAT and look forward to a bigger MAT family, especially as they are very local to Milton Park. The MAT team are in the planning stages of joining our pupils together to experience new learning opportunities, building on our previous successful 'Big Day Out' events at the Tropicana.

For our Milton Park pupils we have extended our creative curriculum weeks to six this academic year, the children have enjoyed the Art/D&T week in Term 1, Performing Arts in Term 2 and Humanities in Term 3. The next creative week in Term 5 will be Science. and Languages

Remember that this is also a very short term and believe it or not the Easter Holidays are nearly here, school finishes on Friday 23rd March.

Miss L Fitzpatrick  
Headteacher

**After School Clubs:** Milton Park try very hard to provide a varied amount of after school clubs, we always try and make these free for our pupils and wherever possible staff volunteer to provide after school clubs. In this current climate where schools budgets are at a squeeze, we thank Dan Hartley and Tracy Lee for managing to secure a free karate after school club. The school received 130 requests for a 30 place club the day after the letters were given out. After some pleading, we even managed to extend the club into term 4 and term 5 to accommodate more pupils who missed out in the first round. We will continue to source out more clubs for our pupils. Apologies to those children who missed out this time round and those children who missed out on this club will automatically be at the top of the list for any other future clubs. Thank you to all staff who give up their free time to run these clubs.

**Farewell:** We say a sad farewell to Dan Hartley, who will be leaving Milton Park in March. Dan will be pursuing his sporting career elsewhere. Dan has been an integral part of Milton Parks PE team and I am sure both adults and pupils will miss him. We wish him well for the future.



**Uniform:** We believe that the wearing of school uniform encourages children to take pride in their appearance and gives them a sense of belonging to Milton Park Primary School. We also feel that the children's appearance will help encourage high standards of behaviour and personal achievement. Children are required to wear School Trousers (for boys), Skirts, Trousers or Pinafores for girls. Please note that leggings/jeggings, jogging bottoms and jeans are not acceptable school uniform. Please also ensure that your children are wearing sensible school shoes and not trainers to school. In addition, every child must have a PE kit in school. This ensures that they are ready for their PE learning. We are regularly finding that children do not have a PE Kit in school. Last week in one year group we had 19 children without their PE Kit.

Please note that all jewellery is not permitted during PE or Swimming. Children will need to have earrings and any other jewellery removed before these classes.

**PE Days:**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Y4 Swimming (until 19th March) Monday 9th April Year 5 Swimming			Year 1 (am)	EYFS PE (am)
Year 5 PE (pm)	Year 2 PE (am)	Year 4 PE (pm)	Year 3 (pm)	Year 6 (pm)

**Daps:** Do you have any spare daps that your child has grown out of that you could donate to school please?

**Parking:** We ask that you do not park on the yellow zig zags outside school. Please park sensibly and responsibly, particularly around the areas of Milton Park Road, Fairfield Close and Clarkson Avenue. We will report offenders to the Police for inappropriate and dangerous parking. Residents are becoming increasingly frustrated as they cannot access their driveways when parents are parking inconsiderately across their drives. We have advised them to take registration numbers and pass to the Police.

**A Polite Reminder:** Please can we remind all adults to use polite language with one another especially in or around the school. We have had a few cases recently of inappropriate language and racial language directed to adults in which children have overheard. If adults have felt threatened or if they have experience any racial language used towards them then we always recommend that you report the incident to the Police.

**Head Lice (Nits):** Please note that we are increasingly being contacted by parents to advise that their children are coming home with Nits. Please check your child's hair regularly. The most effective treatment for Nits is plenty of conditioner and a fine tooth comb.

**Breakfast Club:** Do you have any puzzles/books/games/toys that you are able to donate to breakfast club?

**Wookey Hole Trip:** On 21st February Year 3 enjoyed a trip to Wookey Hole. They had a guided tour around the caves, looking at rock formations and learnt how paper is made at the mill. They watched a short ice age clip at the 4D Cinema. This WOW trip was the to start off their Stone Age topic. A good day was had by all!

**Breakfast Club:** £3.00 per session 7.45-8.30am Monday to Friday. Advance booking with payments prior to attending only. Please note that if your child is booked in and does not attend without contacting us you will still be charged.

**Tel: 07517 859876**

**Afterschool Club:** £10.00 per session 3.15-6.00pm Monday to Friday. Advance Bookings with payments prior to attending only.

Please note that if your child is booked in and does not attend without contacting us you will still be charged. **Tel: 07516 555149**

**Attendance and Term-Time Holidays:** Milton Park is a good school (OFSTED 2017) and we recognise the importance of regular attendance as a key factor in our pupils' achievement. It is therefore essential that parents work in partnership with the school and understand that term time holidays have a detrimental effect on their children's education.

**A child with 90% attendance at the end of the school year will have missed ½ a day per week and that is equivalent to 4 weeks absence.**

Greater attention is now paid to overall absence by the Department for Education and by OFSTED. Therefore **we do not authorise any term time absences for holidays** and will only authorise an absence in exceptional circumstances. All such unauthorised absences will be referred to the Local Authority Education Welfare Department for issue of a Fixed Penalty fine.

A reminder of the school times:

**Reception – 9.00am - 3.10pm (Doors open at 08.40am)**  
**Rest of School - 8.45am - 3.15pm (Doors open at 08.30am)**

**It is parents responsibility to notify the school in the event of a child's absence. This needs to be done each day by 9.30am either in person, by telephone (01934 624868) or via email ([office@miltonpark.extendlearning.org](mailto:office@miltonpark.extendlearning.org)). Recently many parents have failed to do this. If we do not receive notification as to the reason for absence your child will be recorded as having an unauthorised absence.**

**Payments:** Thank you to all of the parents/carers that have been paying in advance for their school meals. We will continue to monitor the lunch payments each week and will be unable to provide a school lunch where payment has not been received in advance. We have had lots of parents activate their Parentpay account this term which is the quickest and most secure way to make your payments for meals, clubs and trips. If you need any support in setting up your Parentpay account please speak to the Office staff who are more than happy to help you.

**Book Swap:** We are starting a permanent Book Swap for KS1 and KS2 books, located in the office foyer.

If you have a book at home that you have read and no longer want, bring it, put it on the shelf and swap it for another! The only rule to participate in the Book Swap is that to take a book you must give a book. The bookcase should always be filled with books to share with each other.

**World Book Day Friday 9th March:** We look forward to seeing our children and staff dressed up as their favourite book character Villain.

## Dates for the Diary

Thursday 8th March	Year 4 Trip to Caerleon Spring Fayre (after school)
Friday 9th March	World Book Day Special Menu for lunch—see posters
Monday 12th March	Milkshake & Biscuits Week—Y6 Fundraising
Wednesday 14th March	Year 2 Trip to SS Great Britain Y6 Science Workshop in school
Thursday 15th March	Year 1 Trip to SS Great Britain
Monday 19th March	Sports Relief Week AIM Science Day at St Martins School School Nursing Team Catch up EYFS
Thursday 22nd March	Year 5 Lower Stock Farm Trip Compass & Map Reading Skills
Friday 23rd March	<b>Last Day of Term</b>
Monday 9th April	<b>Back to School</b>
Wednesday 11th April	Strange Plants Workshop Year 1 & 2
Friday 13th April	Year 5 Viking WOW Day
Tuesday 17th April	Year 1—Warburtons Pizza Workshop
Wednesday 18th April	Year 5 Weston Museum Trip—Vikings
Thursday 19th April	School Disco
Monday 23rd April	Languages Week
Wednesday 25th April	Year 3 Strange Plants Workshop
Monday 14th May	SATS Week
Tuesday 22nd May	Year 4 Ashford Trip
Wednesday 23rd May	Year 6 Ashford Trip
Friday 25th May	<b>Last Day of Term</b>
Monday 4th June	Back to School
Tuesday 12th June	Class Photos
Wednesday 13th June	Year 4 Camp
Tuesday 26th June	Year 1 Trip to Lower Stock Farm Wilberforce to Weston College —Professor Fluffy
Wednesday 27th June	Year 3 Trip to Lower Stock Farm Fry To Weston College—Professor Fluffy
Thursday 28th June	Year 2 Trip to Lower Stock Farm
Tuesday 3rd July	Year 6 Transition Day
Thursday 5th July	Sports Day & Summer Fete
Monday 16th —Thursday 19th July	Year 6 Kilve
Friday 20th July	<b>Last Day of Term (Inset Days Monday 23rd &amp; Tuesday 24th July)</b>