



Millbrook Junior School

Churchill Way, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN15 5DP

<http://www.millbrookjuniors.co.uk/>

01536 517049

Dear Parents/Carers

As you will have seen in the recent communications sent home over the last few days, we are aware of a number of positive cases of COVID at our school. Please help us by making sure that you do not send your child in to school if they have any symptoms of COVID and get a PCR test as soon as possible. This will help us to prevent any spread of the virus and keep numbers of positive cases low.

Appointments for PCR tests are readily available from 8.00am to 8.00pm in all of our local test centres. More details about where these are and how to book are included in this newsletter.

Thank you

Mrs. Danielle Warren

Head Pupils and House Captains

Congratulations to our new Head Pupils Riley N, Catriona N, Oliver H and Charay O.



We would also like to congratulate our new House Captains Masie H, Kasjan L, Lucas B, Emily C, Ollie H, Fallon BR, Lily C and Bartek P.

Well done and congratulations to you all.

Applications for School Places

Applications for Reception and Year 3 school places are now open. The closing date will be **5pm on 15th January 2022**. To find out more about the admission arrangements for each Primary school in North Northamptonshire and for detailed information about the process for

P.A.T.H

Please remember to use PATH meetings to speak to the class teacher. (Parent/Carer and Teacher Hours) every Monday from 3.30pm until 5.30pm.

Telephone appointments can also be made during this time to meet with Senior Leaders of the school.

To make an appointment with the class teacher, please phone or email the school office.

Don't forget that each class has its own email account. If you would like to email your child's class teacher, the email address is the class name followed by @millbrookjuniors.co.uk. E.g. Galileo class email address is Galileo@millbrookjuniors.co.uk

If you have a complaint, please make sure you follow the school Complaints Policy which can be found on the school website.

applying for a place at a Primary or Junior school, please read the ['Applying for a Primary school place in North Northamptonshire – 2022-2023'](#)

Applications for secondary school places are now open. Parents and carers of children born between September 1st 2010 and August 31st 2011 can now apply for a Year Seven place for September 2022. The closing date will be **5pm on 31st October 2021**. To find out more about the admission arrangements for each Secondary school in North Northamptonshire and for detailed information about the process for applying for a Year 7 place at Secondary school, please read the ['Applying for a Secondary school place in North Northamptonshire – 2022-2023'](#)

Meet the Team



During the week beginning 4th October, we will be holding meet the team evenings. These will take place via Zoom and we will send out the Zoom codes nearer to the time. To join the evening you simply click on the link. You can connect via a phone, tablet or laptop device but it must be connected to the Internet. The purpose of the evening is for you to meet your child's class teacher, meet other members of the team working in the class and ask any questions that you may have. If teachers are unable to answer your questions in the Zoom meeting, they will contact you soon after the meeting to discuss further.

Nuts

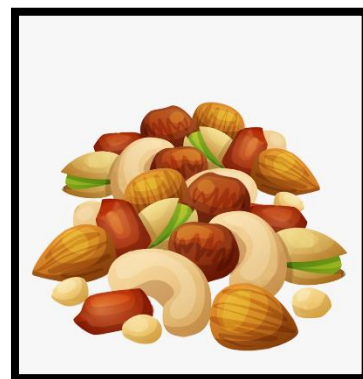
Could we remind you that whilst we are not a nut free school we do have some children who have nut allergies. We would like to ask that the following things are not brought into school;

- Packs of nuts
- Peanut butter sandwiches
- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Cakes that contain nuts
- Nutella
- Other food products that contain nuts.

Food products which may contain traces of nuts may still be brought.

We will be alert to any obvious signs of nuts being brought into school, but we will not inspect all food brought.

It is also important that children do not share their food in school. We will look out for obvious signs of food sharing but please make your children aware of the 'no sharing' rule in school.



S'more Summer Learning Challenge

Over the summer break, we challenged our children to complete a summer learning challenge. Children had to read as many books as possible, complete as many Mathsflex nuggets as they could and make a s'more.

Most of our children engaged very well with the activities. Well done to the following children who have all receive a £5.00 voucher and a notebook for all their hard work:

Maths Prizes

Year 4
Alaric W
Maddison J
Logan AT
Eliana C

Year 5
Harry J
Alex A
Maisie T
Ria S

Year 6
Tiana G
Archie H
Özge A
Jayden R

Reading Prizes

Year 4
Alaric W
Norah S
Mila G
Samanta Z

Year 5
Abigail B
Alex A
Charlotte M
Tyler WC

Year 6
Darcy W
Riley N
Özge A
Catriona N

Choir

Year 5 choir has started on a Monday lunch time. We are rehearsing for the Rotary Club Seasonal concert at the end of November. If your child has signed up, please encourage them to show commitment by attending each week. More details about this event will follow.

Mrs Sonia Watters



Library books

Please do not worry if you are at home and cannot return your library books. They will show up as overdue on your account but we are not expecting you to bring them back until you are able to return to school.



It may be a good idea to put all of your library books, once you have read and quizzed on them, into your school bag so that they are ready to come to come back with you.

Remember that myON is available for you to find books to read. You can also use AR Bookfinder to check to see if your books at home have quizzes on them. Both the links for these are on our school website. If you have any further questions about your reading, you can email Mrs Mitchell on library@millbrookjuniors.co.uk

Mrs Caroline Mitchell

Computing

This term, all of the children will be studying the importance of online safety during their weekly computing lessons. Please find attached some top tips for children that will enable them to stay safe online.

Mrs Kelly Pearson

Christmas Cards

You should have received your child's greeting card design. If you would like to have them made into cards, wrapping paper, mugs etc please could you follow the directions on the sheet. When you have ordered and paid for them through the Cauliflower cards website, the artwork needs to be returned to school.

The deadline for the artwork to be returned is Friday 1st October 2021

Your support is appreciated.

Mrs Juliette Meagher



Dogs

Please remember that dogs are not allowed on our school site. If you bring a dog when you come pick up your child, please arrange to meet them off site. You will need to give them walking permission in order to do this.



Photographs

Our school photographer will be attending school on Monday 4th October to take individual photos in all year groups.

Please could you ensure that your child is smartly dressed in full school uniform, including cardigan or jumper for this occasion as the photographer will use a white background for the photo.

Walking permission

If you wish to make any changes to your child's walking permission, you must notify us by 2.00pm to allow us time to action your request.

Uniform

Please can you make sure that all uniform items are clearly labelled with your child's name. We always try to reunite children with any lost items but this is only possible when items are clearly labelled.

Vacancies – Lunchtime Supervisor

We have two immediate vacancies for lunchtime supervisors in school. The hours of work are 12.15pm to 1.15pm five days per week. Previous experience of working with children is an advantage but not essential. A full DBS check will be required. If you are interested, please request an application form from the school office. Many people who start as a lunchtime supervisor go on to become a Teaching Assistant, HLTA or other careers within schools. The role provides many opportunities to gain skills and experience and training courses are available. Working in a school is fun and rewarding and every day is different. Come and be part of the Millbrook Team!

Getting a COVID Test

You must get a PCR test as soon as possible if you have any of these symptoms, even if mild:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

You must stay at home until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.

If you've been in close contact with someone who's tested positive for COVID-19, you can get a PCR test, whether or not you have symptoms.

Our nearest walk through testing site is Car Park, London Rd, Kettering NN15 2CF. It opens at 8.00am and closes at 8.00pm. There is also a drive through testing site at Olympic Way, Kettering NN15 6PB. They open at 8.00am and close at 8.00pm. [You can book a test by clicking here.](#) Some centres accept walk-in appointments but you will need to check this with your local centre first.

Special Mention

Well done to...

Maisie T won silver and bronze medals in the Dance World Cup final 2020/2021, which was held in Telford International Centre in August. Maisie participated in two dances. She gained a bronze medal in ballet and a silver medal in National - a fantastic achievement. Well done!



Regular notes:

Attendance: Please remember that schools are not allowed to authorise holiday in term times. Leave of Absence forms should be completed. There is no entitlement to leave during term time and it will only be approved under exceptional circumstances which need to be explained and evidence produced. Failure to comply with this will mean a referral to the Local Authority which may result in a fine and court action. Please refer to the school attendance policy which is available from the school office and on the school website. Thank you in supporting us to ensure your children have every opportunity for success in their education.

Safeguarding: If you have any concerns about the welfare of any child in our school, or you wish to discuss aspects of safeguarding, please speak with our Designated Safeguarding Lead or one of our Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads. Alternatively contact the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub on 0300 126 1000.

BACK TO SCHOOL

Online Safety Tips for Children

Wow, it's September already! The month when autumn officially starts and ... oh yeah, the beginning of a new school year. Every cloud has a silver lining though! Another term means new friends to make, different stuff to learn, fresh online trends to jump on and exciting new games to play on your phone, computer or console. We've compiled a list of our top tips to ensure that – whether you're going online to chat, research things or just have fun – you can do it safely.

Be cautious with your profile

Be careful not to give out too much info on your social media or gaming profiles. Details like your full name, address or school's name could all help strangers to actually find you offline. A trusted adult can help you make your profiles private – so only your family and actual friends can contact you.

Lock your devices

Taking your phone or tablet to school? Turn password protection on. It keeps your private info safe and stops anyone accessing your device without permission. Passwords should be memorable to you – but difficult for anyone else to guess. Get a trusted adult to write it down in case you forget it!

Be smart with screen time

Too much screen time, especially just before bed, can affect your quality of sleep. Losing sleep, or not sleeping well enough, messes with your concentration and energy levels. Try muting notifications so you don't get pinged late at night: you'll feel fresher and more focused the next day.

Know how to deal with bullies

Sadly there are people online who enjoy picking on other users. If you ever feel like you're being bullied online – by anyone, not just someone from school – talk to a trusted adult about it. Together, you can discuss possible steps, such as blocking or reporting the person who's targeting you.

Manage online relationships wisely

Most people in a relationship chat to their partner online. Just be mindful that once you send a pic or message (even if it's private), you no longer control who else might see it. Messaging someone you've never actually met – and who might not be who they say – is definitely best avoided.

React well to inappropriate content

When you're researching something online, there's always a chance of finding content that makes you feel uncomfortable or upset. If this happens, you can report it as inappropriate and (hopefully) get it taken down. Tell a trusted adult what happened: they'll help you decide what to do next.

Report offensive in-game chat

If you game online with your mates, you'll know things can get competitive and heated on the in-game chat. Playing against people you don't know (especially if they're older) raises the risk of offensive comments and even threats. Our advice? Find out how to block or mute those bad losers.

Learn to spot fake news

If you're looking into a topic for homework or a project, be careful not to get taken in by fake news: content that's deliberately created to mislead people. Check the story with credible sources, like the BBC or Sky News. Trust your instincts, too – if it seems too unbelievable to be true, it's probably fake.

Keep it 'real' with online friends

Everyone enjoys adding friends and followers on social media. It's important, though, that the people you interact with online really are your friends. If they're just random people you've connected with to increase your contacts, you don't know if they could be trolls or bullies (or worse).



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