



Millbrook Junior School

Churchill Way, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN15 5DP

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

01536 517049

Dear Parents/Carers

This is our last newsletter for 2021. We hope that you all enjoy a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We look forward to welcoming the children back on Tuesday 4th January 2022.

Mrs. Danielle Warren



Christmas Arrangements

Although we have been unable to invite you in to school to help us celebrate Christmas this year, we have got lots of exciting things planned for the children in the last week of term. Thank you to FOMS who have purchased a pantomime for us all to watch. Post boxes have gone up in all year group areas for children to post their cards, and teachers have planned Christmas themed activities. On Monday 13th December and Wednesday 15th December, Christ the King will be joining us for a Carol service, with each year group, on the playground.

Christmas Jumper Day

We will be celebrating Christmas Jumper day on Friday 17th December. Children can wear a Christmas jumper or non-uniform on this day and we ask that you make a small donation (via School Gateway). All monies raised will be sent to Thandigudi (a charity we have supported for many years) where the money will be used to provide educational resources, nutritious food and a safe place to live for the children of Thandigudi village.



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.

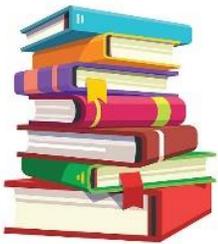
Advent wreath

A big thank you to our RE team who made this years' beautiful advent wreath. The children have recorded their messages to share across the school so that we can celebrate advent together.

Reading at Millbrook Junior School

We have issued 3,547 books from our library in the last month. Our children have also read 3,790 books on myON. The most popular books were three books on Mexico which were read 16-20 times each, followed by a book on the colour "Purple" which was read 16 times. "The Tooth Fairy: An Autobiography" and "Volcanoes" were both read 14 times each. Well done Millbrook Junior School. Keep reading!

Book Fair



We are delighted that we have been able to hold our first Scholastic Book Fair in school since March 2020. This raised £2459.32 a phenomenal amount and more than we have ever raised in the past. This means we have earned £1475.59 in commission to spend on books for our library. The new format was well liked by children and the wish lists proved very popular, if a little ambitious. Thank you all very much for your support.

Our next fair will be between 25th February and 3rd March 2022 for World Book Day.

Face coverings in School

The Department for Education updated their operational guidance for schools on Monday 29th November. As a result of this, we have made the following changes to our school risk assessment:

- Adults in the school are now asked to wear a face covering when moving around in corridors and communal areas.
- All visitors to the school will be asked to wear a mask.
- Health advice continues to be that children in primary schools should not be asked to wear face coverings.



These arrangements will remain in place until we receive updated guidance.

Outdoor Gym and Games Lessons

Please can you ensure that on the days that your child has Games or Outdoor gym, they come to school with suitable clothing, including hats, gloves, coats and layers that can be removed if needed. We will be going outside for these activities wherever possible so it is important that they are dressed for the conditions. Any issues, please talk to your child's class teacher.

Joint Working Group with Millbrook Infant School

This year, Millbrook Infant School and Millbrook Junior School have created a joint working group. Senior leaders have met regularly to discuss ways that our two schools can work more closely together. This term,

the English Subject Leaders from both schools have worked together to ensure our phonics and reading schemes are better aligned. The Maths Subject Leaders have also met to share ideas on their maths ethos and teaching for mastery. Both schools have benefitted greatly from this working arrangement and we look forward to continuing to work closely together over the coming terms.

Going Abroad over the Christmas Holiday

You may need to quarantine when you arrive in England from abroad. [Check the quarantine rules when entering England on GOV.UK](#). This guidance was updated on 30th November 2021.

Gifts for Staff

Whilst we do not wish to discourage all gift-giving, Millbrook Junior School has a 'Gifts and Hospitality Policy' to ensure the acceptance of gifts, hospitality, awards, prizes or any other benefit do not compromise the personal judgement or integrity of governors, staff and/or any other representative of the organisation. In line with this, small tokens of gratitude are always appreciated. The guidance prevents all staff from accepting gifts worth over £15 and monetary gifts (cash or vouchers) of any value.



Don't Forget - Scout Post

Once again, we will be supporting the Scout Post and will be acting as a collection point. Please find details, at the end of this newsletter, about the Scout Post for 2021. There will be a box in reception where you will be able to leave your cards and money.

Special Mention

Well done to...

Carys T who took part in a swimming competition recently in Corby. Carys did really well – she came first in back stroke, first in free style (which is her favourite!) and second in a race where she swam four lengths using all different strokes. Carys practises every week and her hard work has certainly paid off. Well done Carys!

Rose R and Olivia P. We were recently contacted by a member of the public who wanted to say how touched they were to witness the act of kindness that these two pupils showed towards a young child on their way home from school. Well done and thank you Rose and Olivia - your compassion towards others makes us very proud!

Regular notes:

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 have been in close contact with someone who has 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.

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.*



Scoutpost

Post early for Christmas
Scouts deliver your local cards

Cost 30p per card

Collection point here
from
December 1st
to
December 15th

We can deliver to

Barton Seagrave	Geddington	Little Stanion	Pytchley
Braybrooke	Grafton Underwood		Loddington
	Rothwell		
Broughton	Great Oakley	Mawsley	Rushton
Burton Latimer	Isham	Newton	Stanion
Cranford	Kettering	Orlingbury	Warkton
Cransley	Little Cransley		Orton
	Weekley		
Desborough	Little Oakley	Pipewell	Weldon

Address cards with: Recipients name
Number of house / Name of
street
Town
Postcode (if known)