



# Millbrook Junior School

Churchill Way, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN15 5DP

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

01536 517049

Dear Parents/Carers

Please read our newsletter below. We have also sent several COVID communications this week. Please make sure you have seen them.

Mrs. Danielle Warren

## Children's mental Health Week

Children's Mental Health week takes place from 7<sup>th</sup> February to 13<sup>th</sup> February. We will be talking to the children across the week about feelings, and how everybody experiences different feelings at different times. We will again reinforce the fact that everyone has mental health. Sometimes our feelings can become overwhelming and impact on our mental health in a negative way. We will talk about different ways we can help ourselves and each other by listening; taking some time out; exercising or doing something we enjoy. Mental Health also fits with in with the 'Healthy Me' unit in Jigsaw. We are planning to return to this later in the year too.



## Year 5 and Year 6 Drugs Education Talk

Last week, Year 5 and 6 welcomed Vanessa from Narconon Drug Education as part of the 'Healthy Me' unit in Jigsaw. Vanessa talked to the children about drugs and how they can affect the body and mental health. Finally, she encouraged a discussion about how real "highs" are attained when we achieve our own goals in life. At the end of the talk, the children had the opportunity to ask any questions they had.

Vanessa was very engaging and the children were very interested in what she was saying.

## 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](mailto: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.

## Christmas Jumper Day

Thank you to everyone who contributed on Christmas Jumper Day. We raised a total of £191.50 which we will be sending to Goodwill Children's Homes to support the children of Thandigiudi village.

## RSPB Birdwatch

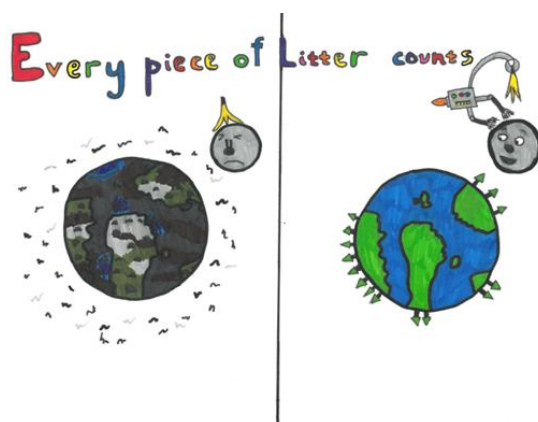


Don't forget to take part in the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch between the 28<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> January. Spend just one hour counting the birds that you see in your garden or in your local park. See the following link for more information. What will you see? [Click here to find out more and get involved.](#)

## Anti-Litter Competition

To celebrate the installation of new litter bins in the old boroughs of Corby and Kettering, North Northants Council invited our pupils to design an anti-litter poster to be displayed on their new bins.

I am pleased to announce that Catriona N, Mairi N and Oliver H are all winners from our school. Their designs will now be printed and put on a litter bin in the area. Once the location has been decided, we will let you know where they have been placed.



## Science at Millbrook Junior School

At Millbrook Junior School, we are working towards the Primary Science Quality Mark award. In light of this, we have developed a school Science vision that is based on input from both staff and students. This, along with a new set of similarly devised Science principles, will underpin a consistent approach to teaching high quality Science lessons across the school.

*We endeavour to promote a curiosity in children about how our world works. With high quality resources and equipment, we want to facilitate engaging and memorable hands-on experiments that our students are excited about carrying out. Moreover, we strive to get children involved in the collaborative planning of experiments, and to encourage them to think scientifically using key vocabulary that can bolster their acquisition of knowledge. We want this to happen both in the classroom and where possible, outside of the classroom in our fantastic and expansive school grounds. All in all, we want to promote an inquisitiveness that will lead to questioning and in turn develop into in-depth class discussions where the children can, in part, learn from each other.*

## Vacancies

We currently have the following vacancies. If you are interested, please contact the office for an application form. Closing date for all applications is 12 noon on 28th January. If you required more information about the posts, please contact our Business Manager, Rachel Gibbs:

**Cleaner:** Permanent vacancy. The hours of work are 3.15pm – 6pm, Wednesday to Friday term time only, with the possibility of additional hours as and when required.

**Lunchtime supervisor:** Temporary vacancy until 31st August 2022. The hours of work are 12.45pm – 1.15pm Monday to Friday term time only.

**Teaching assistant:** Zero hours contract to cover staff absence.

Millbrook Junior School is an Equal Opportunities employer and is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people. It expects all staff to share this commitment. All posts working with children and young people will be subject to an enhanced disclosures barring service check. For more information please read our Child Protection policy.

## Regular notes:

### Special Mention



Well done to Isla G who, after learning about the environment in class, decided to help improve her local environment by litter picking despite the cold and rain. A fantastic job Isla. Well done!

## Getting a COVID Test

From 11 January in England, people who receive positive lateral flow device (LFD) test results for coronavirus (COVID-19) will be required to self-isolate immediately and won't be required to take a confirmatory PCR test. This is a temporary measure while COVID-19 rates remain high across the UK. Whilst levels of COVID-19 are high, the vast majority of people with positive LFD results can be confident that they have COVID-19.

Lateral flow tests are taken by people who do not have COVID-19 symptoms. Anyone who develops one of the three main COVID-19 symptoms should stay at home and self-isolate and take a PCR test. They must self-isolate if they get a positive test result, even if they have had a recent negative lateral flow test – these rules have not changed. [Further advice on lateral flow testing and where to get tests can be found here.](#)

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. [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.