

# Millbrook Junior School

Churchill Way, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN15 5DP

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

01536 517049



## Class Assemblies

We will let you know as soon as we are able to resume these.

Dear Parents/Carers

We are very pleased to have heard the news this week that all children will be returning to school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March. School will look very much like it did in the Autumn Term with only a few changes.

We recognise that many of you will be anxious about your children returning to school. Please be assured that we have reviewed our risk assessments in line with the government guidance to ensure that the school is as safe as possible. Please read the information below so you know what to expect.

We are looking forward to seeing you all again.

Thank you

Mrs Danielle Warren

## Return to School

On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March, all children will return to school. School attendance will be mandatory for all children unless they have a shielding letter. If you have any concerns about your child's return to school, please contact the school office during the week beginning 1<sup>st</sup> March to discuss these.

We do understand that some of you will be anxious about your child returning to school. We will be happy to discuss this with you and put in any support we can to ensure that your child has a smooth transition back into school.



## 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.

Although we are unable to meet you in person at the moment, we are always happy to speak with you on the phone. We care about your children and want to work with you to get it right.

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.

## The School Day

Just like in the Autumn term, the children will continue to be taught in their class bubbles. These bubbles will not be allowed to mix and we will continue with our staggered start and end of the day as well as staggered break and lunchtimes. These times will be the same as they were in the Autumn Term.

<b>Class</b>	<b>Class Teacher</b>	<b>Entry to school</b>	<b>Exit school</b>
<b>Dickens</b>	<b>Mrs Green/Mrs Bugg</b>	9.00am	3.20pm
<b>Austen</b>	<b>Miss Mitchell</b>	8.30am	2.50pm
<b>Bronte</b>	<b>Mrs Maple</b>	8.40am	3.00pm
<b>Shakespeare</b>	<b>Mrs Meagher</b>	8.50am	3.10pm
<b>Da Vinci</b>	<b>Mrs Hart</b>	9.00am	3.20pm
<b>Picasso</b>	<b>Miss Claypole</b>	8.50am	3.10pm
<b>Monet</b>	<b>Miss Rogers</b>	8.40am	3.00pm
<b>Rembrandt</b>	<b>Mr Wood</b>	8.30am	2.50pm
<b>Raleigh</b>	<b>Mrs Watters</b>	9.00am	3.20pm
<b>Armstrong</b>	<b>Mrs Wright/Mrs Sinclair</b>	8.50am	3.10pm
<b>Drake</b>	<b>Mrs Allen</b>	8.30am	2.50pm
<b>Columbus</b>	<b>Mr Burnham</b>	8.40am	3.00pm
<b>Galileo</b>	<b>Mrs Curtis</b>	9.00am	3.20pm
<b>Newton</b>	<b>Mrs Ware</b>	8.50am	3.10pm
<b>Darwin</b>	<b>Mrs Pearson</b>	8.30am	2.50pm
<b>Pythagoras</b>	<b>Mrs Berry</b>	8.40am	3.00pm

Children must continue to enter and exit the site using the following gates:

- Year 3 – Overflow carpark
- Year 4 – Main entrance gate
- Year 5 – Double playground gate
- Year 6 – Main carpark gate

Can we please remind you that you should not gather at the gates or come onto the site (outside of the designated pick up and drop off points) without an appointment. The more the bubbles cross, the more children that will need to isolate away from school should we have a positive case. Every child has a ten-minute time slot in which to arrive at school. Please ensure your child arrives during their slot. We do appreciate how difficult this may be for some of you but it is important that we ensure the integrity of our bubbles so that the children are not missing time in school unnecessarily. When you arrive at school or come

to pick up at the end of the school day, please ensure you maintain social distancing at all times and wear a face covering.

## Wrap-around Care

We will be unable to provide a 'Breakfast' Club or after school provision. In order to provide wrap-around care, our 'bubbles' would need to mix and this is a risk. As soon as we are in a position to start the club back up again, we will let you know.

## Wellbeing

We know that some children have found the last few months difficult and inevitably this will have impacted their wellbeing. Our family support worker, Ros Fombanu, is in school (full time) to support any families that need help and we also have a full time TA, Lorraine Walker, who also supports children with their wellbeing. If you have any concerns that you would like to discuss, please contact Mrs Fombanu through the school office.

## Face Coverings

From 8<sup>th</sup> March onwards, in accordance with new government guidance, staff will be wearing face coverings in situations where social distancing between adults is not possible. The government advice states that children in primary school do not need to wear a face covering so we ask that you do not send your child in to school with a mask unless they are travelling to school on public transport.

## Peripatetic Music Lessons

We will be unable to offer peripatetic music lessons at the moment. We are continuing to liaise with NMPAT and reviewing their risk assessments to see how we can provide these lessons in the future.

## School Work

On their return to school, we would like to ask you to ensure the following items are bought into school on the first day back:

- Power Maths Practice Book – Your child will need this to carry on with their maths work at school.
- Reading Book – All reading books need to be returned to the library (via the boxes in class) so we are able to reissue.
- School Planner

We know that your children have been completing a lot of work over the school closure period. Some of that work has been marked by you at home and some of it has been sent in to school and shared with your child's class teacher. We would really like to see all of the work completed, so please encourage your child to bring in their books so that they can share them with their class teacher.

## Staying Safe Online

On 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021, the government published advice for parents and carers to keep children safe online. This guidance outlines resources to help keep children safe from different risks online and where to go to get support and advice. [You can read this important guidance here.](#)

## An open letter from Education Secretary Gavin Williamson to Parents, Carers and Guardians.

Education Secretary Gavin Williamson has written an open letter to parents, carers and guardians following the news that all primary schools, secondary schools, special and alternative provision schools, colleges and further education settings will be opening to all pupils from 8 March as part of the Government's plans to lift the restrictions imposed on society due to COVID-19.

[Click here to read the letter.](#)

## DfE Guidance - What parents need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during COVID-19

The DfE have issued guidance for parent/carers about the opening of schools on 8<sup>th</sup> March. [Click here to read the guidance.](#)

## Important Reminder – Symptoms and Testing

In order to ensure that the school remains the safest possible environment for the children and staff, and the risk of transmission is reduced, we all need to ensure we follow the latest government guidance. We all need to help to decrease the disruption that the virus causes to education through the closure of bubbles.

It is really important that we all keep up to date with the latest guidance and that you do not send your child into school when they should be isolating. **You must self-isolate immediately if any of the following apply:**

- you have any symptoms of coronavirus (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste)
- you have tested positive for coronavirus – this means you have coronavirus
- **you live with someone who has symptoms or who has tested positive**
- **someone in your support bubble has symptoms or has tested positive**
- you are told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace or the NHS COVID-19 app
- you arrive in the UK from a country with a high coronavirus risk – see GOV.UK: [how to self-isolate when you travel to the UK](#)

If anyone in your household or support bubble has any symptoms of Coronavirus, the **whole household must self-isolate** and the person who has the symptoms **must** get a test. **Please do not send your child into school if anyone in your household has symptoms. If you are not sure, ring us and we can advise you accordingly.**

**If we send your child home because they have shown symptoms of coronavirus while in school, we will not accept your child back into school unless you have supplied us with the results of a PCR coronavirus test or completed the ten day isolation period. We all have a duty to do the right thing and ensure the safety of everyone in our school community.**

We do recognise that this can be very difficult for families but it is important that we all do the right thing to keep everyone safe.

## 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.





# ACTION CALENDAR: MINDFUL MARCH 2021



## MONDAY

**1** Set an intention to live with awareness and kindness

**8** Eat mindfully. Appreciate the taste, texture & smell of your food

**15** Stop, breathe and just notice. Repeat regularly during the day

**22** Walk a different route today and see what you notice

**29** Notice what is working today and be thankful that this is so

## TUESDAY

**2** Notice five things that are beautiful in the world outside

**9** Take a full breath in and out before you reply to others

**16** Get really absorbed with an interesting or creative activity

**23** Tune in to your feelings, without judging or trying to change

**30** Mentally scan down your body and notice what it is feeling

## WEDNESDAY

**3** Start today by appreciating your body and that you're alive

**10** Get outside and notice how the weather feels on your face

**17** Look around and spot 3 things you find unusual or pleasant

**24** Appreciate your hands and all the things they enable you to do

**31** Notice the joy to be found in the simple things of life

## THURSDAY

**4** Notice how you speak to yourself. Try to use kind words

**11** Stay fully present while drinking your cup of tea or coffee

**18** If you find yourself rushing, make an effort to slow down

**25** Focus your attention on the good things you take for granted

## FRIDAY

**5** Take three calm breaths at regular intervals during your day

**12** Listen deeply to someone and really hear what they are saying

**19** Cultivate a feeling of loving-kindness towards others today

**26** Notice when you're tired and take a break as soon as possible

## SATURDAY

**6** Bring to mind people you care about and send love to them

**13** Pause to just watch the sky or clouds for a few minutes today

**20** Celebrate the International Day of Happiness [dayofhappiness.net](http://dayofhappiness.net)

**27** Have a device-free day and enjoy the space it offers

## SUNDAY

**7** Have a 'no plans' day and notice how that feels

**14** Find ways to enjoy any chores or tasks that need doing

**21** Listen to a piece of music without doing anything else

**28** Appreciate nature around you, wherever you are

**"Mindfulness means that we commit fully in each moment to be present" - Jon Kabat-Zinn**



**ACTION FOR HAPPINESS**



[www.actionforhappiness.org](http://www.actionforhappiness.org)

Learn more about this month's theme at [www.actionforhappiness.org/mindful-march](http://www.actionforhappiness.org/mindful-march)

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