



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

As you will have seen on the news this week, all children will not be returning back to school after half term. We are hoping to welcome all children back to school on Monday 8th March but this deadline will be very dependent on the situation in the county at the time. The government have pledged that they will give us two weeks' notice of our return so we will notify you as soon as we know when that will be.

We can't wait to welcome all of the children back to school!

Mrs Danielle Warren

Key Worker (Critical Places)

Last week, Northamptonshire County Council and Public Health Northamptonshire sent out a letter to all parents. The letter stated the following:

'Whilst schools are open to the children of critical workers and there is no limit on those who can attend, it is vitally important that if you are a critical worker, you only make use of this option when and where it is absolutely necessary and there is no ability for your child to remain safely at home. The fewer the number of children we have in school, the less contacts there will be and the easier it will be for your child's school to remain COVID secure.'

'Every reduction we can make, even if this is only for one morning or afternoon, when added together, will further reduce contacts across society and reduce the opportunity for the virus to spread. This, in turn, will allow us all to exit the current restrictions sooner than may otherwise be the case.'

If you currently have a child in school with a key worker (critical worker) place, we would ask that you now only send your child in to school if it is

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

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

absolutely necessary. Children may now attend part time (whole days only). I appreciate that this is different to what we originally asked for; however, due to the increase in requests for places and the advice from the County Council and Public Health Northamptonshire, we feel it necessary to make this change. If your child is attending part time, it is important that you make sure we know which days your child will be in school.

Children identified as 'vulnerable' should still attend school every day.

Letter Join – Handwriting scheme

Our handwriting scheme has gone online. This is great news because now children will be able to practise their handwriting at home. Today, Mrs Maple has sent out logins and passwords for the children and instructions about how to use the site. You can access the login page by [clicking here](#) or going to the weblinks page on the website under learning links.

Remote Learning

Thank you to everyone who has managed to engage with the Zoom sessions and is regularly sending in their child's work. We have received some lovely feedback from you about the quality of the remote learning which has really helped to boost our moral here at school, so thank you for that.

We want to support everyone to be able to engage with the remote learning offer. If you have struggled to engage with the Zoom sessions or your child has not sent work in to their teacher, you will have already received a call from your child's class teacher. This call is for us to gauge how to best help your child to access the remote learning and we will put measures in place to help you in any way we can. If we cannot contact you, we may conduct a home visit.

All the resources and guidance for remote learning are on the school website. The information is uploaded to the website by Friday afternoon for the following week. We add the PowerPoint presentations used in the Zoom sessions each day. Please download the resources from there. We also have a Remote Learning Support folder with the resources. Any resources you may find helpful are included in there.

Mental Health

Mental Health day is taking place in Northamptonshire on February 12th. There will be activities completed on the class Zoom calls over the next couple of weeks linking with this.

Children have been talked to previously regarding how everyone has 'mental health'. Children need to understand that we all have feelings. At the moment, we might be experiencing different feelings, like sadness or disappointment because we miss our friends and family or we might feel happy because we can stay at home with our close family and pets. It is OK to feel different things...we all have feelings.

Small Feelings	Big Feelings
Sometimes feel strong and overwhelming, whether happy or sad, but they go away before too long	Feel strong and overwhelming for a long time
Don't stop us from doing what we want to in life	Stop us from doing what we want to in our lives

If children (or any of us) have 'BIG' feelings that feel 'too much', they need to try to find someone to talk to so they can help. It is important not to bottle things up. Sometimes, children do not have the words to label their feelings so talking about what it feels like or what is on their mind is important. Times are difficult so looking after ourselves is vital.



We have mentioned Childline to the children during the class Zoom calls this week. Childline is there to support children for many different reasons and this includes support with their mental health. Many children may find it difficult to talk to people at home. Sometimes, someone a little distanced from a situation, is helpful. We are still here for the children but this can be very difficult as we do not see them every day in the same way as we did before. If you have any concerns, please do contact the class teacher via the class email. We also have a family support team who can help. [This website has some useful information for parents and carers.](#)

RSPB Garden Birdwatch and School Birdwatch

Don't forget, if you are wondering what to do this weekend, why not take part in the RSPB Birdwatch. We might not be able to get together with loved ones at the moment, but you can make plans with friends and family to take part in the world's largest wildlife survey, all from the comfort of your own homes. You can choose any hour between 29 and 31 January, so whether you're an early bird or a night owl, you can still take part. If you would like to take part or just want to find out more, visit the [RSPB website](#) where you can find lots of useful resources to help you.

Mrs Ware has used her fantastic photography skills to put together a Youtube video of some of the birds you may see. [You can watch it here.](#)

You may be surprised by how many different birds you can see.

Regular notes:

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.*

