



# Millbrook Junior School

Churchill Way, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN15 5DP

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

01536 517049

Dear Parents/Carers

We are so pleased to have all the children back at school. Seeing all their smiling faces as they arrived on Monday was so lovely. Many children have commented on how happy they are to have returned.

Thank you

Mrs Danielle Warren

## First Week Back

It has been an absolute delight to welcome the children back this week. It is so lovely to walk around the school and hear the children learning, talking and playing. It is so easy to forget how resilient our children are. They have settled back in so quickly – like they have never been away!

This week we have focused on wellbeing, settling in and getting back into school routines. The children are very tired and we do ask that they all get plenty of sleep and rest over the weekend so that they are ready for next week.

Thank you to all parents and carers who have ensured that they have worn a face covering at drop off and pick up time and for not congregating along Churchill Way. We would, however, remind you that children must not be dropped off on the crossing outside school and that they should only leave your car once you are safely parked.

## Don't forget - Red Nose Day

On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March, we will be participating in Red Nose Day 2021. On this day, we will ask you to come dressed in something red. We would ask that you do not bring your red nose into school as these would pose an unnecessary additional risk to our children and staff given the current situation. If you would like to donate to Comic Relief on Red Nose Day, we will be setting up a payment facility on schoolcomms where the

## Class Assemblies

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

## 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.

minimum donation will be £1.00. All money will be collected and sent off to Comic Relief. Thanks to your donations, Comic Relief will continue to make a difference to the lives of millions of people across the UK and around the world.

## Neurodiversity Celebration Week

Next week, as a school we will be taking part in Neurodiversity Celebration week. This is a national and now world-wide celebration of neurodiversity.

The children will talk in class with their teachers about what neurodiversity is. They will think about how everyone's brain works differently and talk about recognising and accepting that we do not all learn in the same way. They will also be thinking about how we all have our own strengths and challenges. They will find out about how some of the different ways of thinking, learning, interacting and perceiving the world are given labels e.g. ADHD, autism, dyslexia, dyspraxia and Tourettes Syndrome. The children will learn some basic information about these. It is a really good opportunity to begin to recognise, nurture and celebrate the many strengths and talents of being neurodiverse.



Please ask your child's class teacher or Mrs Farnworth (SENDCo) if you have any questions. There are lots of useful resources on the neurodiversity website. [Click here to see them.](#)

## Don't forget - Lateral Flow Testing

From 1 March 2021, if you are a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of staff or a pupil, you can get a twice-weekly test:

- through your employer if they offer testing to employees
- at a local test site
- by collecting a home test kit from a test site
- by ordering a home test kit online

You can collect 2 packs of home test kits at a local collection point. Each pack contains 7 tests. Anyone aged 18 or over can collect. You can check online if the location is busy before you go.

[Click here to find your nearest home test kit collection point.](#)

If you cannot get tested at your workplace, or are unable to go to a test site or collect test kits, you can order a home test kit online.

**Do not order online if you can get a test through other methods.** This frees up home delivery for those who need it most.

[Click here to order rapid lateral flow home test kits.](#)

## What twice-weekly testing involves

You will be asked to do the following:

- take a test twice a week (every 3 or 4 days apart)
- report every result to NHS Test and Trace on the same day you take the test
- Report your test result online or by calling 119.

If anyone tests positive or gets coronavirus symptoms, they should tell the school and adhere to the following guidelines:

- self-isolate immediately
- get a PCR test to confirm the result
- follow the stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection

A negative result means the test did not find signs of coronavirus. But this does not guarantee you do not have coronavirus so you should keep following all coronavirus advice which includes the following:

- regular handwashing
- social distancing
- wearing a face covering where recommended

## Important Reminder – Symptoms and Testing

In order to ensure that the school remains the safest possible environment for the children and staff, and that the risk of transmission is reduced, we all need to ensure that 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 to 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.

## Coronavirus: What you need to do



The infographic is divided into three vertical panels. The first panel shows hands being washed under a stream of water, with a stopwatch icon indicating '20 SEC' and a bottle of hand sanitizer. The second panel shows a person wearing a blue face mask. The third panel shows two silhouettes of people standing apart, with a double-headed arrow between them indicating distance.

- Wash your hands**
- Wear a face covering**
- Keep your distance**