



# Millbrook Junior School

Churchill Way, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN15 5DP

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

01536 517049

Dear Parents/Carers

Thank you for taking the time to book and receive a phone call about how your child has settled in. We hope it was useful. If you would like to provide feedback on the experience, please email the office on [office@millbrookjuniors.co.uk](mailto:office@millbrookjuniors.co.uk) putting Parent/Carer evening feedback in the title.

Mrs Danielle Warren

## Odd Sock Day

At Millbrook Junior School, "we aim to create a safe working environment where individuals are treated with dignity and respect. We are opposed to bullying, harassment, discrimination or victimisation of any kind" (Anti-Bullying Policy).

November 16th – 20th is Anti-bullying week. During the whole term we will be talking to the children about how we can all make positive choices. We should try to always choose to treat ourselves and others with respect. This week links well with our PSHE topic for this half term which is 'Celebrating Difference'.



On Monday 16th November, the children have been asked to simply wear odd socks for the day. The aim of this is to remind everyone that we are all unique and that this should be something that we celebrate rather than show 'disrespect' to others for.

## Remembrance Assembly

On 11<sup>th</sup> November, we held our annual Remembrance Assembly. Although we couldn't all meet together, we came together in our class bubbles to mark this important event. Our assembly drew links between the experiences of the Second World War generation and the unique

## 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.

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, 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.

challenges of this year. Children were encouraged to discover, explore and show their thanks for the service and sacrifice of those past and present by taking part in Remembrance. After the assembly, we all planted poppies in the front lawn as a reminder of the service and sacrifice given by so many both then and now.



## Year 4 Roman Day

On Thursday 22nd October, Year 4 held a Wow Day to complete their Roman topic. The children showed that they had listened carefully to what Romans wore, and we were all very impressed with the effort the children had put into their costumes.

The children in each class participated in a variety of Roman activities during the day. These included studying Latin letters and writing their own names in Latin as well as playing Roman board games. They also had a Roman quiz to check what they had learnt over the last few weeks, with questions on roads; the Roman invasion of Britain and Julius Caesar. The children gained some excellent scores! We are now looking forward to our topic on the Saxons and Vikings in the Summer term.



## Oundle Festival of Literature

By now, you will have received details about the Oundle Festival of Literature writing competition for 2021. If your child would like to take part, they will need to complete their story or poem at home. Please note that the closing date for receipt of competition entries is the 22nd January 2021; however, entries can be sent at any time before then.

Anyone in Years 3-6 can enter and everyone has the chance to win!

Shortlisted writers will be invited to an awards presentation on Saturday 6th March.

## Poetry Competition

Well done to all our children for taking part in our whole-school poetry recital competition. This was a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to develop their use of expression and intonation and to build their confidence in spoken English. Every child embraced the challenge to learn their chosen poem by heart before reciting it to their class.

It was really lovely to encourage the children in their endeavours and to listen to their final recitals.

Congratulations go to our year group winners and to our overall school winner.

### Year 6

Third place – **Tori B and Cameron K**  
Second place – **Katelynn B**  
First place – **Kyana H**

### Year 5

Third place – **Thomas M**  
Second place – **Tabitha C**  
First place – **Archie C**

### Year 4

Third place – **Amelia C**  
Second place **Amelia B**  
First place – **Maisie T**

### Year 3

Third place – **Imogen S**  
Second place – **Gulliver B**  
First place – **Laila B**



### Overall Winner

**Kyana H**



## Christmas Arrangements

We all understand that Christmas will not be the same this year. We know how important Christmas at school is to our children and staff here at Millbrook Junior School. We have spent a long time reviewing the local situation, looking at what we usually do and weighing this up against the guidance. We will attempt to continue with as many Christmas activities as we can whilst limiting interactions and ensuring that we follow the latest guidance.

These are our planned activities; however, as always, they may be subject to change should the local or national picture change.

All Christmas activities will take place in the final week of the term, Monday 14th to Friday 18th December.

Our Christmas celebrations start on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> December with Christmas Jumper Day. Children can wear a Christmas jumper or non-uniform on this day. As we are now a cashless school, we would ask you to make your donation via Schoolcomms. 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. If you would like to find out more about Thandigudi [click here](#).



Other activities taking place during the week include a Christmas themed PE lesson; making Christmas decorations; watching a Christmas movie; making a Christmas card; watching a professional Christmas Pantomime and completing Christmas themed curriculum activities. Christ the King will also be delivering remote assemblies in place of our usual Christmas celebration at the church.

This year, we will not be able to operate our usual 'in house' Christmas postal service as this would involve children coming into contact with items from outside their bubble. This Christmas, children will only be able to send Christmas cards to other children or staff in their bubble. Cards must be bought into school by 11th December and will be distributed by the class teacher during our Christmas celebration week.



We know that many children like to bring in Christmas presents for their teacher. As we are trying to limit the number of items bought from home, we would request instead that if you would like to give a gift, you donate to the staff wellbeing fund, via Schoolcomms, which will be spent on treats for all staff throughout the year.



## Action for Happiness

For some of us, this month is going to be challenging as we are in lockdown. Sometimes having something different, no matter how small, to focus on can be helpful. Most of the things on the action for happiness calendar this month are still possible. Some may just need to be done a little more remotely than we might have liked! The 30th November is especially helpful with 'Look for reasons to be hopeful, even in difficult times'.

## 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.*

**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. Thank you in supporting us to ensure your children have every opportunity for success in their education.*



# ACTION CALENDAR: NEW WAYS NOVEMBER 2020



## SUNDAY

**1** Make a list of new things you want to do this month

**8** Find out something new about someone you care about

**15** Go outside and do something playful - walk, run, explore, relax

**22** Find a new way to tell someone you appreciate them

**29** Discover your artistic side. Design your own greeting cards

## MONDAY

**2** Respond to a difficult situation in a different way

**9** Plan a new activity or idea you want to try out this week

**16** Look at life through someone else's eyes and see their perspective

**23** Set aside a regular time to pursue an activity you love

**30** Look for reasons to be hopeful, even in difficult times

## TUESDAY

**3** Get outside and observe the changes in nature around you

**10** When you feel you can't do something, add the word "yet"

**17** Try a new way to practice self-care and be kind to yourself

**24** Share with a friend something helpful you learned recently

## WEDNESDAY

**4** Sign up to join a new course, activity or online community

**11** Be curious. Learn about a new topic or an inspiring idea

**18** Connect with someone from a different generation

**25** Use one of your strengths in a new or creative way

## THURSDAY

**5** Change your normal routine today and notice how you feel

**12** Overcome a frustration by trying out a new approach

**19** Broaden your perspective: read a different paper, magazine or site

**26** Tune in to a different radio station or TV channel

## FRIDAY

**6** Give yourself a boost. Try a new way of being physically active

**13** Choose a different route and see what you notice on the way

**20** Make a meal using a recipe or ingredient you've not tried before

**27** Enjoy new music today. Play, sing, dance or listen

## SATURDAY

**7** Be creative. Cook, draw, write, paint, make or inspire

**14** Find a new way to help or support a cause you care about

**21** Learn a new skill from a friend or share one of yours with them

**28** Join a friend doing their hobby and find out why they love it



**"You never know what you can do until you try" ~ C. S. Lewis**



**ACTION FOR HAPPINESS**



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

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

**Keep Calm · Stay Wise · Be Kind**



Millbrook Junior School



YOUR  
SCHOOL  
LOTTERY

# Win a Nintendo Switch MEGA BUNDLE

**WITH** Nintendo Switch Console Neon  
Mario Kart Home Circuit DOUBLE PACK (Mario + Luigi)  
2 Games: Lego Marvel Heroes 2 and Minecraft  
Nintendo Switch case and accessory pack  
Mario and Luigi hats



- Help raise essential school funds
- Tickets cost just £1 a week
- Win up to £25,000
- Cash prize every week

To start supporting your school, go to:

**YourSchoolLottery.co.uk**

and search for: Millbrook Junior School

Supporters must be 16 years of age or older. Offer ends 19<sup>th</sup> December 2020. T&Cs apply, see website for details.