



Millbrook Junior School

Churchill Way, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN15 5DP

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

01536 517049

Dear Parents/Carers

Now that we have returned to school, we are starting to rebuild and reconnect. Children have been settling in to their routines, getting used to being part of a class and re-establishing their friendships. They have really enjoyed being back together and I have been extremely proud of their behaviour and attitude.

Please read the newsletter below to find out more about what we are doing to help our school recover.

Thank you

Mrs Danielle Warren

Recovery

Now the children are back at school and settling back into our school routines, we wanted to share with you some of the recovery and catch-up plans we have for the coming term. Over these next few weeks, we will continue monitoring the children to identify gaps and we will modify our plans to address these as necessary.



Fitness

Whilst we have been in a National lockdown, children have not been able to get out and play in the same way they usually would. We know that many of you have enjoyed taking part in the Joe Wicks workouts and have organised fitness activities in your gardens, but nationally, children's ability to engage in physical activity has been seriously hampered by 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

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

lockdown. In order to address this, Miss Rogers (PE Leader) has put together a fitness challenge that all children will take part in over the coming weeks. She will then work with Premier Sport to adapt our PE curriculum where necessary to address any gaps.

National Tutoring Programme (NTP)

The NTP has been developed to support schools in responding to the challenge of school closures and to provide a longer-term contribution to closing the attainment gap. It has been set up and funded by the government to provide additional support to schools to help disadvantaged pupils. We are hoping that we will be able to extend this to further groups of children in the future.

If your child is identified as Pupil Premium and they are in Year 5 or Year 6, you will receive a letter inviting your child to take part in the National Tutoring Programme. Your child will receive 15 hours of small group online maths tutoring and you will need to commit to the whole programme to take part.

Our provider, Pearson, currently only offer tutoring for Year 5 and Year 6 children.

Google Classroom

Last week, we introduced the children to Google Classroom. Google Classroom is our new learning platform which will link home and school learning. It will be the main tool we will use to deliver our recovery plan. The children have been excitedly logging on to the platform in their computing lessons and will soon be using the tool to complete work both at home and in school. We have lots of new exciting plans for our Google Classroom which we will share over the coming months. Please make sure that your child has access to their login and password at home (these can be found in their planners).

Easter

Over the Easter holiday, class teachers will be adding revision tasks to Google Classroom for your child to complete. The children will be set a few tasks per day which should take no longer than one to two hours to complete. Please encourage your child to log in to Google Classroom and take part in the activities. We do not expect children to be working all day as they need a break too, but we would like children to maintain the routine of taking part in learning activities each day. Many of the tasks will be short or fun activities. Tasks will not be set on Good Friday, the weekends or on Easter Monday.

Wellbeing

Mrs Fombanu and Mrs Walker have been working hard catching up with the children and families who have identified that they need support. They have also shared wellbeing resources with class teachers. Our wellbeing team are able to offer suggestions and advice for individuals and families, and sign post to other services available within the Kettering/Corby area. They can also provide support for the following:

- Emotional support
- Anger and Control
- Anxiety
- Key transitions, including moving between schools/classes
- Development of pupil self-esteem and confidence
- Friendship issues / bullying, including social networking

- Family issues: Bereavement, new baby in the family, parent or carer separation or divorce.
- Early Help Assessment to support families during difficult times

If you feel you would benefit from talking with Mrs Fombanu, then please contact her via the school office.

Red Nose Day

Thank you to everyone who dressed up for Red Nose Day. All the money donated will be sent in to help people who are living tough lives across the UK and internationally. Thank you for your support. The children had a great day!

Water

Please make sure that your child brings enough water in to school to last them for the day. If they need to, they can bring more than one water bottle to school.

PSHE – Dreams and Goals

This half term as part of the Dreams and Goals unit in PSHE, the children have been finding out more about careers within the NHS. Most were surprised to know that there were over 350 different types of jobs within the NHS. There is a competition where the children can get creative. They have been asked to produce a piece of artwork – a painting, drawing, collage or write a poem or story to say 'Thank you' to the NHS and those that work within the organisation. More details will be saved on Google Classrooms for the children to access from home. Finished pieces should be returned to their class teacher by April 16th.

Don't forget - Lateral Flow Testing

Primary aged children should not be testing as part of this programme.

From 1 March 2021, if you are a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of a staff member 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. This does not, however, guarantee that 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