



Millbrook Junior School

Churchill Way, Kettering, Northamptonshire, NN15 5DP

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

01536 517049

Dear Parents/Carers

I can hardly believe that it is half-term already. This term seems to have passed by so quickly.

We have recently offered tours for Year 2 and Year 3 parent/carers. These have been very successful and it is been lovely to hear such positive feedback:

"What an amazing school."

"The children are so well behaved."

"What fantastic outdoor space you have."

"Everyone looks so happy."

We recognise that parent/carers have not been into school as much as we would have liked and we are really proud of our school. If you would like to look round, please phone the school office to book a tour.

These will take place daily, at 9am, 10am, 11am and 2pm for the next few weeks.

Thank you

Mrs. Danielle Warren

Parent/Carer Evening

The weeks beginning 1st November and 8th November are parent/carers evenings. You will have received a letter explaining which night your child's class have their evening and how to make an appointment. This will be an opportunity for you to speak with your child's class teacher over the phone and to find out more about how they are getting on.



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.

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.

Uniform

Thank you for making sure that your children are now wearing correct school uniform. It makes such a difference. The children look so smart and ready to learn. It brings a real sense of belonging to our children and is really important for our school community. We want to create a supportive environment and want our children to feel part of that and proud of being part of it.

Squid Game

It has been brought to our attention that some of our children have watched Squid Game. Even if your child has not seen the programme, huge numbers of viewers are taking to social media to discuss each new episode and your child may have seen some of this. Squid Game's popularity is beginning to spread across various online platforms. If you haven't seen the programme, it is a South Korean thriller which features some scenes of fairly brutal violence and is rated 15 by the BBFC. It follows a group of adults who compete to win innocent-looking playground games, but who are killed if they do not succeed at the tasks.

If you are concerned that your child may have seen the programme or may be talking about it with their friends on social media, then Mrs Pearson, our Online Safety Safeguarding Lead, has issued the following advice:

As a parent or carer, keep a watchful eye on the content that your children are viewing. Speak to them openly; chat with them about how they have been spending time on their devices and let them ask questions, too. Ensure that the parental controls are activated on your child's device and that age-restricted child profiles are properly set up on any on-demand services available through the family TV (such as Netflix, in this case) to prevent inappropriate content being streamed.

If you see your child replicating the challenges from the show or hear them talking about scenes and characters from Squid Game, it would be a timely opportunity to discuss with them that the programme is not intended for children, that much of the content would be inappropriate for their age, and that the violence in the series is very realistic and often upsetting.

MILO

After half term, we will be launching our new look MILO (Millbrook Independent Learning Online) Home Learning. This builds on the learning already undertaken by pupils and is designed to accelerate progress by using personalised independent learning.

The attached guidance explains what needs to be completed by your child each week. Class teachers will check that the learning has been completed by Thursday. If any child needs support to complete the work that they need to do at home, they will be able to attend the home learning catch-up sessions during one of the break times on Friday. Also attached is the new Home / School contract for MILO home learning. We would ask you to share this with your child so they understand the expectations. A Schoolcomms consent box will be set up under the payment section of the school gateway app. This is for you to acknowledge that you have read and understood both of these documents. We hope that this will empower your child to be more independent with the work that they have to do at home, whilst developing their technology skills to prepare them for the future. Working together, we can ensure that our pupils receive the best

opportunities to be the best they possibly can. Please support this important initiative. Dream, Believe, Aspire, Achieve.

Mrs Sonia Watters

Library News

In the last month, our children have borrowed 3559 books from our school library. On myON, 3530 books have been read. The most popular book in Year 6 was "The Legend of Bigfoot" which was read 9 times; in Year 5 it was "Lucha Lizards Chameleon Cage Match" which was read 8 times; in Year 4 it was "Why Rabbits eat Poop" which was read 12 times; and in Year 3 it was "A Raindrop's Journey" which was read 15 times.



Mrs Caroline Mitchell

Children In Need

We will be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 19th November as part of Children in Need. If you are able to make a donation in support of this day, please do so via Schoolcomms.



Anti-bullying Week

This year Anti-bullying week's theme is 'One Kind Word'. It will try and encourage everyone to do something or say something kind. Even if it is as simple as sharing a smile with others.



To start the week, the children are being asked to wear odd socks on Monday 15th November. This is designed to illustrate that everyone is different, and it is part of what makes us all interesting. Across the week, the children will take part in different activities in class as part of the theme. This learning is also part of our 'Celebrating Difference' work in Jigsaw over the coming term.

Mrs Jenny Green

Maths Week

The children are very excited about celebrating Maths Week England. During the week, the children will have the opportunity to participate in the England Rocks 2021 competition using their Times Tables Rockstar accounts and we will be competing to find the Millbrook Times Table Champion Class. In class lessons, the children will have the opportunity to develop their understanding of how maths is used during everyday life and how it can be seen in nature.



Mrs Kelly Pearson

Design Technology



Year 5 are completing a very exciting DT project next term but they require a few pieces of equipment. They need long boxes (like large boxes of cat food sachets). If you have any at home, please save them for us and send in to Year 5.

Mrs Sonia Watters

Choir

Don't forget, if you haven't already sent in your permission slip, please do so as soon as possible so that Mrs Watters knows you are able to attend.

Applications for School Places – Don't forget

Applications for secondary school places are now open. Parents and carers of children born between 1st September 2010 and 31st August 2011 can now apply for a Year Seven place for September 2022. The closing date will be **5pm on 31 October 2021**. To find out more about the admission arrangements for each Secondary school in North Northamptonshire and for detailed information about the process for applying for a Year 7 place at Secondary school, please read the ['Applying for a Secondary school place in North Northamptonshire – 2022-2023'](#)

Special Mention

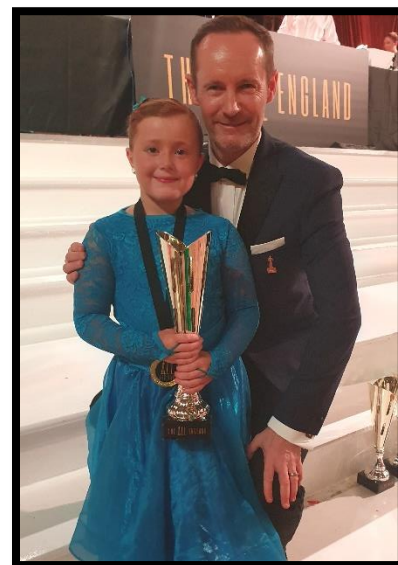
Well done to...

Holly B who told us, "At the weekend, I took part in a swimming gala. My first race was 100m freestyle. I beat my PB and came fourth. My next race was 25m breaststroke and I came third and got a bronze medal. Then I competed in the 50m backstroke. I came third and got another bronze medal! I also competed in the 25m backstroke and came fifth. My final race was the hardest stroke of all - butterfly! I beat my PB and

came second!" Well done Holly! You must have trained extremely hard for these races. We look forward to hearing all about your future competitions.

Lacey L competed on the summer holidays at The All England Grand Prix Championships in the Blackpool Tower Ballroom.

She became the Open Under 10 Two Dance Gainsborough Glide and Waverly Two Step solo Sequence Champion. She has since competed in the Next Generation Competition in Worcester, Manchester Grand Prix, The Great Britain Open Cup in Burton on Trent, Euthoria Trophy Day in Bedworth, Chesterfield Sequence Championships, reaching most finals and gaining top 3 placings across Ballroom, Latin and Sequence Dancing in under 10s and under 12s sections. Lacey is competing at the Winter Gardens this weekend in the British Championships. Well done Lacey - a fantastic achievement!



Regular notes:

Getting a COVID Test

You must get a PCR test as soon as possible if you have any of these symptoms, even if mild:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

You must stay at home until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.

If you have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, you can get a PCR test, whether or not you have symptoms.

Our nearest walk through testing site is Car Park, London Rd, Kettering NN15 2CF. It opens at 8.00am and closes at 8.00pm. There is also a drive through testing site at Olympic Way, Kettering NN15 6PB. They open at 8.00am and close at 8.00pm. [You can book a test by clicking here.](#) Some centres accept walk-in appointments but you will need to check this with your local centre first.

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.