



WELLINGTON STREET, STOCKTON ON TEES

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Head Teacher: Mrs S Skillcorn

7th June 2017

Dear Mum, Dad and Carers

I hope that you had a lovely half term holiday last week.

Saltburn

Following the success of our Family Flamingo Land trip, when one hundred and seventy two Mill Laners had a fabulous day, we are organising another to the seaside at Saltburn on Saturday 22nd July. The price for the coach is £3.50 per person. Please let us know by Friday if you would like to come.

Dogs

As we have quite a few children with allergies and asthma, we do not allow dogs onto school property. Please leave them at home when bringing and collecting children.

Attendance

We continue to strive for a minimum of **96%** attendance for every child which is the government requirement for all children. Unfortunately, some of our parents have already been fined. Failure to pay the fine results in a court appearance and parents can be left with an £800 bill because of court costs!

At the moment we have 94.8% attendance and **only 2** classes are above the 96% requirement.

Nursery	89.3%
Reception	94.4%
Y1	95.1%
Y2	95.8%
Y3	96.4%
Y4	96.2%
Y5	95.8%
Y6	95.5%

Categories of absence per child:

100 - 99% Outstanding, 98 - 97% Good, 96 - 95% Satisfactory, 94 - 91% Inadequate, 90 - 86% Cause for concern, 85% and below Serious Concern.

Enhancing the Curriculum

As part of Y4's history topic, Maximus, a Roman centurion, came to visit school to talk about Roman life and to try to recruit soldiers for the Roman army! Y4 began training by learning how to line up and march as Roman soldiers. What a great way to learn all about the Romans! In Science, Y5 have been engaging enthusiastically with the 'Children Challenging Industry' scheme. They visited the chemical plant, Lotte Chemical UK, to learn about the process of making plastic. It was a fantastic experience. Y5 are now plastic masters! Nursery loved their animal themed Gymnastics last term. They learned to do headstands, backward rolls, jumping, slithering, balancing and lots more including catching magic bubbles!

Important Dates

As we are now into the last half term of the school year, here are some important dates for your diary:

Thursday 8th June – School Photograph Day

Tuesday 13th to Thursday 15th June – Scotland Residential

Monday 3rd July – Children go to their new teacher in their new classrooms for the morning

Tuesday 4th or Thursday 6th July – Parent Consultations

Friday 7th July – New Starter meeting for parents of children starting in Reception in September

Monday 10th July – Nursery Graduation Ceremony

Tuesday 11th July – Summer Fair

Wednesday 12th, Thursday 13th or Friday 14th July – Lunch for children starting in Reception

Monday 17th July – Sports Day for KS1 and KS2

Wednesday 19th July – Sports Day for Nursery and Reception

Thursday 20th July – Trip for children with 100% attendance

Friday 21st July – Y6 Leavers Assembly

Sporting Achievements

Our children just keep excelling. Three teams entered the Stockton Cricket festival. All pupils played with an outstanding attitude. Our Y5 boys came 3rd, Y6 boys came 4th and our determined Y5/6 girls came 1st and qualified for the next round. 7 pupils represented Stockton at Middlesbrough Sports Village in the next round of the Athletics tournament. Our athletes came away with 2 bronze medals and a silver medal. Well done, everyone. We are all so very proud of you.

Internet Safety

It can be hard for parents to keep track of what children are doing online. It is important that you teach your children to make the right choices even when you are not there. The NSPCC have teamed up with 02 to produce a step by step guide to help you to teach your child to be 'share aware'. It can be found at <http://bit.ly/2qlyvku>

Language Ambassadors

Mill Lane's Language Ambassadors have been extremely busy. One group were able to lead a staff meeting to help explain to staff how they can support children who speak languages other than English. A small group also visited Billingham South Primary School to talk about diversity. The children performed a brilliant assembly and answered questions about the different languages they can speak. I am so very proud of our talented bilingual children.

Compliments or Complaints

As you can see from my newsletters, staff work extremely hard at Mill Lane and we welcome your comments to ensure that Mill Lane remains a very positive and happy place for children, staff and parents. Please feel free to speak to teachers at the end of the day after they have seen their children out safely. If you have any compliments or complaints, then you can always find members of staff on each gate at the beginning and end of the day. If you would like to speak to me directly, I often walk around the playground at these times or you are welcome to phone for an appointment.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Skillcorn
Head Teacher