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**WELLINGTON STREET, STOCKTON ON TEES**

**TS18 1QX, TEL: 01642 860055**

**Head Teacher: Mrs S Skillcorn**

21st December 2017

Dear Mum, Dad / Carer

**Christmas Events**

Thank you to everyone who has supported Christmas events in school. The Enterprise Fair was very popular and the Early Years sing-a-long was a delight. The KS1 performance of ‘The Snowman at Sunset’ was amazing and KS2 performance was fabulous. We have so many talented children that I am bursting with pride. Christmas dinner was a lovely event with children pulling crackers and eating together in Christmas hats. The pantomime of Aladdin was incredible too; oh, yes it was!

**Sporting Success**

Y1 took part in a PE festival at Durham University and had a fantastic time representing the school well.Pupils from Y5 and Y6 represented Mill Lane at a basketball last month. All pupils played with great spiriti and enjoyment. The Y5s won ALL of their games until they had to play our Y6 team, who marginally won them 3-2. Well done to all pupils. Our Y6 team will go through to the next round after winning ALL of their matches. We are so very proud of both teams.

**Parental and Community Links**

We love to celebrate children’s achievements both in and out of school. If your child has achieved something special out of school, please let us know. We love to present certificates, medals and trophies in assembly to celebrate talent.

**Staffing**

Unfortunately, we say goodbye to Mrs Cratchley this term. We thank her for everything she has done for Mill Lane and wish her well for the future. We welcome Mr Abbott and Miss Spence into Year 4 and Miss Green into Reception.

**Nursery Parents**

Please remember to complete your primary admissions application if your child is due to start Reception in September 2018.

**£1 Book Shop**

The £1 fortnightly book shop has been a great success with children bringing in their pocket money to buy lovely books for only £1. The books are brand new and usually sell for so much more.

**PTO**

**Attendance**

Although the weather has been snowy and cold, school remained open. Please make sure children attend as usual. School is warm and it is your parental responsibility to send or bring your child to school. Children in Iceland, Sweden and Norway walk to school in much worse conditions!

Attendance autumn term

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Year Group | Attendance |
| Nursery | 89.44% |
| Reception | 95.81% |
| Y1 | 96.00% |
| Y2 | 96.19% |
| Y3 | 95.58% |
| Y4 | 96.47 |
| Y5 | 98.10% |
| Y6 | 97.16% |
| Total | 95.59% |

**Mobile Phones**

May I remind parents that mobile phones are NOT to be used on school property. That includes the playground and grounds.

**Dates for your Diary**

*Friday 22nd December* We break up for the school holidays

*Tuesday 9th January 2018* Children return to school. (Monday 8th is a PD day for staff)

**A Message from Governors**

Governors have drafted a statement of behaviour principles and put it on the school website, [www.milllane.org.uk](http://www.milllane.org.uk). This is in consultation with staff, parents and pupils and we value your comments about it. Please address any comments you may have to Lynda Lingard, Chair of Governors, Mill Lane Primary School by Friday 12th January 2018.

**Bikes**

Next year we are hoping to introduce Bikeability for our older children. If you have an old bike that would be suitable for a 10 year old child and you would like to donate it to school we would be very grateful.

May I take this opportunity on behalf of staff, governors and children to wish you a happy Christmas and a very peaceful new year.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Skillcorn

Head Teacher