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**WELLINGTON STREET, STOCKTON ON TEES**

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

**Head Teacher: Mrs S Skillcorn** 30th April 2019

Dear Mum, Dad / Carer

**Welcome Back**

Children have returned to school after the school holiday refreshed and eager to learn.

**Warm Weather**

We are already in the final term of school and we have lots of fun activities planned. Although the British summer can be sadly unpredictable, on the rare occasion we do get to see the sun we try hard to protect the children from sun burn and overheating. You can help to support us by sending your child in with a sun hat. If your child is able to apply sunscreen on their own, they are welcome to bring it into school, alternatively, some sun screens offer all day protection for you to apply before school.

**SATs Preparation**

Our Year 6 will sit their SATs the week beginning 13th May. Year 2 children also take SATs but these are spread throughout May. In order to make sure that all children are at their very best it would help if children are in school every day, go to bed earlier, arrive at school promptly, and avoid sleep overs. We appreciate your support in this.

**Homework**

Mill Lane, like all primary schools, set homework to help support and continue your child’s learning. This varies in amount depending upon children’s ages. When children bring work home please support your child by encouraging them to complete the learning. Children can often complete learning on their own, but might need reminding to begin working!

**Poverty Proofing**

I am very pleased to announce that Mill Lane Primary School have been awarded the Poverty Proofing Accreditation and were described as, ‘a pillar of excellence for poverty proofing’.

**New and Nearly New Clothes Sale**

Thank you to everyone who came to our sale. We made £120 for school funds.

**Easter Raffle**

Thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets. We made £180 for school funds.

**Staffing**

Mrs Pattinson goes on maternity leave next week and we welcome Mrs Breen into Y2. Good luck, Mrs Pattinson. We can’t wait to meet your little bundle.

**Sporting Success**

Jamie Poole kindly donated brand new tracksuits for our teams to wear at tournaments. They look amazing. Thank you, Jamie. Y5 were the first to proudly wear them when they represented Mill Lane in hockey at Eaglescliffe secondary school. They came a well-deserved second and went through to the finals. In the finals, all pupils showed enthusiasm and co-operation skills and were exceptionally well behaved, showing a great sporting attitude. Unfortunately, we didn’t come away with medals this time but the pupils involved certainly gained a lot of experience, ready to challenge their opposition next year!

**Sponsored Event**

Thank you to everyone who raised sponsor money for Jamie Poole's Sponsored Kick. Children were awarded their prizes and school made an amazing £808 for school funds. Fantastic!

**Extending the Curriculum**

PC Eric Barrett came to work with Y3 and Y4. He taught about antisocial behaviour in the community and the consequences of it. Nursery thoroughly enjoyed their visit to the library yesterday and learning all about using the self-service machine to borrow up to 10 amazing books. Year 5 visited Preston Hall Museum as a starter to their summer topic ‘Revolution’. They found out lots of interesting information about the Victorian period and took part in the Victorian School Day Workshop.

**National Children's Day**

We will be celebrating National Children's Day on 12th May and the week running up to it. The whole school will be taking part in intra-school sporting activities during PE sessions that week.

**Attendance**

Teachers are no longer able to authorise absences for holidays and the LA will fine parents for doing so.

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| Year Group | Attendance |
| Nursery | 87.1% |
| Reception | 92.9% |
| Y1 | 94.9% |
| Y2 | 95.8% |
| Y3 | 96.5% |
| Y4 | 94.5% |
| Y5 | 95.8% |
| Y6 | 96.3% |
| Total | 95.6% |

Unfortunately, some classes have slipped to below 96%. Please ensure that you send your children to school every day unless they need to see a doctor.

**Dates for your Diary**

*Friday 5th April* School closes for the Easter holidays

*Tuesday 23rd April* Children return to school (Monday 22nd is a bank holiday)

*Monday 6th May* Bank holiday (One day)

*Week beginning 13th May* Y6 SATs

*Friday 24th May* School closes for half term holiday

*Monday 3rd June* Children return to school

*Tuesday 2nd July* EY Sports Day

*Monday 8th July* KS1 & 2 Sports Day

*Wednesday 10th July* Summer Fair

*Thursday 18th July* School closes for summer holidays (19th, 22nd & 23rd are PD Days)

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Skillcorn

Head Teacher