

Ofsted judge Mill Lane to be a GOOD school in all areas. Pupils told inspectors ‘you can be who you want to be’ at Mill Lane Primary and expressed the view ‘we are all different and all equal’.



WELLINGTON STREET, STOCKTON ON TEES

TS18 1QX, TEL: 01642 860055

Head Teacher: Mrs S Skillcorn

30th June 2019

Dear Mum, Dad / Carer

Reports

Children’s annual reports will be sent out next week for every child in school. If you would like to discuss the report or you would like your child’s report translating into your home language then please ask your child’s class teacher for an appointment.

Breakfast Club

Mill Lane continues to provide a FREE breakfast every day for all of our children. Some schools charge for this. Please make sure your child is in school for 8:45am each morning so that they can enjoy breakfast with their friends.

Residentials

Giving our children a range of superb learning experiences is very important to us. Unlike other schools, we book many exciting educational visits during the year and also plan wonderful residential trips for our children. We hope to create memories that will last a lifetime. This month, many Y5 & Y6s enjoyed a FABULOUS cultural residential to **Disneyland**, Paris. We travelled by coach through the Eurotunnel to France and spent 2 days in the Disneyland parks, staying in a Disney hotel overnight. Many Y3 & Y4s enjoyed an AMAZING cultural residential to **London**. We took the train to Kings Cross and stayed in a hotel in Earls Court. The children toured inside Westminster Abbey and inside the Houses of Parliament, meeting our MP, Alex Cunningham. They went on the London Eye, Shrek Experience and the London Aquarium & Sea Life Centre. Sight-seeing included Big Ben, the Cenotaph, Downing Street, Trafalgar Square, Admiralty Arch, Horse Guards Parade, The Mall, Buckingham Palace, Green Park, Piccadilly Circus, Westminster Bridge and the River Thames. We also enjoyed an evening meal in the Planet Hollywood restaurant.

Staff have worked incredibly hard to raise over £9,000 to subsidise the cost of these trips so that costs to parents were kept to an absolute minimum and they were able to pay £5 a week. We are bag packing again at Asda, Portack Lane, on Saturday 5th July between 10am – 2pm if any parent is available to help. We hope to repeat the residential experiences every 2 years. Next year we are looking to book another outwood bounds residential for our Y5 & Y6s and possibly a residential to Scotland for our Y3 & Y4s.

PTO

Governors and Staff at Mill Lane Primary School are committed to Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in our care

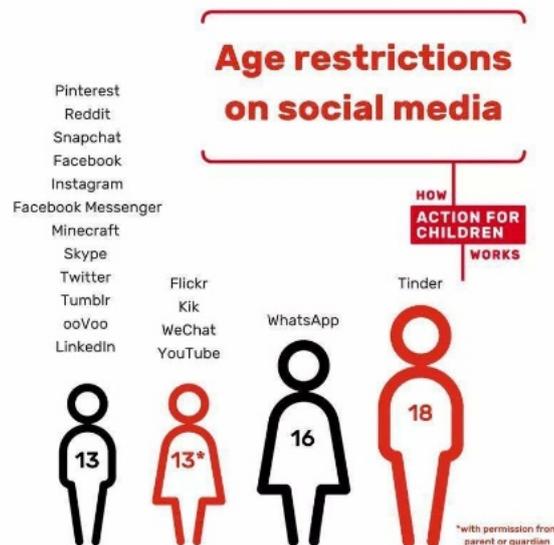
Ofsted judge Mill Lane to be a GOOD school in all areas. Pupils told inspectors 'you can be who you want to be' at Mill Lane Primary and expressed the view 'we are all different and all equal'.

Extending the Curriculum

Y2 enjoyed a mathematical Pirate Day. Children had a fabulous time during our after school Camp of Champions week. Y2 enjoyed working in our Garden of Sanctuary and we can look forward to a brilliant harvest at the end of summer. Church gardening club started this month. Y1 had the opportunity to make use of PC Barratt's police forensics kit and learned all about criminal investigations. Class 7 & 8 enjoy their Gardening Club and are looking for donations for spare wellies of any size to use as plant pots! Y6 had a fabulous post-SATs treat. They took the train to Middlesbrough and had a lovely afternoon in Creams eating the desert of their dreams! Three Mill Lane children won a competition with Stockton Borough Council to design a logo for the new town centre cleaning machine. Children enjoyed attending the Armed Forces Day celebrations in Stockton High Street on Thursday. They met serving forces and veterans and found out lots of interesting facts. Mill Lane recognised International Refugee Day with a whole school day of activities based on Nicola Davies' story 'The Day War Came'. Children produced creative writing, created welcome packs for new starters in school and used the story as a stimulus to design their own chair. There's always a chair for every child at Mill Lane.

Social Media

We post lots of information on our Mill Lane Facebook and Twitter pages. Please follow us for updates. **NO** primary aged children should be accessing social media sites such as Snapchat, Instagram, YouTube or Facebook at home on their PCs, laptops, tablets or phones. Please see the age limits below. This is to keep your child safe. If you would like more information or advice on setting child blocks on your devices, then please speak to Mr Abbott. Some children chat to each other and also to strangers when playing online games. Please monitor these chats as they become abusive.



CEOP

At the bottom of our school website homepage www.milllane.org.uk you will see the CEOP logo. CEOP is a law enforcement agency that keeps children and young people safe from sexual exploitation and abuse. If you find anything online that you feel is threatening, or may pose a threat to any other young people or adults, please click the link and report it.

Governors and Staff at Mill Lane Primary School are committed to Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in our care

Ofsted judge Mill Lane to be a GOOD school in all areas. Pupils told inspectors ‘you can be who you want to be’ at Mill Lane Primary and expressed the view ‘we are all different and all equal’.

Poverty Proofing

I am very pleased that Mill Lane has been awarded the Poverty Proofing Award for all that we do for our children. We embrace an inclusive ethos and endeavour to make everything affordable for our families. Unlike many schools, we give out free sweatshirts, free PE kits, free breakfasts, free after school clubs and subsidise all educational visits to keep costs for parents/carers to an absolute minimum.

Hot Weather

Please send your child to school with a sun hat and apply all-day protection sun cream so that your child can take part in all of the fun outdoor activities planned before the end of term.

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 it. Children can often complete learning on their own, but might need a reminder to do it! It is school policy for children to stay in at playtime if they have not completed it at home.

Attendance

Year Group	Attendance
Nursery	88.1%
Reception	93.2%
Y1	94.8%
Y2	95.5%
Y3	96.2%
Y4	94.0%
Y5	95.6%
Y6	95.7%
Total	95.7%

IT IS AGAINST THE LAW to keep your children off school. Head Teachers are unable to authorise absences and the LA **will** fine parents for doing so. Unfortunately, most classes have slipped below the national average of 96%. Please ensure that you send your children to school by 8:45am every day unless a doctor says that they need to stay at home. The LA invite parents to attendance review meetings to discuss your child’s poor attendance and they write action plans for parents to improve their child’s attendance and punctuality.

Sporting Success

Three children from Y5 qualified for the next round of an Athletics tournament at Middlesbrough Sporting Village. All three children performed exceptionally well and with an excellent attitude throughout the day. One pupil qualified for the next round. Class 8 represented Mill Lane in a range of athletics events at Middlesbrough Sporting Village. All pupils tried really hard and many children won medals. Some pupils from Y4 spent the afternoon at The Links Primary School taking part in a regional chess competition against other local primary schools. Whilst they didn't win overall, they performed exceptionally well. Well done everyone. We are so proud of all of you!

PTO

Governors and Staff at Mill Lane Primary School are committed to Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in our care

Ofsted judge Mill Lane to be a GOOD school in all areas. Pupils told inspectors ‘you can be who you want to be’ at Mill Lane Primary and expressed the view ‘we are all different and all equal’.

Parental Involvement

Over 100 Mill Laners enjoyed a Family Fun Day to Lightwater Valley. Staff and children are working hard to make the summer fair a huge success. If you are able to help on the afternoon then please let Mrs Cole know. Donations of cakes and raffle/tombola prizes would be greatly appreciated.

Next Year

Your child will meet and spend time with their new teacher on Thursday this week.

	Teacher
Nursery	Mrs Lee
Reception	Mrs Hegarty & Mrs Inman
Y1	Mrs Metcalf
Y2	Mrs Breen
Y3	Mrs Gunn
Y4	Mrs Cook
Y5	Miss Latcham & Mrs Spence
Y6	Mrs Twidle
Class 7	Mrs Moroz
Class 8	Mrs Wood

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 2nd July EYFS Sports Day (3rd if raining on the 2nd)
Wednesday 3rd July Theatre company in school about Positive Mindset for KS1 & KS2
Thursday 4th July School reports out to parents
Monday 8th July New starters meeting for parents of children starting Reception in September
Monday 8th July KS1 & KS2 Sports Day (9th if raining on 8th)
Wednesday 10th July Summer Fair
Thursday 11th July KS2 performance of Joseph and His Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat
Tuesday 16th July Nursery Graduation Ceremony
Thursday 18th July Y6 Leavers Assembly
Thursday 18th July Break up for the summer holidays

Friday 19th, Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd July School is closed for PD Days

Monday 2nd & Tuesday 3rd September School is closed for PD Days
Wednesday 4th September Children return to school

Please note, there is a change to the bank holiday in May 2020. It has been changed by the government from Monday 4th May to Friday 8th May to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely
Mrs Skillcorn
Head Teacher

Governors and Staff at Mill Lane Primary School are committed to Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in our care