



WELLINGTON STREET, STOCKTON ON TEES

TS18 1QX, TEL: 01642 860055

Head Teacher: Mrs S Skillcorn

26th February 2020

Dear Mum, Dad / Carer

Half Term

It is lovely to see the children back at school following the half term holiday. The weather has been very changeable so please make sure your child comes with school shoes (not trainers), a hat, warm coat and gloves.

Staffing

Mrs Cole left Mill Lane at half term to take up a part-time position in Redcar. We wish her well for the future. Mrs Alexander has taken over the role of Parent Support Advisor and comes with a wealth of knowledge and experience. She has worked in Mill Lane for 3 years and already knows many of our families. She is available to support families with a host of issues so please stop by and have a chat to her. You will find her on the KS1 gate every day.

Swearing

Please be reminded that swearing or aggressive behaviour will **NOT** be tolerated on the school yard, especially in front of children. Parents have been banned in the past for such behaviour!

World Book Day

It is World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. Children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character. Please don't feel that you have to go out and buy a costume. Home-made costumes are much more fun. Jeans, t-shirt and scarf around the waist makes a great pirate or a pretty dress makes a great princess. It's the taking part that makes learning fun! Y1 - Y6 will be visiting Drake the Book Shop and all children will get a chance to spend their FREE £1 book voucher.

Extending the Curriculum

Year 4 were visited by a dentist from Select Dental Care. She explained all about the structure of teeth and how to take care of them. The children asked lots of questions and were interested in finding out how to become a dentist in the future! Our digital leaders held a very informative assembly to share their work with the school. Y6 have been taking part in Bikeability to learn how to stay safe on our busy roads.

Community Links

PCSO Cheryl Warren and PCSO Martin Bennett visited Y6 to mark their bicycles in case they were ever to go missing. The bike and the owners details are stored by the police so they can be returned. If any other children would like to have bikes marked, please get in touch with the office and we will arrange a time for this to take place.

Mini Police

We have developed our own mini police in school! The idea behind the scheme is for the police to work with young people within the school environment to promote positive diversion from crime and anti-social behaviour, building honesty and trust and giving young people a better understanding of policing by encouraging active participation in local community engagement events.

PTO

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

Internet Safety

We celebrated Internet Safety Day with age appropriate assemblies and class work that focussed on keeping safe online. By making small changes to privacy settings you can keep your children safe. You can google this or ask school staff how to do it.

Please talk to your children about downloading **age appropriate** movies and TV programmes and **playing age appropriate games** and always monitor chat rooms that your children may use through their games or social media such as Snapchat and Facebook. Please check our school website for more online safety information <http://www.milllane.org.uk/e-safety/>

Attendance

Year Group	Attendance
Nursery	91.1%
Reception	93.3%
Y1	95.4%
Y2	97.7%
Y3	96.6%
Y4	95.8%
Y5	94.3%
Y6	96.4%
Total	95.7%

Which is below the national average so needs to improve.

Please continue to send children to school unless advised by a doctor to keep them at home. If you are in doubt, please ask school staff. Our school nurse is always available for advice as well and can be contacted on 07741186014. We will always contact you if they are too unwell to stay and are always happy to modify the day to accommodate them, eg keep them in to play with a friend at playtime.

Thank you for taking your holidays during the 13 weeks children have off school and not during term time. Being in school every day makes such a difference to their learning and progress.

Coronavirus

Schools have received specific guidance from Public Health England relating to the Coronavirus. If you are taking a holiday abroad this year please advise Mrs Skillcorn as soon as possible.

Parent Consultations

Parent consultations will take place 10th and 12th March and this is a lovely way for you to see how well your children are progressing. Letters will be sent nearer the time. We always try to group family appointments together and accommodate parents whenever possible, but most parents request appointments as close to the end of the school day as possible and it is impossible to give the same time to everyone who requests it. Please be patient and understanding.

Compliments and complaints

Staff at Mill Lane work incredibly hard to ensure your children receive a great education. If you have any compliments or complaints then please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Skillcorn 01642 860055.

Dates for your Diary

5th March

10th & 12th March

Friday 3rd April

Monday 20th April

Friday 8th May

Friday 22nd May

Monday 1st June

Thursday 16th July

Thursday 3rd September

World Book Day

Parent consultations

School closes for the Easter holidays

Children return to school

School closed for the Bank holiday (changed from Monday 4th for 75th anniversary of VE Day)

School closes for half term holiday

Children return to school

School closes for summer holidays (17th is a Training Day)

Children return to school

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Skillcorn

Head Teacher

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