



**WELLINGTON STREET, STOCKTON ON TEES**

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

**Head Teacher: Mrs S Skillcorn**

19<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers

### **Staffing and Governance**

After half term, we welcome Mrs Hussain back to Mill Lane as she is returning from maternity leave. Mrs Pattinson starts her maternity leave and will return next year. We say goodbye to Miss Spence who is leaving to go back to her career as a solicitor. Mrs Davison has left Mill Lane's governing body to take up a new role in a hospital. We will miss these ladies enormously and thank them for all of their hard work and dedication to Mill Lane. We welcome Barbara Peace-Ebanks, Councillor Pauline Beall and Mrs Metcalf to our governing body.

### **Nursery Provision**

Don't forget to put your toddler's name down for nursery so that we can contact you at the right time to offer a nursery place when they turn 3. In January, we are hoping to start 30-hour provision in nursery. If you are working and your child is over 3, he or she may be entitled to attend Mill Lane's nursery full time. Please speak to Mrs Lee for further details.

### **MacMillan Coffee Morning**

Thank you to everyone who baked, donated, bought and enjoyed our MacMillan Coffee Morning. We raised an amazing £177.50 for this amazing charity.

### **Sponsored Kick**

Thank you to everyone who took part in the sponsored kick this month. All sponsor money will be used to subsidize educational visits and residentials so that our children can enjoy incredible learning experiences. Please return sponsor money by Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November so that Jamie Poole can order the children's prizes.

### **Residentials**

In the summer we are taking our Y3 and Y4 children to London for 2 days/1 night, and our Y5 and Y6 children to Disneyland Paris for 4 days/3 nights. If you would like your KS2 child to attend these wonderful opportunities, then please complete the consent form and return it with the deposit **before half term**. If you are unable to pay the deposit before half term, please return the consent form and just speak to Mrs Skillcorn. No child will miss out on any opportunities at Mill Lane because of money.

### **Children in Need**

Children in Need is 19<sup>th</sup> November and we are having a non-uniform day, so children can wear normal clothes. 50p donations will be gratefully received.

### **Squid Games**

The Netflix series, Squid Games, is Certified 15 and depicts sex scenes, nudity, extreme violence, self-harm, suicide and bad language. The advice DRNG would give is, "If they are not of the age to meet the certification, then they shouldn't really be watching that series."

### **Poppies**

After half term we will be selling poppies on behalf of the Royal British Legion.

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

## October Half Term Holiday Club

I have asked Mr Nixon to again run holiday club this half term. We are very grateful to Mrs Milburn who bid for a grant to pay for it and was successful, but the grant is only to support families on benefits and entitled to free school meals. Letters have already been sent and places allocated. Please make sure that if your child has a place that he or she **attends as agreed** as he or she is taking a place from someone else on the waiting list. Mrs Milburn was also successful in winning a bid from Greggs to feed the holiday club children.

## Attendance

You should ONLY keep your child off school if your doctor has advised it. If they need to see a doctor then please bring your child to school for their mark and return them to school after the appointment unless, of course, your doctor specifically says that they are too unwell to attend. If the doctor prescribes antibiotics for your child, they are allowed to return to school straight away. If the doctor prescribes antibiotics to be taken 4 times a day, we can administer medication in school, but parents must complete a medicine form at the office and bring the medication in the original packaging with the doctor's prescription label on it. Holidays must be booked during the 13 weeks of the year when the school is closed. Persistent absence will result in a fine or court summons by the local authority.

Attendance for Autumn 1 half term	
<i>Class</i>	<i>Attendance</i>
Nursery	86.6%
Reception	90.0%
Y1	96.6%
Y2	93.2%
Y3	97.3%
Y4	95.6%
Y5	97.2%
Y6	94.3%
Total	94.7%

## Parental and Community Links

Thank you to everyone who came to parent consultations and our Reception class parents who attended our reading meeting. It was so lovely to welcome parents into the building again and share your children's work and successes with you. We have lots of information for you on our website, [www.milllane.org.uk](http://www.milllane.org.uk), including the history of Mill Lane Primary School. Please take a look, it is fascinating. You can also find us on Facebook and Twitter where we regularly share lots of interesting pieces of information to keep everyone up to date. You just have to like our page for updates.

## Extending the Curriculum

At Mill Lane, various educational experiences and out of hours clubs enhance the curriculum and our children's experiences, and they are usually very well attended. Unlike other schools, we do not charge for any of these. However, although very heavily subsidised by school, we do ask parents to contribute a minimal amount to the costs of residential and some educational visits.

We have had a very busy month making learning fun and engaging:

Y6 have enjoyed a fortnight of intensive swimming lessons. Y4 children visited Dig and the Jorvik Centre in York. Y3 enjoyed a great day at Cleveland Ironstone Mining Museum. Sports Leaders from Y5 and Y6 went to the Primary Leadership Academy Training at Durham University. Y5 enjoyed baking Egyptian bread as part of their topic, Pharaohs. Y1 - Y6 enjoyed weekly Yoga sessions from Yoga Mike as part of Health and Well Being. The £1 book shop was a great success. Y1 learned Samba with Mr Nixon. PCSO Eric Barrett worked with KS1 & KS2 on Stranger Danger including internet safety. Some of our Y5s learned to ride a bike in a private lesson in preparation for their Level 1 Bikeability training which took place this month. All of the children from KS2 visited the archaeological dig in Tennant Square on Stockton High street. All children in school thoroughly enjoyed the Energy Live show by The Royal Institute. Year 5 joined three other schools at Northfield School to take part in a Scavenger Hunt. Staff from Cleveland Ironstone Mining Museum joined Y3 via Zoom to teach the children about Stone Age pottery before they made their own clay thumb pots and Class 7 had a fantastic day at Newham Grange farm.

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## Internet Safety Parents Meeting

Our local PCSO, Eric Barratt, will be holding a parents' meeting in school on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> November at 9am, to explain and show how to monitor your child's devices and put on child locks to keep your children safe. Please come along for tea and biscuits.

## Celebration

We are holding our Autumn party this Thursday after school. £1 entry which includes a drink and halal hot dog. It is 3:45 -4:45pm.

## Support

Here are some useful numbers that can offer support for mental health.

Adults	Young People	Parenting	Other
<b>Anxiety UK</b> 03444 775 774	<b>Young Minds</b> 0808 802 5544	<b>Family Lives</b> 0808 800 2222	<b>Cruse Bereavement Care</b> 0808 808 1677
<b>Mind</b> 0300 123 3393	<b>NSPCC</b> 0800 1111	<b>Children 1<sup>st</sup> Parentline</b> 08000 28 22 33 (Scotland)	<b>Refuge (domestic violence)</b> 0808 2000 247
<b>Papyrus</b> (Suicide Prevention for under 35s) 0800 068 4141	<b>The Mix</b> (age 13 – 25) 0808 808 4994	<b>Young Minds</b> 0808 802 5544	<b>FRANK</b> (substance misuse) 0300 1236600
<b>Samaritans</b> 116 123	<b>Childline</b> 0800 1111	<b>Gingerbread</b> (single parent helpline) 0808 802 0925	<b>Beat</b> (eating disorders) 0808 801 0677
<b>Rethink Mental Illness</b> 0300 5000 927			<b>National Gambling Helpline</b> 0808 8020 133
<b>SHOUT</b> Text: 85258			<b>Silverline</b> (helpline for older people) 0800 4 70 80 90

## Dates for your Diary

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October

Break up for half term holiday

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November

Return to school

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> December

KS1 Christmas performance for parents 1:30pm

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December

Christmas fair 3:30 – 4:30pm

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> December

Whole school attending Panto at Billingham Forum **1 – 4pm**

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> December

School Christmas dinner

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> December

Reception & Nursery Christmas performance 9:30am and 1:30pm

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December

KS2 Christmas performance 9:30am and 1:30pm

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December

Carols around the Tree 1pm Nursery – Y2 & 1:45pm Y3-Y6

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December

Break up for Christmas holiday

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January

Return to school (Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> is a bank holiday)

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> February

Break up for half term holiday

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February

Return to school

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April

Break up for Easter holiday

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April

Return to school

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May

Break up for half term holiday

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June

Return to school

We break up for half term on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Have a lovely half term holiday with your family and we look forward to seeing you all again Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Skillcorn

Head Teacher