

# Newsletter November 2024

## **Attendance and Punctuality**

Thank you to you all for making such a huge effort with both attendance and punctuality.

We now only have 2 or 3 children who are not on time every day and this is down to you – thank you.

Attendance has taken a dip recently but that is because many of our very young children with less immunity have been struck down by a nasty cough virus – this week most are back in school.

At the end of this term we will send home your child's attendance sheet which will show you when they have been absent and when they have been late. Reminder – any child who has been late 10 times or more, will not be eligible for the individual end of year attendance rewards.

## **School Bags**

We have seen an increase in the number of children using large bags and rucksacks for school. As we have no PE kit, all your children need to bring to school is their homework, reading book, library book and a water bottle (and a packed lunch if they have one).

These bags are too large for school as they do not fit into a child's drawer and take up too much space on a coat peg.

With this in mind we have purchased some black and some red draw string bags (chosen by school council) for children in key stage 2 and we are happy to give these to any child who has no bag or any child who wishes to swap their "big bag" for one.

In key stage 1 children should use a normal book bag – these can be bought from the office – the ones with straps that go over a child's shoulder are too big for their trays.

We are not asking anyone to stop using the bag they have this year – unless they want to – but next year we will not permit such large bags to be used in school.

## **Talent Show**

Our school council have organised a talent show to take place in school on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December – this is not for parents!!

If your child wishes to watch or take part (or both) the cost will be £1. Children who watch will also be given a biscuit.

School council will be selling tickets from Monday 25<sup>th</sup> November.

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## Christmas

Christmas is both very busy and very exciting in a primary school.

We start our whole school festivities with a Winter Get Together after school on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December.

Please collect your children as normal then make your way through the playground to the hall doors - we will let you in there.

There is no entry charge as we want this to be a relaxed social event for all our families – we will be selling refreshments and we will have a chocolate tombola as always as we know everyone loves this – lets make it as big as possible this year. There will be a non-uniform day on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December for which the fine will be some chocolate which we will use for the tombola.

## Parking Reminder

You may have noticed that we have staff at the gate now – this is because parking and dropping children off has once again been an issue.

You must not park on the yellow zig zags as it puts children in danger – if you do park here we will take your number plate and pass it on to the council.

Thank you to the vast majority of you who are safe and considerate of others.

## School Trips

Please see attached letter – this has been our practice for a number of years – this is just a reminder.

## Contacting School

If you need to contact school there are several ways to do this.

You can ring on 01924 477544 – be mindful that between 8.30am and 9.30am is our busiest time. The office closes at 4pm. You can leave a message on the school answerphone out of hours – ring the number above.

You can email the office on [office@mill-lane.org.uk](mailto:office@mill-lane.org.uk).

In all instances, you should speak to your child's teacher if you have any concerns about them in school.

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Date	Events
2 Dec 2024	Pantomime trip for Key Stage 2
5 Dec 2024	Open Day for any prospective pupils and their parents 2pm and 6pm – please share with anyone who has children of school age
6 Dec 2024	Non uniform – the fine for coming in non-uniform is chocolate for the tombola
6 Dec 2024	Talent Show – in school time for pupils only
11 Dec 2024	Winter Get Together – this will be a social event where people can get together and chat over a drink and a bite to eat – we will have a chocolate tombola as well.
16 Dec 2024	Reception and KS1 Nativity @ 2pm for parents of children in those year groups
17 Dec 2024	Reception and KS1 Nativity @ 9.15am for parents of children in those year groups
18 Dec 2024	Christmas lunch in school
19 Dec 2024	Nursery Party in the morning
19 Dec 2024	Class Reception/1 and class 1/2 party in the afternoon
20 Dec 2024	Key Stage 2 Christmas Assembly @ 2pm for parents of children in classes 3/4, 4/5 and 5/6
20 Dec 2024	Last day of school
7 Jan 2025	Children return to school – this is a TUESDAY
14 Feb 2025	Last day of school – February Half Term
24 Feb 2025	Children return to school

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Dear Parents/Carers,

We try to give all our children as wide an educational experience as possible and this often means we visit places outside of school.

In line with government guidance, <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/health-and-safety-on-educational-visits/health-and-safety-on-educational-visits>, we will only ask for consent if a trip is for nursery children or would be classed as being a higher risk for example, a residential trip.

We will always let you know when your child will be educated away from school and we encourage any parent to speak to us if they have any concerns about this.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely,



Miss C Barlow  
Head Teacher