

# Newsletter October 2024

## **Time Flies!!**

Where has the time gone? We are over half way through the first half term of this academic year. We have had an amazing start to the year and we look forward to this continuing. Below are a few reminders and some dates that we hope will be useful. We will add to and update these dates as the year goes on.

## **Attendance and Punctuality**

Last year our attendance improved significantly over the previous year and we are hoping that it gets even better this year.

So far our attendance is at 96.85% and we are doing well compared to other schools. Sadly, 33 of our full time children have already missed some school. If children are just not 100% it is always best to send them to school as they almost always perk up and have a good day with their friends – if they become really unwell we will ring you and send them home.

The number of pupils being late for school is decreasing every week and we are excited for the day when all pupils are in school on time – we will celebrate!

At the end of this year there will be two treats for rewards: one treat will be for any pupil who has over 95% attendance and fewer than 10 lates and the second treat will be for those children who have over 97% attendance and fewer than 10 lates. Class rewards will be paid for from money earned over the year - £1 for every day when everyone is in class on time (no one late) with a bonus £1 if this happens every day for a week.

Please see our Attendance Policy which is on the school website.

## **Water Bottles**

Children should bring a water bottle to school each day – they may only bring plain unflavoured water. Please do not send expensive bottles as they may get damaged.

## **Packed Lunches**

All packed lunches should be healthy and cold – hot food is a potential safety concern.

Packed lunches must not contain crisps or any products that contain nuts.

Please do not put a drink in your child's packed lunch as they should have a water bottle in school.

Your child will be encouraged to eat everything you pack for them and anything left will be sent home.

A very rough guide is 3 items – main item e.g. pasta salad/sandwich + fruit/veg + small sweet treat e.g. a biscuit

## **School Trips**

We are currently planning our school trips and will soon let you know where your child will be going, when and how much it will cost.

# Newsletter October 2024

## **Running**

Running takes place in school every day and all children take part.

If children are injured or have had a serious illness we always permit them to sit out but we will not be letting children miss running because they do not feel 100% as what we notice is that they are very fit and active during playtimes and PE lessons!

Classes R/1 and 1/2 will not be running for the next few weeks. These classes will be focusing on phonics and reading which is why it is crucial that they are in school on time. As time progresses and this learning is more embedded they will return to running.

## **School Bags etc**

I will be asking our School Council to research what bags are available for children in primary school.

At the moment we have many children bringing bags that are too big for their trays and then these bags take up space on the coat pegs. We are a small school and back packs and ruck sacks are too big. We are hoping to get some Mill Lane branded bags in school once we know what is available.

In the meantime, please can you remove all key rings etc from bags.

Children must not bring into school any items from home. All children need to bring is a water bottle, their packed lunch if applicable, their homework and reading book and/or library book. No pencil cases, key rings, toys, lip glosses etc should be brought into school but if they are these will be taken off your child and returned at the end of the day.

Older children who walk home alone may bring a mobile phone which will be kept safely at reception.

We understand that year 6 children do not want to carry a book bag as they feel it is babyish so we will keep this in mind when researching bags.

## **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.

## **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.

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.

# Newsletter October 2024

Date	Events
23 Oct 2024	Parents' Evening – details will be sent via The Hub
25 Oct 2024	Flu vaccinations – PM only
25 Oct 2024	Last day of half term
4 Nov 2024	First day of second half term
2 Dec 2024	Pantomime trip for Key Stage 2 – this will go live on ParentPay soon – watch out
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
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 – details to follow.
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