



Friday 9th September 2016

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Milverton Primary School Newsletter

Dear Parents,

A Warm Welcome!

I would like to begin my first Milverton newsletter with a big THANK YOU to everyone for making me feel so welcome in my first week. I am doing my best to get to grips with the intricacies of the school day and trying to learn the names and faces of everyone associated with the school. I really appreciate the warm welcomes in the morning on the playground. If you have anything you wish to discuss regarding your child, please feel free to catch me on the playground or contact the school office to set up a more private appointment.

I feel privileged to become a part of the Milverton Community. This is a delightful school where children are enabled to develop as individuals into happy, confident learners. I am really looking forward to growing alongside the school and helping it to move forward while maintaining the key values and principles that make Milverton such a special place.

Welcome Meetings

The year will begin with a welcome meeting for parents to help understand the experiences their children will undertake this year. It is a chance to find out how you can best help at home and hopefully answer any questions you may have. Teachers look forward to meeting you and working with you to help your children progress.

There will be a crèche running in the computing suite for children and teas and coffees will be available in the hall.

Help a good cause

Sarah is raising money to help Macmillan Cancer Support by shaving off her hair! She would really appreciate your support and any donations you can spare. Good luck Sarah! Read Sarah's story:



<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Sarah-Simon4>

Diary Dates

Mon 12th September	YR Coffee Morning @ 9.00am
Tues 13th September	Year 1/2 Welcome Meeting @ 3.30pm
Weds 14th September	Year 3/4 Welcome Meeting @ 3.30pm
Thurs 15th September	Year 5/6 Welcome Meeting @ 3.30pm
Thurs 6th October	Harvest Assembly @ St Marks Church
Mon 10th October	YR Phonics Workshop @3.30pm
Mon 10th October	Y3/4 Compton Verney Trip - 3/4 F
Tues 11th October	Y3/4 Compton Verney Trip - 3/4 JN
Weds 12th October	Y3/4 Compton Verney Trip - 3/4 TH
Fri 21st October	School Closed Inset Day
Mon 24th Oct—Fri 28th Oct	Half Term
Mon 7th Nov	YR Numeracy Workshop @3.30pm
Tues 21st Nov	Learning Review Meetings
Thurs 23rd Nov	Learning Review Meetings
Tues 29th Nov	Y3,4,5,6 - Georges Marvellous Medicine @ new Alex Theatre
Tues 6th Dec	YR Christmas Play @ 2.00pm
Weds 7th Dec	YR , 1, 2 Stick Man @ Warwick Arts
Weds 14th Dec	YR Parent Craft Day
Thurs 15th Dec	Christmas Assembly @ St Marks Church
Fri 16th December	Last Day of Aut term

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT ALL YOUR CHILD(REN)'S CLOTHES ARE CLEARLY NAMED



Messages from Mrs Belmega



Your School Library Needs You!

We are hoping this year to continue increase the use of both the infant and junior libraries within school so are again looking for volunteers who may be able to stay for half an hour after school on a chosen day to act as librarians.

The role will involve keeping a record of books borrowed and ensuring they are returned before a new one is issued and generally tidying/organising the books on the shelves.

If you are able to help - please contact Mrs Belmega or Mrs Butterworth.

Mrs Belmega can be contacted on wood.d2@welearn365.com or through the school office.

School Photo Permission Forms

We will be asking new parents to sign our photo permission form. For parents who signed a form last year, we will continue to follow the preferences selected. Should you wish to check or alter these preferences, please contact the school office.

Class Assemblies Autumn Term

Children's classes will perform a short assembly about their current learning. Parents are welcome to attend to watch the performance.

Friday 14th October Class 5/6 JB

Friday 18th November Class 3/4 JN

Friday 2nd December Class 2 TB

Welcome from your Chair of Governors

Welcome to Milverton, all those of you who are new to the school, and welcome back to the new school year to everyone. A special welcome to Matt Fisher, our new headteacher, who is already getting to know the Milverton community.



I would like to introduce myself to those new to the school. I became chair of governors a year ago, after being chair of the Performance and Standards Committee for many years. I have been a governor at Milverton for over 20 years, first as a parent governor, and then as a co-opted governor after my younger daughter left the school. I have been able to bring my skills, knowledge and experience as a teacher, and secondary school deputy head before I retired two years ago, to help support and challenge the great team who create this wonderful school.

I have been privileged to see many children pass through Milverton, and grow up into the world, full of creativity and resilience, with a real eagerness to learn, and a strong sense of community. I have also been privileged to work with many parents, members of the community, and school staff, who give up their time to do the very valuable job of being school governors with commitment and enthusiasm.

I feel very proud to be a part of Milverton, and look forward to another successful and exciting year, under the leadership of Mr Fisher.

Catherine Robbins



Safeguarding Corner

Safeguarding and Child Protection at Milverton

All staff and volunteers in school are provided with information and training on safeguarding and child protection that is appropriate to their role.

This includes information on how to keep all children safe; how to encourage an environment where the safety of all children is promoted; and how to teach children to keep themselves safe. This is 'Safeguarding'.

Specific training and understanding about what to do and where to get help if a child is being abused, is at risk of being abused or where serious concerns about their wellbeing are raised is called 'Child Protection.'

There are 3 key members of staff in school who are named designated members of staff for Safeguarding and Child Protection. These are Mr Fisher (Headteacher), Mrs Nicol (Inclusion Leader) and Mrs Green (Assistant Inclusion Leader).

PTA Update

The PTA would like to invite all members and parents, including those who would like to join, to the group's AGM:

Thursday 6th October
3.30 in the Y5/6 area

Some really exciting ideas and activities have been discussed for the new year. The group will always need as many people as possible to 'share the load' with the organisation of these brilliant experiences for your children.

Please can you help?
Many Thanks

Term Dates 2016/17

Autumn term 2016

Mon 5th September Term Begins

Fri 21st October School Closed
Inset Day

Mon 24th - Fri 28th Oct Half Term

Fri 16th December Term Ends

Spring term 2017

Tues 3rd January School Closed
Inset Day

Wed 4th January Term Begins

Mon 20th - Fri 24th Feb Half Term

Mon 27th February School Closed
Inset Day

Fri 7th April Term Ends

Summer term 2016

Mon 24th April Term Begins

Mon 29th May - Fri 2nd June Half Term

Fri 21st July Term Ends

Harvest Festival Collection

The children will be celebrating Harvest Festival with a special service at St Mark's Church. We will be asking children to bring in:

- Long Life Fruit Juice
- Sugar (500g bags)
- Coffee
- Tinned Meat
- Instant Mashed Potato
- Sponge Puddings

As last year, **Warwick and Leamington Foodbank, the Salvation Army Way Ahead Project** and **Helping Hands** are jointly collecting to make sure your donations get to where they are most needed. Thank you for your continued support.



Would you like to be a Milverton governor?

We are looking for a new Local Authority (LA) governor. The LA has suggested we might like to look for the right person ourselves from within our school community. Despite the name, there is no political affiliation, or link to the LA required in this role; this is a great opportunity to join an active governing body, which works energetically to help make Milverton the best it can be.

If you would like to contribute to the impact and progress of the school by joining the governors, or if you have an interested friend, neighbour, family member or work colleague who would like to do so, please contact me through the school office, or via any governor you know. We would be happy to discuss what the job involves.

There is no election for the LA governor role, as there is for parent governors, but if you are interested, please write about 100 words, explaining why you would like to be a governor, and what skills and experience you have to bring to the governing body, and send this to me, via the school office. We look forward to hearing from you!

Catherine Robbins
Chair of Governors

A few gentle reminders...

The Bell goes at 8.55am

Please do make sure your child(ren) is/are on the playground before the bell rings for the beginning of school.

Bikes and Scooters

Any bikes and scooters should not be ridden on the school playgrounds during busy times at the beginning and end of the school day. Please do not leave them on site overnight.

Birthday Treats

A reminder: please do not send sweets or cakes into the classroom to mark birthdays or other occasions. Please keep these for celebrations/parties out of school.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Reminder for Parents

Leave Of Absence during Term Time

As you will all be aware, current attendance regulations stipulate a Head teacher may not grant a leave of absence during term-time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

It is for the Head teacher to decide what he views as 'exceptional' and it is at his discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. If the leave is granted, the head teacher is able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

The school can only consider leave of absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent (s), by way of a fixed penalty notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a fixed penalty notice being issued to the parent(s).

Where a fixed penalty notice is issued and not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Parents are asked to respect the new regulations under which the school must work and if there is a need to take a child out of school during term-time, an application or request must be made in advance, making clear how the circumstances are exceptional.



After School Clubs Autumn Term 2016 – Sept – Dec 2016.

Lunch	Day	After school
	Monday	Squash (Yrs 5 & 6) Tennis (Yrs 3, 4 and 5) Drama (Yrs 3 - 6)
<i>Spanish</i> (Yrs 1 - 3) <i>Fencing</i> (Juniors) TBC	Tuesday	Football (Yrs 1, 2 and 3) Tennis (Yrs 1 and 2)
<i>Fencing</i> (Juniors) TBC <i>Singing Lessons</i> (Yrs 2 – 6)	Wednesday	<i>Multi Sports</i> (Yrs R - 4) <i>Sewing Club</i> (Yrs 4, 5 and 6)
<i>Cheerleading</i> (Yrs 5 and 6)	Thursday	Football (Yrs 4, 5 and 6) <i>Dance</i> (Yrs 1 and 2)
<i>Chess</i> (Juniors)	Friday	Squash (Yrs 3 & 4) <i>Cookery</i> (Yrs 1 – 6) <i>Dance</i> (Yrs 3 - 6)

Letters for clubs

As the School year begins at a frantic pace we are aiming to have our club providers up and running as soon as possible. Although, as you can imagine, this is a tricky job in the first week. A huge thank you must go to Mrs Ryan who organises all the clubs and does a terrific job in ensuring everything runs smoothly!

Please ensure you check the starting week on your letter as unfortunately they are not all starting next week. We have put;

- **Clubs beginning this week in Bold type**
- *Clubs not starting yet in italics.*

This is the timetable as of today but this will be further developed in the coming weeks.

Club letters are starting to filter out this week. Please encourage your child to take one and bring them home. Letters can always be collected from the office.

Please note - Your child should not attend any clubs unless a reply slip has been completed and returned with payment.

Please let the school office/Mrs Ryan know if your child is unable to attend a club session at any time as valuable time is then spent locating your child as they will be classed as missing. Mrs Ryan can be contacted via email a-ryan14@welearn365 or in the school office after 2pm.

Many thanks for your continued support and understanding.



School Dress and Personal Property Code

There is no formal school uniform at Milverton, but we do expect all children who attend the school to wear clean, presentable and appropriate clothing and footwear.

Please ensure all clothes are clearly labelled with your child's name (this helps prevent them becoming lost or mislaid).

Milverton-branded sweatshirts, fleeces and polo shirts and other items are available from the PTA.

Class teachers monitor dress standards and the Headteacher has the final decision in taking appropriate action with children who have clothing or hairstyles which are inappropriate, offensive, dangerous or causing any other issue at school.

Please do not allow your children to come to school with:

- dangling earrings, bracelets, bangles or necklaces, which can be dangerous in PE or during playtime. Only discrete ear studs should be worn.
- open-toed sandals or loose footwear e.g. Crocs, which do not provide adequate protection and support during playtimes and whilst moving around the school environment.
- make up, nail varnish, excessive hair gel or lacquer except for on special planned days such as fancy dress themed days and events.
- any clothes with inappropriate or offensive logos.
- expensive watches, gadgets or toys. Any toys brought into school are the responsibility of the child for use at play times only. Any inappropriate behaviour linked to particular toys may result in the toys being banned from school.
- personal stereos, MP3 players, i-pods, hand held game devices and cameras.

Whilst hats, scarves and gloves are acceptable for outside use, they should not be worn inside school buildings during lesson time.

P.E. Kit

Children should always have in school the correct kit for P.E. lessons: white t-shirt, navy blue/black shorts and pumps/trainers. Tracksuits/sweatshirts are also needed for outside lessons during winter months.

Mobile phones

We discourage children having mobile phones on the school premises. However, in some cases we recognise that parents of older children who walk to school on their own may wish for their child to carry a mobile phone. In these cases parents should complete a mobile phone consent form (available from the school office). Phones must remain switched off at all times and they must never be used on the premises (whether for phoning, texting, taking photos, playing of games, apps or other functions) except with permission from a member of the teaching staff. Breaching this code will result in the removal of this provision.

We ask all parents, carers and children to respect this code. It is important that the standard of dress and use of personal property reflects the pride we all feel in our school.