

# Millbrook Newsletter



Issue 8 – 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

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Dear Parents,

Welcome back to our first newsletter of 2024. Last term was very long, and the children and staff deserved a restful break. I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and New Year.

At the beginning of the year, we set out all our expectations including school uniform. Mostly standards are very high but there are a small number of children who do not have the correct uniform. All children should have a shirt, tie, and red jumper / cardigan. This is compulsory and not optional. PE kit consists of a red polo shirt and plain black sports trousers or leggings. Colours and patterns are not acceptable.

Good uniform standards are vital to good behaviour and learning in school. They also make every child look equal and not stand out. All children should have black shoes, trainers (and PE kits) are only permitted on PE days. Year 6 children in particular should have black shoes until they finish in July as all secondary schools have clear expectations for uniform and they will not permit children to come into school in less than a full uniform. Good uniform standards in primary schools prepares them for secondary school. Jewellery is not permitted.

Thank you to all parents who support us. This is what makes a good school.

JMMaloney

## Child of the Week (last of 2023)

**Blossom** – Amaya & Lee

**Elm** – Harvey

**Pine** – Ella- Rose

**Cedar** – All of Cedar and Lucy

**Willow** – Ethan & Barney

**Cherry** – Oliver & All of Cherry

**Maple** – Bella Alves

**Holly** – Faith

**Hazel** – Whole of Hazel

**Chestnut** – James

**Sycamore** – All of year 6 & Lucas

**Mrs Williams** – Anthony

**Mrs Chambers** – Whole of Chestnut

## Happy Birthday

Happy birthday to the following pupils who celebrate their birthdays between 12<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> January.

Blossom - Esmae

Elm - Miguel & Dylan

Pine - Abbie, Ben & Carter

Willow - Jaxon

Cherry - Scarlett

Hazel - Dylan

Chestnut - Hannah



## Future of Millbrook School

As you are all aware, Millbrook Primary School is growing rapidly, and pupil numbers have risen because of our 'bulge' year (now in Year 1). There are plans for us to expand further so the school can accommodate a rise in the pupil admission number from 40 per year to 45. We already have a modular classroom in Key Stage 1 which Cherry are placed in so we can accommodate five classes in the infants (from Reception to Year 2). A further rise in numbers means we will move to six classes in the juniors rather than the current five. Works are starting in the Easter holidays of this year that affect both Rainbow Childcare and Millbrook School to ensure we are ready for the increase of numbers for September 2025. This will cause internal disruption with the loss of space and offices however most major works will be complete by September 2024 so internal decoration can take place the following year. Both Mrs Williams (DHT) and Mrs Maloney (HT) will have relocated offices for September 2024. This is an exciting time for Millbrook School, and we are sure you will all be patient with us as we plan for some major upheaval.

## Welcome

We welcome Mr Anderson to Elm class this term who is covering maternity leave for Mrs Browne. Mrs Caruana has also started maternity leave this week and we wish both teachers well as they prepare for their new births.

## Dates for diaries

Mon 15<sup>th</sup> Jan – Year 1 Road Safety Sessions, Holly Class at KHS – Personal Development

Tues 16<sup>th</sup> Jan – Year 1 Maths Workshop Ann Curley – 2:00pm

Wed 17<sup>th</sup> Jan – KHS MFL Gifted & Talented Y5

Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> Jan – Chinese New Year lunch, Y3

Maple – CLC T-Shirt Designer

Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan - Holly Class at KHS – Personal Development, Knowsley Safari Winter Road Show Key Stage 1

Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> Jan- CLC Y6 – Crossy Roads

Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Jan - Holly Class at KHS – Personal Development

Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> Feb- KS2 Music Day – Turn back the time – 1940's to 1980's.

## Attendance

Our overall attendance for this school year (up until 22nd December) is 93.7%. During the last week of the Autumn term, Chestnut was our highest attendance class. They also had the best attendance for the Autumn term. Our 100% attendance £10 Amazon vouchers were won by: Evie (EYFS), Sophia (KS1) Sophia (KS2). Well done to these children.

## School Term Dates 23-24

### Spring term 2024

**Pupils return** Thu 4<sup>th</sup> January.

Half term Mon 12<sup>th</sup> –Frid 16<sup>th</sup> Feb

**Pupils return:** Mon 19<sup>th</sup> February.

Term ends: Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> March

### Summer term 2024

**Pupils return** Mon 15<sup>th</sup> April.

May Day Mon 6<sup>th</sup> May

Half term Mon 27<sup>th</sup> May– Tues 4<sup>th</sup> June

**Pupils return** Wed 5<sup>th</sup> June.

Term ends: Frid 19<sup>th</sup> July

## Reading

Recently, staff have been looking at reading throughout our school. Our aim is to ensure all children are fluent readers by the time they leave Year 6. Fluency is not just about reading every word in the book; it is also about understanding what the vocabulary means and making predictions about what will happen next. Using inference i.e., 'how can you tell he is afraid? (character is trembling, looking around etc) is also a reading skill as well as finding information from the text. Parents can help at home by reading to and with their child. The more a child reads, the easier the whole curriculum is.