



Milton Abbot Primary School – Every Child Achieving
17/11/2023

**Whole School
Attendance**

95.8%

Dear families,

Thank you for another successful start to another term! It has been wonderful to see and hear the response to our mornings up on the MUGA and to hear people talking about music lessons, classroom experiences, cross country races and all the exciting things we have going on. I'm delighted to say that we have even more coming up! We have our carol service and Christmas Fair on the 7th of December, which will take place after school. We certainly hope that you can all join us for that and would like to extend the invitation to extended family, friends and the community too. Additionally, we have visits planned to Waitrose in Okehampton, to sing carols; Abbeyfield Residential Home, to share some Christmas spirit and a range of visitors joining us in the coming weeks, from the Fire Service, National Marine Aquarium, and online seminars about how we can protect our planet.

I would especially love to mention the excellent efforts of children at the Castle Drogo cross country race - particularly the boys, who came second in the small school category! Well done boys. Our Year 3 and 4 runners make our future for cross country look intriguingly .. shiny (I'm expecting lots of medals in the next few years)!

We will keep endeavouring to expand the horizons and experiences of the children at Milton Abbot by reaching out to experts in our community as often as possible and booking as many trips as we can. It is worth remembering that these trips do rely on your donations. We were disappointed to have had to have cancelled the trip to Plymouth Synagogue: a trip that would've been both valuable and enjoyable. It was a trip that the school still had to partially pay for. While I respect people's reservations about the situation in Gaza, if we had known that people did not intend to pay for the trip, we could have cancelled it in time to avoid any charge. We will continue to work hard to keep communication between home and school open with all our families and welcome your contributions to ensure the best for our children.

We are also busy getting ready for Tavistock Tree Festival - we will be decorating a tree (paid for by HOOT) in a style of 'Then and Now', reflecting the amazing heritage and history of our building and school. We would love to invite you to come and see our tree (as well as all the other trees at Tavistock Tree Festival), from the 1st of December at **St Eustachius' Church** in Tavistock. The children's decorations will be on display as well as the efforts of staff to make the tree look pretty!

Finally, I am looking for some volunteers to come and help with a few jobs that need doing around the school. My plan is to take a few hours one weekend, where jobs such as clearing guttering, pruning back plants, cutting grass and helping to sort our drainage issue on the main gate at the top of the to-do list. If you would be happy to help (I'll bring coffee, cakes and possibly even something for lunch) then please pass your names to me on the gate, or Mrs Jinman so that we can start the process of trying to pick a date, either the 26th of November, the 3rd December or the 10th of December from around 9am. If you can only manage an hour, then that is fine too - I'm sure my children will be hanging around as well, so feel free to bring the family!

I hope you have a good weekend,

Tom Lumby



Thank you for your donations!

As it stands we have raised £79 for Children in need!



Learners of the week

Abbie, Edith, Roamer, Ruben and Coen

Reading Raffle – Willoughby

Hawk Owls News

What an amazing week we had in Hawk Owls.

We have been learning about forces and how to measure them. We have learnt about how they affect our daily lives.

We have used our oracy skills to interview one another and be reporters. Now we can start to write our drafts for our newspaper article about Pompeii.

Thank you very much for helping with baking our Pompeii's sculptures, we can't wait to show you our 3D display.

We will make more sculptures remains in clay next week.



Owlets News

Dear Owlet families,

I hope this message finds you well. Over the past two weeks, our Owlets have delved into the theme of celebrations. We explored Remembrance and Diwali, learning about soldiers and the symbolism of poppies. The children enthusiastically crafted their own poppies, creating badges and decorating them. For Diwali, we looked at the celebration, and the children drew connections to similar festivities they've experienced. They thoroughly enjoyed crafting Rangoli patterns using coloured rice.

This week's highlight in Owlets was the presence of diggers on-site. The children were captivated watching them at work, eagerly asking questions and learning more. We had a delightful digger day filled with fun activities—creating digger images, playing with our diggers in class, and writing about them. I was immensely proud of how well the children applied their phonics knowledge to write words and captions.

In mathematics, the children explored shapes, becoming adept at describing the properties of triangles and circles. They applied this knowledge during play, creating images with various shapes and identifying shapes in their surroundings.

I'm sure you'll agree that Owlets have been thriving in the mornings and have embraced our new PE sessions remarkably well. It's heartening to witness their collaboration with older children and the joy they experience. We hope the weather continues to favour us so we can make the most of this fantastic opportunity.

Our outdoor area has been a hub of activity, with the children enjoying a very muddy mud kitchen. They're now proficient at independently putting on their all-in-ones and wellies, creating delicious mud pies adorned with autumn leaves.

As a final note, I'd like to seek your help. I aspire to enhance our outdoor space, creating a beautiful and engaging area for the children to play and explore. Any support you could offer in achieving this would be greatly appreciated. Details regarding dates and times for a working party will be shared soon.

Best regards,
Mrs Collacott and Owlets team.



Snowy Owls News

What a busy few weeks in Snowy Owls!

In Science, we have all been meteorologists! We have been learning about the seasons and how they affect the weather. We have been watching the weather and recording what each day is like. Children had a go at being weather reporters and we will be making our rain gauges next week!

We have been exploring addition and subtraction in Maths and have been using a wide range of resources to help us deepen our understanding. Keep practising addition and subtraction on Numbots and the White Rose 1 Minute app!

In Geography, we have continued to explore where we live. Children have drawn maps and explored all of the features of our village. Children even drew their own 'birds eye view' map of their bedrooms. It would be great if you could talk to children about the village/hamlet or town that they live in and explore the different features they have.

We have been finishing off our writing based about the book Iggy Peck Architect. Children have created their own guides of London and written about the best landmarks and structures to visit. Children have even had a go at being an architect and built their own structures using a range of materials.

Finally, we have started mentioning Christmas!! We are busy practising our songs and making our decorations for the Christmas Fayre.

Please remember to logon and read your ebooks on the Oxford Owl online library. Your new book is released each Wednesday.

Spellings continue to be tested on a Monday, with your new spellings coming home the same day. If you have any questions about reading or spelling - please get in touch with Mrs Baldwin.

Many Thanks,

Mrs Baldwin and Miss Caulfield



Eagle Owls News

Dear families,

These past few weeks in Eagle Owls have been full of excellent literature! We have been enjoying our new class book - 'Cogheart' by Peter Bunzl, a steampunk adventure about a young lady called Lily, a mechanical fox called Malkin and mysterious forces that will sweep them from adventure to adventure. We have had the opportunity to delve into this book, focussing on the craft of the author, how they build suspense and how they use words and phrases to manipulate the feelings of the reader to make the book more effective. Below are some examples of our work on characterisation. We have been looking at all the elements of these key characters and how we know what we know about them, realising that some understanding comes from just one well-chosen word!

We have also been learning about the journey of some brave pioneers on the 'Windrush Empire' through the book 'Windrush Child' by Benjamin Zephaniah. Eagle Owls have been shocked by the way that the people who were invited from across the British Empire have been treated and we are starting to think about how they would have felt and next week we will start writing to persuade authorities to erect a monument to those brave people who made that journey for the good of Britain after the Second World War.

In maths, we have finished battling with long division and multiplication (for now) and are about to embark on learning more about fractions. Children have been working hard on their Times Tables Rockstars scores to improve their mental arithmetic after being given a fantastic wakeup call by a member of Hawk Owls. Don't let it be said that we aren't a little competitive! In other subjects, we continue to study the importance of scores to the meaning and feeling of a film, making pop-up books, learning how to effectively use search engines on the internet, designing Christmas tree decorations and, of course, leaning about the population of the world in Geography.



TEMPEST PHOTOGRAPHY

Tempest will be with us on **Wednesday 22nd November** for individual portraits. If you would like your child to have their photo taken with their siblings please arrive at 08:30am – a member of staff will accompany you to the school hall.

Clubs

Monday	Tennis
Tuesday	Basketball
Wednesday	Lego Immersion club – pre-paid only
Thursday	Multi Skills with Coach Chris
Friday	Running with Coach Chris

*Your child must be booked into after-school clubs via School Gateway in order to take part

Diary Dates

November

Mon 20 th	Road Safety Week
Weds 22nd	Tempest portraits, siblings welcome from 8.30
Weds 22nd	Parliament visit - Eagle Owls

December

Fri 1 st	Tavistock Tree Festival opening day
Fri 1 st	National Marine Aquarium visiting Eagle Owls and whole school assembly
Thurs 7th	Carol Service and Christmas Fair
Tues 12 th	Fire Service visiting Snowy Owls and Eagle Owls
Wed 13 th	Whole School Panto trip
Fri 15 th	Christmas Lunch – last day of term!





Did you know that we're registered with *easyfundraising* and you could help us to raise funds for the school PTFA for FREE?

By using *easyfundraising* (which is free), when you shop online you will raise FREE donations for Milton Abbot PTFA. Did we mention it was Free money to the PTFA!?!

Over 7,500 brands, including Amazon, eBay, and Notonthehighstreet, and everything ranging from booking.com to Screwfix, are registered to donate via *easyfundraising*.

If you're not already signed up, it only takes a few minutes, then you can begin using the *easyfundraising* website or app straightaway:

1. Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk , scan this QR code, or download the app to get started.



Help us make a difference when you shop.
Visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk



2. Search and link with **Milton Abbot PTFA**
3. Once you have signed up, just remember to go through the *easyfundraising* app or website whenever you want to shop online. You can even set up a donation reminder on your device so that *easyfundraising* reminds you if you want to donate whenever you're online shopping.

With Christmas just around the corner, this is the perfect time for us to get donations.

Thank you for your support!
(Any questions please contact Helen / PTFA)

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