



Milton Abbot Primary School

Whole School Attendance

96.2%

Dear families and carers,

Thank you for another wonderful few weeks. I would like to express my gratitude to you for helping to keep our attendance figures high and for the punctuality you've shown over the last two weeks, despite the cold and frost.

Please note a range of dates added to our calendar, including parents evenings, cross country races, parent workshops, a PTFA sponsored disco and a book and biscuit morning. As always, if you have any questions, please do catch me on the gate.

Thank you for your continued support,

Tom Lumby and the Milton Abbot Team



Learners of the week & Reading Raffle

Willoughby, Freyja, Harrison, Jacob, Ronni, Rose, William, Elodie, Bethany & Phoebe



Learners of the week & Reading Raffle

Jacob, Ava, Freya, Masha, Bea, Harry & Thea

PE

| | |
|----------|--------------------------|
| Thursday | Eagle Owls and Hawk Owls |
| Friday | Snowy Owls and Owlets |

Clubs

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Monday | Gymnastics with Coach Darragh |
| Tuesday | Sports Club with Coach Mike |
| Wednesday | Lego Club (Please contact Mrs Jinman for sign up letter, a separate fee applies). |
| Thursday | Sports Club with Coach Craig |
| Friday | Running club with Miss Jonas |

Clubs

Miss Jonas has very kindly agreed to hold a running club every Friday. This club is an enrichment club which means children must be able or willing to participate else they will not be able to attend. This club may not be wholly suitable for younger children. We apologise for any inconvenience, but we must be able to ensure the safety of all children who attend the club.

Diary Dates

January

| | |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Mon 29 th | Phonics parent's workshop |
|----------------------|---------------------------|

February

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Fri 2 nd | Book and Biscuit AM |
| Tues 6 th | Parents Evening for all classes |
| Weds 7 th | OCRA cross country 4-5pm Abbeyford Woods, Okehampton |
| Thurs 8 th | Parents Evening (No Eagle Owls slots) |
| Fri 9 th | HOOT Valentine's Disco |
| Sun 11 th | Community Working Party |
| Mon 12 th | Half term |
| Mon 19 th | Back to school |
| Tues 20 th | Parents Vision Forum PM |
| Mon 26 th | Key Stage 1 Multi Skills Event at St Joseph's, Launceston. |
| Tues 27 th | Maths parent's workshop |

March

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Mon 4 th | OCRA cross country 4-5pm Simmons Park |
| Tues 5 th | Reading parent's workshop |
| Mon 11 th | Drum Workshop, Lydford Primary School |
| Tues 12 th | Phonics parent's workshop |
| Weds 27 th | OCRA cross country Chagford Cricket Club |

Coming Up

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 3 rd June – 5 th June | Year 5 Residential, Bristol |
| 10 th June – 15 th June | Year 6 French Trip |
| 20 th & 21 st June | Years 3 and 4 residential |

Owlets News



Dear Owlets Parents,

Winter has unmistakably settled in, and our little ones at Owlets have fully embraced the magic of the cold season! This week has been filled with exciting exploring!

This week, our focus centred on the wonders of winter, with the children exploring ice, learning about how animals stay warm in winter, and understanding concepts like hibernation, migration, and insulation and have been pretending to be penguins in a huddle.

To our delight, the weather played along, surprising us with a blanket of snow! The children couldn't contain their excitement as they built snowmen, made snow angels, and danced merrily in the snow. It was a joyous occasion

that added a touch of wonder to our winter exploration.

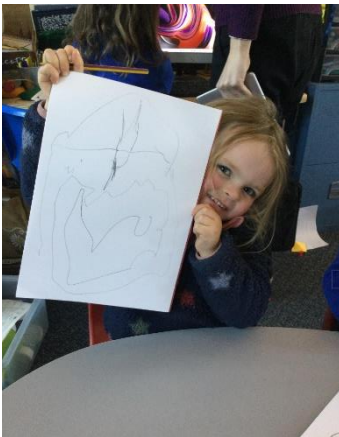
This week, we had a special visitor – a friendly police officer! The children had the opportunity to ask questions about his role, and they even got to try on his hat, coat, and handcuffs. It was a fascinating experience that broadened their understanding of community helpers.

In maths, the children have been hard at work exploring the composition of the number 5 and learning about the part-whole model. We're very proud of the progress our little learners are making. In phonics, the children have begun learning set 1 special friends and recognising these in their green words. They are brilliant at spotting these and showing off their reading to other adults in the school. In our drawing club, the children are immersed in the book "Lost and Found." They have created and designed magnificent boats for the penguin and boy and have written their magic codes to go along side.

All of the Owlets children would like to say a big thank you to our PTFA who have brought us an eco-build a world. This has allowed the children's imaginations to flourish as they build and design different worlds in their small world area.

I hope you have a wonderful and safe weekend. Stay warm and cozy!

Warm regards, The Owlets Team



Snowy Owls News

WOW! What a busy start to the Spring term for Snowy Owls!

We launched straight into our new writing unit, based around the book *Send for a Superhero*. Children have been creative with their ideas on how to catch Filth and Vacuum - the two baddies in the story! We are having a big focus on presentation and handwriting this term and all children will be having a daily handwriting session.

In Maths, Year 2 have been focusing on money and combining it to make different amounts and will be working towards creating a play shop at the end of the unit. Year 1 have been focusing on the teen number and exploring how these numbers are made. This place value knowledge is essential for their learning across maths.



We had a special visit for Kylie this week, who is a teacher of the deaf. She came in to show us how our ears work and how we hear. Children carried out different investigations to look at volume, pitch and sound waves. We even learnt some sign language to help to communicate with anyone who finds hearing tricky. This all links with our new Science topic - sound. All children listened carefully, took part in the experiment and could recall interesting facts afterwards! Well done!

Spelling books have been working well and it's great to see so many children practising their spellings and scoring great in their test. Please make sure that your spelling book is in school on a Monday, otherwise we won't be able to record your score for you.

Finally, we are looking forward to continuing our learning in History - all about London through time. Children used drama this week to act out the invasion of the Romans through to the Vikings!

Keep up all your hard work Snowy Owls!

Mrs Baldwin and Miss Caulfield



Hawk Owls News

This term in Hawk Owls we are learning about sound. In the last couple of weeks, we have started learning how to play the recorder and this week we have started making guitars out of recycling materials during our science lesson and can't wait to show them to you. We have now finished our biographies about Luca an Italian immigrant, and we will copy them in best to put them on our literacy display. We have enjoyed this lovingly crafted picture book... an inspirational introduction to the immigration story that captures the humanity of his life journey.

Thank you to all the parents for encouraging your children to read with you!

We have started coding with the Scratch program in computing and Hawk Owls are really excited about creating their own "sprite" and animated environment.

Mrs Manta and Mrs Sherring



**Top Tips for...
MANAGING SCREEN TIME**

According to the latest stats, people aged between 8 and 17 spend four hours on digital devices during an average day. Obviously, a new year is ideal for fresh starts and renewed efforts – so lots of families are trying to cut down their combined screen time right now, creating more moments to connect with each other and relying less on gadgets to have fun. Our top tips on reducing screen time are for everyone, so you can get your whole family involved in turning over a new leaf this year!

GET OUT AND ABOUT
If the weather's decent, spend some time in the garden or go for a walk. Keep in mind the local shops would do the main thing in getting some fresh air or a break from your screen.

TRY A TIMED TRIAL
When you're taking a screen break, do a one-hour challenge or a 30-minute limit. It's a good idea to try setting yourself a timer. Can you turn your phone back on when the alarm goes off?

GO DIGITAL DETOX
Challenge yourself and your family to take time off from screens. Finding other things to do. You could start off with half a day, then build up to a full day or even an entire weekend.

LEAD BY EXAMPLE
Let your family see you successfully managing your own screen time. You'll be showing them the way, and it might stop some of those problems when you do want to go online.

AGREE TECH-FREE ZONES
Nominating some spots at home where devices aren't allowed. Bedrooms and family rooms are good places to try. Bathrooms, the living room, could be a no-phone zone.

HOLD A SCREEN TIME AMNESTY
As a family, agree specific times when all the tech goes away. This should be everyone to follow. No phones or gaming with enjoying quality moments together.

BE MINDFUL OF TIME
Play aware of how long you've been on your device for. Controlling how much time you spend is particularly a great use of the internet – like social media platforms – can slow down your scrolling.

PARK PHONES OVERNIGHT
Set up an overnight charging station for everyone's devices to prevent any temptation from bedrooms. That means less temptation for late-night scrolling.

SWITCH ON DND
Research shows that more distractions like message alerts and push notifications can chip away at your concentration levels. Put devices on 'do not disturb' and you'll be back to work.

TAKE A FAMILY TECH BREAK
Set aside certain times when the whole family puts their phones away and enjoy each other together. Enjoying a board game, going for a walk or just having a chat.

SOCIALISE WITHOUT SCREENS
When you're with friends, try not to automatically involve phones. It's all about having fun and quality can be loads more fun if your attention isn't being split.

WIND DOWN PROPERLY
Try staying off phones, consoles, tablets and so on just before you go to sleep. Reading or just getting comfy in bed for a while can give you a much more restful night.

Meet Our Expert
Mrs. Sarah Jones, Assistant Head, is the lead specialist for digital and cyber safety at The National College. She is a member of the National Online Safety (NOS) advisory board and has been instrumental in the development of the National Online Safety (NOS) curriculum. She is also a member of the National Online Safety (NOS) advisory board and has been instrumental in the development of the National Online Safety (NOS) curriculum.

DEVICE BOX

The National College

National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Twitter: @nationalonline_safety
Facebook: /NationalOnlineSafety
Instagram: @nationalonline_safety
TikTok: @national_online_safety

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Eagle Owls News

We've had a very busy two weeks in Eagles this fortnight. Firstly, all the year 6s have completed a mock SATs paper. I'm happy to share the outcomes of these with you, should you wish, but suffice to say, the children have done very well, especially in reading. For this point in the year, they should be feeling very proud of where they are: certainly, Mr Hill and I are feeling good about the results!

The children have also been working very hard on their installation artwork - scaled down a little. Please see the attached photos for proof of their amazing work!

One very exciting thing we had this week was a visit from Sargeant Gavin Jordan, of Devon and Cornwall Police. Sgt Jordan (husband to Mrs Jordan) helped us explore the process of working a crime scene to help us think about what happens and how it relates to our work in our English text - High Rise Mystery. Unfortunately, one of our class members did get a little bit murdered, but soon got better! However, with the detective skills and guidance of a real-life detective and a slightly overwhelmed and intimidated suspect... (they were an amazing sport) we got our guy. Special shout out to Officer Amy and Officer Ronni for their brutal interrogation of their classmate.

Please can I remind you of a few places you can go to help your child:

- Times Tables Rockstars (please request new logins if you need them) should be accessed daily, even if it is for a few minutes.
- Or 1 minute maths app (free app full of 1-minute-long quizzes)
- Defenders of Mathematica (free BBC bitesize game that is excellent for maths revision)
- Crystal Explorers (free BBC bitesize game that is excellent for grammar revision)
- Finally, please read as often as they can! Any text is fine - a variety is even better.

Thank you for your continued support, Eagle Owls





Volunteers needed!

Milton Abbot Primary School

Community Working Party

Sunday 11th February 9am – 12pm

Please help us tidy our woodland:

- **Clearing timber**
- **Disposing of old equipment**
- **Raking/distributing mulch and gravel**
- **Clearing gutters and drains**



Refreshments will be available, for more information
contact:

Mrs Jinman admin@miltonabbot.devon.sch.uk



MOUNT KELLY PREP SCHOOL

MOUNT
KELLY

SATURDAY MORNING CENTRE

Mount Kelly Prep School
Tavistock, Devon, PL19 5JL (top pitch, large car park)
Every Saturday Indoors or Outdoors
(Excluding bank holiday weekends)
4-11 Years
9am-10am



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