

Milton Abbot Primary School



Newsletter 1st April 2021 Spring 2, Issue 1

www.miltonabbot.devon.sch.uk

Dear Parents and Guardians,

May I begin by thanking everyone who was able to enter our Easter Hamper Raffle, your support is always much appreciated. We have done our best to continue to offer whole school community events, such as our World Book Day and Comic Relief, but we are looking forward to the time when we can return to these in earnest. Currently, we do not know if or how our usual Summer term events will go ahead, but we are hopeful that we will be able to offer a version of sports day, summer fair, performance, graduation, etc., because we know how much the children enjoy these special times and the memories they can create. My best wishes to you all, better never stops, Mr Luxford.

School dinners Survey: We are currently reviewing how we can increase the number of paid school meals per day. To help us with this review, we would really appreciate two minutes of your time, especially if your child is in Key Stage 2, to complete our survey via this link:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ZDF8WI/7>.

The classrooms are alive with the sound of MUSIC! We know that music is more than just a curriculum subject. It can inspire and uplift in a special and unique way; it can also bring a sense of community and togetherness as you move from verse to chorus, giving it all you've got. This term, music lessons in class have been wonderful to see and hear, with Barn Owls learning to play the glockenspiel or xylophone; Tawny Owls learning to play on the steel drums whilst developing their reggae style, whilst Eagle Owls have been enjoying rap music accompanied by keyboards and some groovy hand moves from Mr Walkerdine.

Safeguarding: Everyone has a duty to safeguard children and protect them from harm. Please visit our school website for advice on a wide range of safeguarding issues. The details of the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub can be found below.

Parent survey: We sent a link via Class Dojo to parents completing remote learning with their children inviting feedback on your experience so far. Thank you to all those who have been able to send back their views. We will keep this survey open during half-term and publish results upon our return. We also asked the children who are attending school to complete a Pupil Voice survey.

Talking Learning podcast: The second episode of our 'Talking Learning' podcast is in the can (or the micro SD card), now with added cheesy theme tunes. This is now available on our website, on its dedicated page: [Talking Learning Podcasts - Milton Abbot Primary School](#). We value this as a great opportunity for pupils to express themselves but it will never replace the way we talk to our children all the time to find out how their learning is going and what we could do to make school even better.



Online safety: There has obviously been great reliance on the internet during this period of restricted attendance. As part of our Relationships and Health Education, as well as our Computing lessons, we teach the children ways of staying safe online. A key resource for this is the 'thinkuknow' materials, which are created for different age groups and can be accessed via this link: [Parents homepage \(thinkuknow.co.uk\)](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk). At school, we suggest to the children that the internet is like the beach – it can be a great place to explore and play but you have to be aware of certain dangers and respect the safety rules. The Government have released this document this week:

www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-keeping-children-safe-online/coronavirus-covid-19-support-for-parents-and-carers-to-keep-children-safe-online

Screen-free days: as a teaching team we have been mindful of the amount of screen time your child will be experiencing through remote learning and are considering how we can include more 'screen-free' days as part of a balanced curriculum.

Our School Website: Just a reminder that we are updating our school website all the time and our Covid-19 information page has lots of links including to 'Emotional support and wellbeing' advice and activities via this link: [Remote Learning - Milton Abbot Primary School](#)

Emotional support and wellbeing

We know that restricted school attendance will present numerous challenges and will require new routines and high levels of resilience at times. We will be providing daily opportunities for you and your child to interact with school and access support. However, please contact the school if you need support - even if you just need someone talk to or listen to you. Call us.

In our Remote Learning Launch assembly, Mr Luxford described how the children can **H.E.L.P** at home, meaning:

H is for being helpful at home

E is for exercising daily, even in short bursts

L is for learning, get a little bit better each day

P is for remaining positive!

We hope the advice sheets below are helpful:



Social media: You can follow Mr Luxford on Twitter via [@AbbotHead](#) for a Head's Eye view of the world. If I get to 30 followers I pledge £50 to CLIC Sergent. Or you can follow Milton Abbot on Facebook [@miltonabbotschoolandpreschool](#). Thank you.

If you are concerned that a child is being abused please call

0345 155 1071

or email mashsecure@devon.gov.uk.

Professionals should complete the [MASH contact form](#).

If it's an **emergency** call [999](#)