

Milton Abbot Primary School



Newsletter 22nd July 2021 Summer 2, Issue 2

www.miltonabbot.devon.sch.uk

Dear Parents and Guardians,



Well, we knew the summer holidays must be getting close when we started to see the above signs going up but I don't think any of us quite imagined so many all at once! I forgot at the end of each day and grumbled as I had to double back on myself! Thank you for all your efforts getting your children to school! Indeed, despite everything our attendance levels have remained in line with our target of 97% plus, which is extremely pleasing considering all we've contended with this year. May I thank all of our children for their endeavours this year, we are looking forward to Ofsted returning in the Autumn term and feel we have a lot to be proud of. We are also looking forward to a lot more of our usual curriculum events and visits/visitors being restored, but shall continue to be sensible and mindful in terms of our Covid Care procedures. Whatever happens, it's sure to be an interesting, engaging and exciting academic year at this little school I love, so rest up everyone, get some relaxing in over August if you can, and see you all back here on **Tuesday 7th September**. Better never stops - best wishes, Mr. Luxford.



September Return: Currently, as things stand, we will be saying goodbye to 'bubbles' and the children will begin to transition back to sharing the hall for assemblies and the playground, etc., which we are all looking forward to. We will gradually adapt back to previous drop off and collection times, but for September we will continue with the drop off/collection via the car park, with parents remaining in their cars. The plan is to take stock of the landscape before reverting back to parents bringing children to the classroom door - if we can remember what we used to do! Thank you all for your patience with this system, I know it has its frustrations but we always try and keep it moving. Please take note of our timings and avoid queuing too early:

- **Start of day entry 08:40** for an **08:50 register** - this is a legal requirement; your child will be marked as 'late' if they arrive after this. They will be marked as absent after 09:20. Mrs. Jones will phone regarding absence from 09:30.
- **End of the day collection is at 15:20** (the pre-school children are collected earlier due to their young age).

We will send a letter out in September confirming moving back to the previous systems.



Uniform reminder: We always enjoy a fresh start in September and we will be putting a fresh impetus on school uniform. Please can you support with this at home because we will be nagging our end, as we want our children to wear their uniform with pride. Ideally your child will wear a blue jumper or cardigan with the school logo on, grey or black trousers and a white polo shirt. Socks can be daring but school shoes should be shoes not trainers. It is sensible to bring in trainers for play times, especially for football on the MUGA. Please ensure everything is named so we can return found items of clothing. However, there is always a good source of decent quality second hand uniform so please do get in touch if you would be interested in this.

Jewelry: we ask that children do not wear jewelry other than a watch.

Hair: we have previously been advised that long hair should be worn back in a pony-tail or something similar and we would appreciate your support with this.

PE kits: The correct PE kit is a blue t-shirt with the school logo, black shorts and trainers or plimsols. For the colder weather, a hoodie is a good idea, a darker colour would be ideal. If your child forgets their kit or does not have the correct kit then we will lend them a school one and send a Class Dojo note home - this communication with home is designed to ensure the kit is not lost in school and your child doesn't realise - quite often they blame you!!

Spirit of Adventure at Milton Abbot School! We were very lucky with the weather again this year, as we were able to return to our summer adventures. Our Year 6 Eagle Owls enjoyed a week long residential at Heatree Activity Centre, enjoying a number of high, low and everything in between pursuits. Apparently they slept really well, which is always a bonus for Mr. Walkerdine. Thank you to him and our trainee Lorna-Rose for leading this adventure.



Whilst Year 6 were away, Year 5 also enjoyed a number of adventures including kayaking, horse-riding, mountain biking and climbing. They threw themselves into everything and worked extremely well as a team, though I'd expect nothing less.



Little Owls and Barn Owls also got adventurous...



Little Owls had an exciting pirate and sea day...



Barn Owls turned their hand to fencing...on guard!

Thank you to the teaching teams for always going that extra mile for our brilliant children...

Sports Day: It was a sweltering morning for Sports Day, and good to welcome those of you who were able to attend. The attitude from the competitors was fantastic and it made the teachers proud to see their sporting endeavours to get to the finishing line. It has been great to see many of the children wear their 'Endeavour' badges with pride this week. We dearly hope that we can return to shared sports day next summer (including the parent races!), as well as all the sporting competitions, festivals and tournaments that we love to take part in.



Curriculum Enrichment: As part of their Design & Technology learning, the Barn Owls learnt how to design their own pizza. They had to think about their ingredients, as well as consider food hygiene. Then they brought their 2D designs into 3D life by cooking their own delicious pizzas! Thank you to Mr Baldwin for bringing in the family pizza oven and thank you to Mrs Baldwin for bringing learning to life...though I must say I wouldn't recommend delivery as I've been waiting over three days for my Chocolate Pizza order to be delivered...



Art Enrichment: We love art and the power it has to allow our pupils to feel free to create and build their imaginations. Each summer we visit a different Dartmoor landmark to use our pen and ink skills to complete our own drawings. We hope the children will see their progress each year. Thank you to the children for taking their art so seriously, they kept their focus for an extraordinary amount of time to really capture the church...



Tesco Voting: Please support our Little Owls team with their current place on the Tesco funds. Put a token in the pot and we might win! Anything we receive will be put towards exciting resources for our Early learners as they make the best start possible in our dedicated Foundation Class...



Finally...good luck to Miss Pawlik...we hope the next time you see Miss Pawlik in school she will be Mrs Court! Good luck with the wedding, we hope the predicted snow (so rare in August) passes through before your big day, as well as the ban on white dresses in public spaces...seriously, have a truly memorable day with Robbie and Maya and all the other family you are allowed, from all the pupils and staff of Milton Abbot School...



The dress is nearly ready...

Safeguarding and Equality: The Governing Body will be holding a planned review of how Milton Abbot School applies the Equality Act (2010) and where we could develop further, as part of their ongoing cycle of monitoring. You can find out more about the Equality Act 2010 via:

[Equality Act Advice Final.pdf \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/424222/Equality_Act_Advice_Final.pdf). At Milton Abbot School we say 'Yes to equality and diversity' and 'No to prejudice and hate'. We want every child to be proud of who they are and able to speak up, speak out and speak clearly.

Online safety: Everyone has a duty to protect our children and safeguard them from harm. If your child has experienced any online abuse or unexpected content please inform the school office, we have a duty to report this to our school Governors and to the local e-safety team. At school we remind children regularly of the rules for staying happy and safe online.

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**