

# Millhouse News

17<sup>th</sup> December 2021



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## Dates & Reminders

Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December – last day of term

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022 – Children back to school

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022 – Year 6 Health Checks (School Nursing Team)

W/B 10<sup>th</sup> January – Reception Health Check (School Nursing Team)

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> January 9:30am – Year 6 Parent Meeting re: SATs (online – more information to follow)

## Parent Information

Thank you to all the parents for your support this term. The end of the term has seen us manage to still hold some of our Christmas events and we haven't let COVID beat us!

Breakfast with Santa was a huge success and we raised over £400 for our school fund which will be go towards little extras for the children during the year.

All the children took part in our Christmas Fun Run and either ran or walked with their classes and despite some worn out faces, a good time was had by all!

To end our term, the children sang beautifully outside to parents and each other and this was a lovely way to end the week.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

## **COVID-19 UPDATE**

We have had 5 positive cases of COVID-19 this week in different areas across the school.

We would like to say thank you to all parents for your support this term and for following our advice and procedures. We have had very few positive cases in school and this is down to everyone doing their bit to reduce transmission.

Our current guidance will remain in place at the start of next term, unless we receive any new information from the government. We are planning on school being open and normal in January but do have contingency plans in place should anything change.

We politely ask that on the Monday before the children return that a lateral flow test is taken to ensure any transmission over the Christmas holidays is stopped and not brought into school.

Thank you once again for your support this term.

## Staff Farewells

We said goodbye last week to three of our trainee teachers, Mr M (Class 3), Miss Barrett (Class 9) and Miss Kneller (Class 8). They are off to their next schools to continue their training and we wish them luck for the rest of the year.

We also say a sad goodbye to Mrs Shadwell (school office) and Mrs Hagen (MDA) who are off to pastures new. We send our best wishes and thank them for their support and hard work at Millhouse.

**To ensure all members of our school community have access to support with, and learn how to manage, their mental and physical wellbeing.**

### Wellbeing & Support

Should anyone need any support over the Christmas holidays, the following organisations can be contacted and can offer advice and support:

Samaritans

[www.samaritans.org](http://www.samaritans.org)

116123

Mind (Mental Health Support)

[www.mind.org.uk](http://www.mind.org.uk)

CALM (Campaign Against Living Miserably)

[www.thecalmzone.net](http://www.thecalmzone.net)

Age UK (Support for the older generations)

[www.ageuk.org.uk](http://www.ageuk.org.uk)

Money Helper (financial support and advice)

[www.moneyhelper.org.uk](http://www.moneyhelper.org.uk)

The Trussel Trust (Food Banks & Donations)

[www.trusseltrust.org](http://www.trusseltrust.org)

Basildon Foodbank

[www.basildon.foodbank.org.uk](http://www.basildon.foodbank.org.uk)

07424 660862

National Domestic Abuse Helpline (Support and advice for victims of domestic abuse and their family)

[www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk](http://www.nationaldahelpline.org.uk)

0800 2000 247

Relate (Relationship help & support)

[www.relate.org.uk](http://www.relate.org.uk)

If you need help or support, please reach out to one of these organisations.  
If you or anyone you know, feels unsafe or at risk of harm, please call the police on 999.

To increase access to and improve provision of reading for all children

## Reading

This winter, Essex Libraries are running a Winter Reading Challenge! To join up and enter go to <https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/news/welcome-to-the-winter-reading-challenge/>. By entering, your child is also entered into a prize draw and can be in with a chance of winning lots of different prizes.

There is also a national winter mini-challenge run by the Reading Agency. Details can be found on: <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/news/general/winter-mini-challenge-2021>. This is run in the same way as the Summer Reading Challenge and children will be awarded certificates for reading during this time.

## Gallery

Below are some pictures from our Christmas Cross-Country Fun Run.

The children and staff really enjoyed this and it was lovely to see them having fun while getting fit, whether they ran or walked.

Some of the staff joined in and special well done goes to Mr Shadbolt, Mrs Haken, Mr Allen and Miss Bridge who either ran with every year group (or most of them) and between them ran just over 36 miles during the day!

We have roughly calculated the number of miles run by all the children and we reckon it was probably close to 400 miles!

