

Millhouse News

17th September 2021



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Dates & Reminders

Monday 20th – Friday 24th September – Book Fayre & MacMillan Coffee Mornings (further information will be sent next week)

Tuesday 28th September – Full Governing Board meeting

Wednesday 29th September – individual school photos

Friday 22nd October – non-pupil day (school closed for pupils)

Monday 25th – Friday 29th October – half term holiday

Parent Information

It has been lovely to see the reception children all together this week. They are settling in really well, with big smiles and are enjoying finding out about our school. Next week they will stay for lunch before staying all day for the first time. We are looking forward to working with them on their Millhouse journey!

MacMillan Cake Week

This week we sent out information about MacMillan cake week. Parents are welcome to attend the 'cake morning or afternoon' for their child's year group. Please note, children DO NOT need to bring in any cakes – we will provide them.

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

Young Carers

Does your child regularly help look after a sibling, parent or grandparent? Do they miss out on doing things with friends or family because of this? Does anyone in your household have a special need, life-altering condition or disability?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, your child is a 'Young Carer' and we would like to support them. Please contact Ms Slade via the school office (phone or email) and she can talk you through what support is available.

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

Reading

Next week our Book Fayre will be open! Please come along during the cake morning / afternoon times for your child's year group and have a look through the books. The more books we sell, the more books we are able to buy for the school!

If you are not able to come to the coffee & cake events, the book fayre will be available to visit on Friday after school, on the playground (weather permitting).

Essex Library Service

Is your child a member of the library? We are really lucky that we have 5 libraries in Basildon (Laindon, Basildon town centre, Pitsea, Vange and Fryerns) and they are free to join. The libraries not only lend books in the traditional sense, but offer e-books and audio books, online services, homework help, internet support and much more. Click on the link below to find out more:

<https://libraries.essex.gov.uk/>

To enhance children's motivation and their ambition for their futures.

Inspiring Tomorrow's Generation, Today

Secondary School Applications

The portal is now open for parents to apply for secondary school places for children currently in Year 6. All applications must be made online using the following link: <https://www.essex.gov.uk/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place>.

Tips for parents:

- Look online for the open evenings and visiting times for local secondary schools.
- Visit more than one school - every school is different and will suit children in different ways.
- Try to visit during the school day - get a feel for how it really is (any time off to do this is authorised by us as long as we know about it).
- Think about what your child needs - some schools specialise in different subjects, some have better emotional wellbeing support, some are bigger or smaller. It really is important to choose a school where you think your child will do best at.
- Put more than one school on your application. If you only put one and you don't get a place, you will be placed in the nearest school with spaces rather than your 2nd or 3rd choice (and sometimes this can be quite far away).
- Make sure you submit your application by **31st October 2021**, otherwise your child may not be allocated a secondary school for September.

At Millhouse, we always like to think about our wider community and beyond and try to make sure we strive towards our core values at all times.

Essex is an increasingly diverse area and we offer a safe place and homes to many families from across the country and around the world. We are all aware of the number of young people who find themselves in dangerous environments in their home countries who are looking for refuge and safety and Essex County Council are one of many local authorities who are able to offer this. However, the funding isn't always enough and they are asking for help to provide everyday essentials for these families. Please see the attached flier for more information on how you can help through their 'Shoe Box' appeal.

Thank you.

