

Millhouse News

9TH September 2022



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We would like to start our first newsletter of the year with saying thank you to everyone who has sent messages of support and condolence this week, including those of you who have left flowers at the gate. This week has been one that we have never experienced, and nobody really knew how to manage a situation like this. The staff and children have been truly brilliant and have worked hard to ensure routines are kept whilst allowing time to reflect and mourn the loss of a much-loved member of staff. Mrs Cowlin would be so proud of everyone! We have missed seeing her smile and positivity around the school – she was a true star who touched the hearts of so many people in the school. In the coming days and weeks, we will let you know how the school plans to remember her.

This morning, we came into school with the news that Queen Elizabeth II had passed away too. We have once again supported the children who needed it and held assemblies for all the children to talk about her life and what happens next. We finished each assembly with a minute's silence to reflect and remember all the positive thoughts we have of both the Queen and Mrs Cowlin.

We like to think, Mrs Cowlin is now looking after the Queen – may they both rest in peace.

Dates & Reminders

Wednesday 14th September – Class 10 swimming

Wednesday 14th September – Year 5 Road Safety Session

Friday 16th September – Class 11 Swimming

Friday 16th September – Year 3 Home Safety Session

Monday 19th – Friday 23rd September – Book Fair

Monday 24th -Friday 28th October – Half term Holiday

Monday 31st October & Tuesday 1st November – Non-Pupil Days (school closed for pupils)

Parent Information

Parking Reminder

We politely ask that parents park and drive safely and considerately around the school area. Please remember that as adults, you are the role model for all the children so we would expect you to be always respectful and courteous.

School Uniform

Just a little reminder that children in Years 3-6 should be wearing a white shirt and a school tie as per our policy. We also request that children do not wear hoodies and that any jumper or sweatshirt is either plain grey or has the school logo only on it. Thank you.

Request for Witnesses

Unfortunately, a member of staff's car was vandalised at the end of the school day yesterday. It was parked on the road opposite the school. The matter has been reported to the police. If anyone saw anything or has information, we would ask that you either speak to the school office so we can tell the member of staff or contact the police yourself to report it.

KEY STAFF CONTACTS

Mrs Haken & Mrs McGarry – Heads of School (Headteachers)

Mrs Enticknap, Dr Fawell, Miss Durdle, Mrs Jones – Senior Management Team

Miss Durdle & Mrs Jones – Inclusion Leaders (Special Educational Needs, health & medical needs)

Mrs Neame – Office manager

Mrs Savvas – School Business Manager

Mrs Haken (Lead), Mrs McGarry, Mrs Jones & Miss Bridge – Safeguarding Team

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

A few reminders about school attendance...

- Children **must** be in their classes ready to start the day at 8:40am for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and by 8:45am for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6. Gates and doors open 5 minutes before the start times.
- Class doors will close 5 minutes after their start time. If your child's door is closed, they must go to the school office.
- School gates close at 8:50am and parents must be off the school site by then as staff cannot wait around as they have other responsibilities to attend to.
- Any absence from school must be reported using the Studybugs App. Details on how to use this are on our school website.
- Holidays during term time will not be authorised unless we consider the reasons to be 'exceptional circumstances'. Holidays taken without authorisation or taken during the first 2 weeks of September may result in each parent receiving a penalty notice for each child absent from school.
- If you or your child are worried about them coming into school, please speak to their class teacher as soon as possible.

LINES OF COMMUNICATION

Should parents need to speak to someone in school or contact us, please follow the information below:

- Your first point of contact should always be your child's class teacher as they are best place to answer any questions regarding your child's learning and welfare in school. Please speak to them at the end of the school day or use the year group email to leave a message for them.
- If you need to speak to someone regarding a safeguarding issue, please contact Mrs Haken by emailing, telephoning, or speaking to the school office.
- If you would like information on counselling or emotional support for your child or your family, please contact Ms Slade or Mrs Duggins via the school office.
- Within the school office we have staff who deal with different admin matters:
 - ❖ Mrs Neame – all admissions and medical queries
 - ❖ Mrs Kavanagh – attendance
 - ❖ Mrs Jolly – Children's Club (Childcare)
- Mrs Haken & Mrs McGarry are now Heads of School, so if you have any urgent concerns, these should be sent to them. They can also usually be found on the school playground or at the front of the school at the beginning and end of the day if you need to speak to them.