



Candle Light Lantern Procession

Wednesday 27th November saw our first ever Candle Light Lantern Procession take place around our Forest School Site. Over 300 tickets were sold for this event with the profits going towards our school fund and projects / tools to help improve children's learning whilst at Forest School.

We would like to thank all that helped to make this event such a success, The Forest School team: Mrs Dixon, Miss Hayden and Mrs Kennedy for all of their hard work with transforming our site into a beautifully lit up Forest and for helping children to create their fantastic lanterns. Claire and Allison in the kitchen for preparing the tasty hot dogs and Mrs Crane for helping to decorate the forest School site in to a Christmassy, wintery wonderland! Thank you also to the many staff who gave up their time to help out too.

We hope you all enjoyed exploring our Forest School by candle light.



Christmas Party Day

Children are invited to bring their party clothes, in a clearly named bag, into school on Wednesday 18th December. Children will get changed into their party clothes before lunch and will enjoy party games in their classroom in the afternoon.

Rowan Class children will still have their Forest School session in the afternoon. Miss Smith will join children up in the Forest for some Christmassy games and activities. Rowan Class children are welcome to change into some warm and sensible party clothes before lunch, please make sure that these clothes can be worn at the Forest with some waterproofs over the top - as you can appreciate, dresses would not be suitable on this occasion.

Whole School Theatre Visit

As of the 6th December ParentPay contributions for the whole school visit to watch the pantomime 'Aladdin' were showing at 82%. We would like to thank all parents and families that have contributed towards this visit so far and would like to kindly remind those that have not as yet.

Reminder letters have been sent out to families who may have mislaid or not received the original letters that were sent out. ParentPay activation letters have also been sent out to allow you to register if you have not already done so. The Friends have very kindly paid for the transport for all children to attend this visit. If we do not receive enough contributions we may need to regrettably cancel the visit.

Don't forget to send a packed lunch for your child on this day, unless you have ticked to say that they will be having one prepared by Claire in the kitchen. If you have not already returned your slip please make sure you do as soon as possible so that orders can be placed for the packed lunches. Children will return to school in time for the end of the day.

New Parent Governors Elected

We are pleased to confirm that, as a result of the recent Parent Elections, Mr Hamflett and Mr Woodhouse have both been appointed as Parent Governors at our school.

We would like to thank Mrs Alekna for agreeing to continue to sit on the governing board. Mrs Alekna has now been re-elected as a co-opted Governor.

Cycle Sign Competition

Thank you to all those children that have returned their Cycle Sign Competition form. We will be choosing the winner at the end of the week, if you haven't already done so you can still send your entries in to the school office.

Remember there is up to £300.00 in bike vouchers available for the overall winner from across the Worcestershire area! Please send all entries into the school office, clearly named.

Good luck!



News From...Early Years

Willow and Acorns classes recently had a very exciting trip to Umberslade Farm. For some children, this was their first time on a coach! The children chose a friend to sit next to and the adults made sure they were all strapped in safely.



The activities that the farm had planned were so much fun: we had the opportunity to handle small animals such as rabbits and guinea pigs, go on a tractor trailer ride with Father Christmas, perform in a live nativity with a real donkey and feed some of the farmyard animals.



A firm favourite in the barn were the alpacas - their fur was so soft! We then ate our packed lunches and headed back to school, with lots of the children having a little nap after their busy and exciting morning.



All the adults who came to the farm were very proud of how well the children behaved - we can't wait for the next trip!

Cold Weather Requests

The weather has most definitely changed and winter is here. With this in mind please can we ask that you send your child into school with a warm coat to wear at break and lunchtimes, extra layers for Forest School (including hat and gloves and an old coat if possible) and joggers, trainers and a hoodie for their weekly outdoor P.E. lesson.

Thank you.

Wellingtons

We have a number of children that have still not returned their Wellingtons after they were sent home for the Lantern Procession. We have very few spare Wellies in school of varying sizes. A lot of time is taken at the beginning of each Forest School session trying to find a spare pair of Wellies that will fit children's feet. Every child should have their own pair of clearly labelled Wellies in school. Please can you make sure that your child has their wellies in school at all times, thank you.

Friends Updates

We would like to say a great big **thank you** to the Friends Association for all their hard work and effort in setting up such a fantastic Christmas Fayre for us this year. They even managed to get Santa to pop by and pay children a special visit in the wonderfully decorated Christmassy Grotto. From Santa's Grotto to the tombolas and from a giant Sloth to a top prize of £100.00 cash in the raffle, this Fayre has been full of Christmas fun and cheer. Thank you to every family that has supported this event and for your generosity - without your support it would not be such a success, thank you all.



The Christmas Fayre raised over £2,000.00 in profit this year!! This is truly fantastic and will really help provide further opportunities for all children at Millfields, thank you.

Don't forget: **Friday 13th December is 'Bag2School Day'** - if you have any old clothes that you no longer need please send them into school on Friday 13th in one of the Bag2School bags sent home or a black bin bag will do. Please drop them under the canopy in the Pre-School garden. **Monday 16th December is Parents Presents Day** - if you wish your child to buy a male and/or female present make sure you have sent your £1.50 cash per present in a clearly labelled envelope into the school office by Friday. Thank you.





Gold Book Award

Each week we celebrate a child from every class who has demonstrated admirable behaviour or attitudes that promote our school values.

Millfields First School Gold Book

29th November 2019

Willow: River for amazing the grown-ups in Willow Class by demonstrating a positive attitude towards her phonics. What a super star!

Acorns E: Betsy H for having a fabulous attitude towards learning and school life. I love how hard you're working in class, at home and with your new school councillor role. Well done Betsy!

Acorns H: Charlotte for her lovely manners on our trip yesterday- well done!

Holly: James for giving his all in both maths and phonics! He is really trying his best and maintaining his focus. Keep it up James!

Maple: Rubee for showing such a caring attitude towards others and for being so positive about all aspects of school life.

Beech: Bella M for making a big effort recently to focus more on her work and choosing to work her hardest in class. Keep it up Bella!

Rowan: Oscar for his willingness to learn each and every day! He always tries his absolute best and never gives up on challenges! Well done Oscar we are very proud of you!

Cedar: Hollie M for her consistent positive attitude towards her learning. She always tries her very best, is polite and is a role model to others. Well done Hollie!

Cherry: Rocco for always working hard and being a kind, caring friend. You always try your best and you're happy to share your ideas with the rest of the class. Keep it up!

Hazel: Orla for always being a warm and friendly member of the class who is a perfect role model for Year 4. A real pleasure to have in Hazel class!

Oak: Ben for patience and perseverance this week. Well done Ben we are very proud of you.

Forest School: Josh from Cedar for building an incredible volcano and for tidying up well afterwards.

Millfields First School Gold Book

6th December 2019

Willow: Amelia for having such a positive attitude when coming to pre-school! You have such a lovely smile.

Acorns E: Harry S for impressing the adults with his listening skills and love of learning. We're really proud of you Harry - keep up the hard work!

Acorns H: Charlie C for his positive attitude towards learning, well done Charlie.

Holly: Isla for her new found independence and perseverance! Keep up this wonderful attitude to learning Isla!

Maple: Noah for having such an enthusiastic attitude towards his learning and for always being cheerful and kind to others. Well done Noah!

Beech: Belle M-B for listening and joining in so well with our polar visitor afternoon this week. Your questions were well thought through and really interesting. Well done Belle!

Rowan: Florence for having a fantastic attitude to learning, for trying her best to always be independent and for always giving things a go! Well done Florence!

Cedar: Caileb for his consistent hard working attitude towards his learning and always trying his very best. Thank you for always using your manners and saying 'good morning' to me every day when you come into the classroom.

Cherry: Jazmine for always being a super learner. Thank you for working so hard!

Hazel: Bobby W for an improved attitude to learning and a fantastic attitude to his spellings and times tables this week. Keep up the good work!

Oak: Millie for an excellent attitude to learning. Well done Millie.

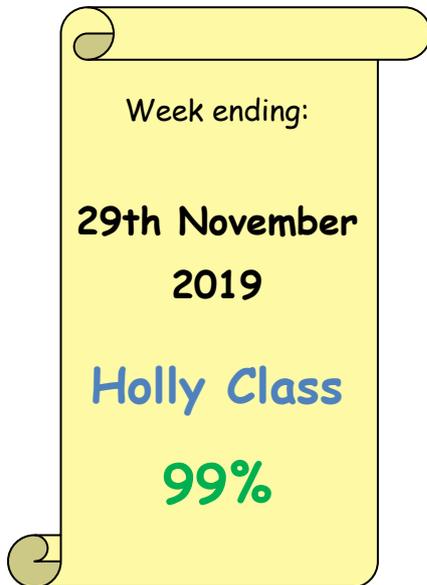
Forest School: Pia from Cherry class, for always having a fantastic attitude at Forest school and especially during tidy up time. Well done Pia.



Class Attendance Award

Each week we celebrate the class with the highest attendance rate.

Well done to the following classes for their brilliant attendance over the last couple of weeks:



Stars of the Week!

Each week we celebrate children from each class that have worked particularly hard to produce excellent pieces of work. These children have the opportunity to present and discuss their work with Mrs Montandon or others members of the Senior Leadership Team.

Well done to all our stars that have worked hard these last few weeks — keep up the great work!





Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 10 th December	Pre-school and Reception Nativity (Morning)
Wednesday 11 th December	Flu Vaccinations for whole school: Reception to Year 4
Thursday 12 th December	Pre-school and Reception Nativity (Morning)
Friday 13 th December	Bag2School - Bags can be dropped in Pre-School Garden
Friday 13 th December	Pre-school and Reception Nativity (Morning)
Friday 13 th December	Key Stage 1 Nativity (Afternoon)
Monday 16 th December	Key Stage 1 Nativity (Afternoon)
Monday 16 th December	Parent Presents
Tuesday 17 th December	Key Stage 1 Nativity (Morning)
Wednesday 18 th December	Baptist Church Pantomime Years 3 & 4
Wednesday 18 th December	Christmas Lunch - only if ordered in advance
Wednesday 18 th December	Children's Christmas parties - bring in party clothes
Thursday 19 th December	Key Stage 2 Carol Service (Afternoon) St John's church
Friday 20 th December	Whole School Pantomime Visit - Aladdin
Friday 20th December	Last Day of Autumn Term



School Closed for Christmas



Tuesday 7th January	First Day of Spring Term
Tuesday 28 th January	Eye Tests: Reception Classes
Tuesday 11 th February	Hearing Screening: Acorns E
Wednesday 12 th February	Hearing Screening: Acorns H



'Every Child Counts, Every Moment Matters'

Term Dates 2019 / 2020

Millfields First School Term Dates for the Academic Year 2019 / 2020

Term	Date School Re-Opens	Date School Closes
Autumn Half Term 2	Monday 4th November 2019	Friday 20th December 2019
School Closed: Christmas Holidays	Monday 23rd December 2019 - Friday 3rd January 2020	
Spring Half Term 1	Tuesday 7th January 2020	Friday 14th February 2020
School Closed: Spring Half Term	Monday 17th February 2020 - Friday 21st February 2020	
Spring Half Term 2	Monday 24th February 2020	Friday 3rd April 2020
School Closed: Easter Holidays	Monday 6th April 2020 - Friday 17th April 2020	
Summer Half Term 1	Monday 20th April 2020	Friday 22nd May 2020
School Closed: Summer Half Term	Monday 25th May 2020 - Friday 29th May 2020	
Summer Half Term 2	Monday 1st June 2020	Friday 17th July 2020

School will also be closed on the following dates:

Teacher Training Days
Friday 25 th October 2019
Monday 6 th January 2020
Monday 20 th July 2020

Bank Holidays
Friday 8th May 2020 (May Day)