



Newsletter: 30.4.21

## Behaviour

Children who demonstrate expected behaviour are recognised in class. This week 201 children have been ready, respectful, safe and kind at all times.

Nursery	Reception	Class 1	Class 2
33/36	28/28	29/29	23/24

Class 3	Class 4	Class 5
30/31	29/32	29/31

**Well done everyone!**

## Attendance and Lates

This week 97.1%.  
Our attendance target for the year is 97%  
Year to date: 97%

Nursery  
92.9%

Reception  
95.6%

Class 1  
97.9%

Class 2  
99.2%

Class 3  
98%

Class 4  
99.4%

Class 5  
96.8%

## Stars of the week

Nursery: WT

Reception: whole class

Class 1: AMB

Class 2: FB

Class 3: HG

Class 4: XS

Class 5: CK and BG

**Well Done!**

## Up and Coming Key Dates

3 May 21	Bank holiday Monday: school closed
Week beg: 3 and 17 May 21	Parents' evening phone calls – details sent separately
27 May 21	Break up for half term
8 June 21	Return after half term
Week beg: 21 June 21	Book week including Mill Dam book awards and virtual author visit by Maz Evans postponed from last spring. Further details to follow
16 July 21	Reports sent home
21 July 21	Summer term drop in parents' evening
23 July 21	Break up for the summer
28 May 21, 7 June 21, 26 July 21	<b>INSET DAYS – Please use these for holidays</b>

## E-safety

Remember to check your parental controls on all online devices your children use in order to keep them safe online. If you have any concerns over online safety look at the CEOP website [www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk). Their YouTube clips are very useful and interesting. Please also make sure that your children are not using apps and sites that have age restrictions above their age and that you supervise their use of any online forums. Take care with Tik Tok. Remember that Snapchat, Instagram, Facebook and many games are not recommended for children below age 12.



Follow us on twitter at the class pages above and our whole school, website linked account  
[@MillDamSchool](https://twitter.com/MillDamSchool)



## Nursery @MD\_EYFS

This week Nursery have been reading Goldilocks and the three bears. In Maths we have been comparing large, medium and small using bowls, spoons and chairs. We have also had great fun making spring craft pictures in our messy area. We have continued to work and learn inside and outside the building and are enjoying watching the progress on our new nursery building as bricks begin to be laid.

Well done Nursery.

## Class 1 @MD\_Class1

As part of our science this week, in our topic 'What's growing in our gardens?', we studied different varieties of potatoes and a range of potato products. Using teamwork, we planted our chitted potatoes, discussing what we would need to do to encourage our seed potatoes to grow and produce lots of potatoes. In computing, we carried on with our coding using Scratch Jr. - we looked at how we could tell our characters to move on the screen. We recapped what each 'block' did and then the children identified the correct block to make it move in the right direction along the road. Next, we challenged ourselves to work out how to make it go further and to predict what will happen when it reaches the end of the screen. Super coding by everyone!

## Class 3 @MD\_Class3

Do you think pets should be kept in school? As part of our learning about persuasive writing we have been arguing against keeping pets. We all love our animals but that is what makes it a challenge. In maths we have been learning to tell the time to the nearest minute on an analogue clock. Some of our teammates have found this quite tricky so if you have the opportunity to practice at home please do as this will really help. Examples of our home learning task for this half term have started to arrive in school and we are looking good with our 'All about me' posters so far. If you are unsure of our current home learning task please visit our class page on the new school website [milledamschool.org](http://milledamschool.org) and click on the learning overview. You will also be able to find examples of our learning and details of what we will be learning together across the curriculum.

## Class 5 @MD\_Class5

It has been great to be back in class again and to see the children working hard with this week's activities across the curriculum. In English we have started a unit on newspaper writing. The children have been reading newspaper articles and studying the style, format and main features of this unique form of writing. We have focused on two areas of grammar linked to this - direct and reported speech and the passive voice. In Maths we have returned to division and multiplication of fractions with integers and fractions. In the wider curriculum the children have looked at how ideas of evolution have changed over time as part of our Science unit; they have looked at elements of community in the local area by undertaking research work on churches around Ackworth as part of our topic; they have enjoyed lots of rhythm games in music and started looking at how this can be transcribed musically and finally the class have taken part in lots of different activities and drills related to cricket.

## Reception @MD\_Reception

I am so pleased with how reception have done in their phonics this week. They have been trying extremely hard with their reading, which has been feedback to me by their phonics teachers.

This week we have looked at the Traditional Tale "Goldilocks & the Three Bears", reading different versions of the story and re telling it by drawing out a story map.

In maths, we have looked at Spatial Reasoning. We have been arranging various manipulatives in different ways during both teacher input and provision. Within this, we have recapped shape and how shapes can be rotated.

This week the whole class will get Star of the Week as I want to praise all of them for all their hard work this year with this being my last week. The children have progressed so much in the year during this pandemic and parents have been a huge part in the children's progress. I wish all the best for the children for the remainder of reception and have enjoyed every minute working with them!

## Class 2 @MD\_Class2

This week, we have started to learn about fractions in maths, recognising equal parts of a shape or a number. In finding a half we have applied known multiplication facts to divide by two. This is why it is important to keep practising the multiplication tables to make sure these facts can be recalled easily. In topic we have looked at significant people, such as the Queen and Sir David Attenborough, discussing why they are important. We have also talked about our real-life heroes and what it is that makes them special. The greatest excitement in class has been learning about plants, observing how much their vegetable seeds have grown and germinating pea seeds in a plastic bag. After only 2 days, the seeds were beginning to sprout. Having them in a clear bag has meant the children can make close observations of shoots appearing.

We are thoroughly enjoying the rugby sessions with Featherstone Rovers and look forward to these each week. We have some rugby stars in the making.

## Class 4 @MD\_Class4

This week has seen us developing our understanding of the relationship between percentages, fractions and decimals. We have also been revisiting basic number bonds to 10 and 100 and numbers in between to help us work out how many we need to add to tenths and hundredths to make a whole. In English we have been developing our persuasive letter writing by taking on the role of a scientist who is writing to a big corporation to get them to stop destroying an area of interest to the scientist and local inhabitants. The children have drawn on some of the work they did last term to support them. In science we have looked at teeth and their functions, working out why the food animals eat influences the type of teeth they have. We have continued to explore music and computing, looking at repeating rhythms and changing some of the notes to create interest. This work will support us in recording musical pieces more formally. The class enjoyed our French lesson, when we continued to translate a simple story into English. We were helped in developing our pronunciations by XS who kindly listened to the other children individually and supported them where necessary. We are continuing to practice times tables and spellings every Friday, practice at home would support the children in progressing.

## Mrs Thompson @MD\_MrsThompson

Another busy and hard working week has flown by and the children and staff are all showing great enthusiasm and resilience. I think they deserve a bank holiday! Behaviour continues to improve and I want to thank you for your support with this, particularly through ensuring that social media is used appropriately. We are looking forward to our telephone parents' evenings over the next few weeks. Please make sure you have signed up for a time on the online platform. Mr West has been working really hard with colleagues from the trust to develop our new website which is now live. Please visit [milledamschool.org](http://milledamschool.org) to see this; I'm sure you will join me in thanking Mr West for his hard work here. I hope you enjoy the bank holiday weekend and that the weather is kind to us.

