



Newsletter: 7.5.21

Behaviour

Children who demonstrate expected behaviour are recognised in class. This week 204 children have been ready, respectful, safe and kind at all times.

| Nursery | Reception | Class 1 | Class 2 |
|---------|-----------|---------|---------|
| 33/36 | 27/28 | 28/28 | 23/24 |

| Class 3 | Class 4 | Class 5 |
|---------|---------|---------|
| 32/32 | 30/32 | 32/32 |

Well done everyone!

Attendance and Lates

This week 97.1% and 13 late.
Our attendance target for the year is 97%
Year to date: 97 %

Nursery
94.8% 3 late

Reception
98.7% 0 late

Class 1
94.3% 0 late

Class 2
100% 1 late

Class 3
96.9% 6 late

Class 4
99.6% 2 late

Class 5
95.4% 1 late

Stars of the week

Nursery: HS

Reception: EW

Class 1: AGT

Class 2: ZA

Class 3: AH

Class 4: CF and Hal

Class 5:

Well Done!

Up and Coming Key Dates

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Week beg: 3 and 10 May 21 | Parents' evening phone calls – details to follow |
| 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 | INSET DAYS – Please use these for holidays |

Further dates will follow as the term continues.

Leadership Signposting: If you have any concerns or questions about your child's learning or the work of the school please speak to their class teacher or a member of the Leadership Team before or after school. If your question is more in depth please make an appointment to see the class teacher. Mrs Thompson, Mrs Stevenson, Ms Samuels and Mr West are happy to meet with any parents who would like to speak to us. If we are free we will see you immediately but if not please make an appointment with the office and we will meet with you as soon as possible.



Follow us on twitter at the class pages above and our whole school, website linked account
[@MillDamSchool](#)



Nursery @MD_EYFS

This week the nursery children have been continuing their work on Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We've been learning about some of the woodland animals that Goldilocks might have encountered on her journey to the three bears' cottage. In maths, we have been comparing and ordering sizes using coloured bears. We have also discussed Goldilocks' actions in the story and whether she made safe choices. This led us onto our learning about "safe strangers and safe choices." We are really proud of how our new starters are transitioning into the nursery environment.

Class 1 @MD_Class1

Dissecting flowers, making moving pictures, coding, learning to tell the time, writing about our own superheroes, completing our 'Five Minute Maths', handwriting, spelling, phonics - the list is endless and all in four days. Year One looked at flowers and were able to identify and label them with 'stem', 'roots', 'leaves' and 'flower'. After understanding the basic structure of a flowering plant, we discussed the basic function of the main parts through a flower poem. Eventually, we then planted these in pots outside, hoping that the frost would not return. The Year One garden is planted with potatoes, strawberries, runner beans and now some beautiful flowers. Amazing work and learning!

Class 3 @MD_Class3

We have made it through assessment week with little drama and lots of positive and mature attitudes from our teammates, some of our learners even seemed to be looking forward to them. This week we have continued to learn about time and clocks in maths and please continue to practice at home as this is an important life skill. We have also been planning our traffic calming schemes for around school, have explored the digestive system and the journey of a digestive biscuit through our bodies, had our first go at a cubist portrait and been writing to persuade in English.

More super examples of this topic's home learning project have been arriving in school and joining our 'Best of Me' display. It is fantastic to see the care that teammates have put into this learning in their own time. If you would like more details of our learning this half term or home learning project check out our class page on the new school website milldamschool.org. We will also be experimenting over the coming weeks with interactive quizzes being shared over our Twitter feed @MD_Class3, another fun blended learning development.

Class 5 @MD_Class5

Class 5 have had a busy and productive week. In Maths we have been looking at equivalent fractions and decimals and we have looked at different ways to convert fractions into decimals. In English we have been planning and writing a newspaper report based on an imaginary plane crash in the local area. We have also practiced French, reading skills, cricket related activities in PE and computing. The class have earned lots of dojos for their hard work and have received a reward of some extra playtime due to their positive attitude and behaviour when Mrs Crump took the class on Wednesday afternoon. Well done!

Reception @MD_Reception

What a week we've had! I would just like to say a big thank you to the warm welcome I have received from the children, parents and staff. Reception have shown exceptionally brilliant attitudes towards their learning this week. In English we have been sequencing the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears as well as making puppets and retelling the story. Maths has been very exciting as we have read a new story, 'Grandpa's quilt' by Betsy Franco. We have discovered that 2D shapes can be cut in different ways to make new shapes, e.g. cutting a square in half makes 2 rectangles. In phonics we have learnt sh, ch, th, ay and ee.

Class 2 @MD_Class2

This week, we have continued our work on fractions in maths, recognising and finding a quarter of a shape. When recognising a quarter, it is important that the shape is divided into four equal parts. In English we have started to work on persuasive writing, looking at advertisements, and the features of the genre, the language used, memorable slogans, the use of alliteration or rhyming words, rhetorical questions and the use of exaggeration and superlatives. In topic we have started to learn about Florence Nightingale, a significant person in history as she is known as the founder of modern day nursing. The activity that has caused the greatest excitement and amazement this week, was observing how the pea seeds had sprouted roots and shoots. Germinating them in plastic bags has meant that the children can easily observe any changes in the seeds. Once the roots and shoots are strong enough we shall plant them into pots.

Class 4 @MD_Class4

This week we have started looking at campaigns as part of our work on persuasion, beginning by analysing a video of teenagers talking about their campaign to reduce the use of plastic bags. The children were successful in identifying many of the features of persuasive writing. The break in the weather earlier this week allowed us to have our P.E lesson: practicing throwing, catching, batting and fielding whilst playing rounders. 'Why teeth decay' has been our science focus this week, discussing the different ways teeth might decay before preparing an experiment we will carry out next week. In our topic lessons we continued to look at how and why the roads around the school are used by a range of traffic. We continue to practice times tables and spellings every Friday; practice at home would support the children in progressing.

Mrs Thompson @MD_MrsThompson

What has happened to the weather this week? Thankfully the learning and positive attitudes of the children have brightened up the week. There has been some wonderful learning going on across a full range of subjects. I have been pleased to look at learning in every class in school this week and am very happy with what I have seen. Well done everyone, keep up the great work. I hope that you have found the parents' evening phone calls useful this week and that those of you whose appointments are still to come find these informative as well. Let's hope that spring returns to us so that our outdoor learning activities can continue.

