



Newsletter: 21.5.21

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
34/36	25/25	27/28	23/24

Class 3	Class 4	Class 5
30/32	30/32	32/32

Well done everyone!

Attendance and Lates

This week 97.4% and 15 late.
Our attendance target for the year is 97%
Year to date: 97%

Nursery
94.6% 7 late

Reception
98.4% 2 late

Class 1
97.9% 0 late

Class 2
100% 0 late

Class 3
96.9% 5 late

Class 4
96.6% 0 late

Class 5
97.4% 1 late

Stars of the week

Nursery: LB

Reception: LH

Class 1: SSS

Class 2: AB

Class 3: BG

Class 4: DP and CB

Class 5: HB

Well Done!

Up and Coming Key Dates

Week beg: 17 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
6 Sept 21, 13 Sept 21, 6 June 21, 25 +26 July 22	NEXT YEAR'S INSET DAYS Please use these to plan ahead for holidays.

Safeguarding Mill Dam School considers the welfare of all our pupils to be of great importance and we hope that you are confident about your children's health and safety at school. We will always try to share any concerns we have with parents. However, there are times when we are legally obliged to share our concerns with other agencies, without first speaking to parents, or without the consent of parents. If you have any concerns about the welfare or safety of any child in our school please contact our safeguarding leads Mrs Stevenson or Mrs Thompson. We have a duty to inform parents that there is a prohibition on reporting or publishing details (including on social media) that could identify anyone who is subject to an allegation.



Follow us on twitter at the class pages above and our whole school, website linked account
@MillDamSchool



Nursery @MD_EYFS

This week Nursery have enjoyed reading "Little Red Riding Hood." The nursery Elves left us a really exciting note in Grandma's cottage- we found out that it was Little Red's birthday! We designed our own wrapping paper and then used it to wrap presents for the party we were planning. Some of our children decorated plates and placemats, other children cooked the party food in our home corner. The children have particularly enjoyed exploring our outdoor provision this week, where we've been exploring the properties of natural materials, including making prints and patterns with them.

Class 1 @MD_Class1

This week the children had the opportunity to become nurses and practise their newly-learnt skills. Having learned simple first aid and nursing skills they completed their training by putting these into action - and gaining a nurse's certificate for their amazing efforts. They performed simple health checks, such as washing hands carefully, checking their pulse, finding their heartbeat, checking their temperature and talking about a healthy diet; they then recorded this information on a patient health card. We discussed what it takes to be a nurse and what a typical nurse's day is like. Super discussion and the children realised just what kind of superheroes Mary Seacole and Jennifer Worth were. Class One are the superheroes of the future!

Class 3 @MD_Class3

We have nearly made it to half term and the end of our topic on 'Ourselves – The best of me'. This week we have been looking at our local environment and ways we could improve it. Our litter survey of local parks identified that litter was a problem and we have been using our writing to persuade skills to write letters to the council with our ideas of how this could be improved (robot litter pickers would be amazing). We have also nearly completed our art projects for this half term with team members turning photographs of their own faces into cubist style images, next we will be using our knowledge of colour theory to paint them using complementary colours.

It was wonderful speaking to parents and guardians this week and sharing the amazing learning Team 3 have been engaged in, thank you all. It did however identify that a some of you had not seen our overview of learning. This is produced every half term and will detail what learning we will be doing together for that topic or theme, it also contains details of the home learning project. The overview can be found on our page of the school website www.milldamschool.org or is shared on our class Twitter @MD_Class3.

Class 5 @MD_Class5

This week class 5 have been looking at equivalent fractions, decimals and percentages in Maths, as well as calculating percentages of amounts. In English we have researched the effect and impact of littering on the environment, humans and animals. The class have used this to write a non-chronological report, using different clause structures and a range of punctuation. In Science the children looked at some real fossils and studied how they are formed and what they tell us about evolution. In art they have begun looking at cubist portraits and finally in music they enjoyed using Boom Whackers to create different rhythms and also recorded some of their creations using musical notation.

Reception @MD_Reception

Happy Friday! What an action-packed week we've had! In Maths we have been learning about ten green bottles and how to subtract numbers. To help us we've used ten frames and told stories to one another. In English the children have been busy writing in speech bubbles after we noticed so many in our guided reading book. To round the week off we have been working on strengthening our bodies with yoga in PE and we discovered some rather interesting poses too! Finally in phonics we have focused on these sounds, th, ng, nk, ar and or.

Class 2 @MD_Class2

Class 2 are thoroughly enjoying the history topic as they find out more about Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole, the founders of modern nursing. They have discussed at length the changes that have been made in hospitals of today compared to those in Victorian times. The children have demonstrated much interest and enthusiasm for the subject, asking well thought out questions in order to increase their knowledge. In English we are continuing with persuasive writing, and are working on a persuasive letter, developing skills in formulating an argument that will persuade people. In maths we have been finding out the difference between unit and non-unit fractions, where the numerator is 1 in a unit fraction and more than 1 in a non-unit fraction. Our science this week caused much excitement as we observed cress seeds and have set up an investigation to find out the conditions necessary for plants to grow.

Class 4 @MD_Class4

We have had a stinky, yet fun science lesson this week. The children have been observing how different liquids affect the shell of an egg. They know that this experiment is to support their understanding of what can happen to a tooth when it is damaged or not cared for. Many I think were amazed at the results, especially after they looked at the inside of the egg. As part of our topic work we carried out a litter survey in the local park, looking at the type of rubbish and where it could be found. We decided that the only place where there wasn't much evidence of litter was on the football pitches. In maths we are exploring money and linking it to our recent work on decimals. In English we are in the final part of our persuasive writing and the children have become more confident in expressing their opinions in writing using facts to support them.

Mrs Thompson @MD_MrsThompson

Another busy week has flown by with a wonderful range of learning taking place. There has been a decline in punctuality over the past two weeks with this being particularly noticeable in nursery. Please make sure that your child arrives on time every day. Learning begins as soon as they enter school and, if staff need to keep collecting children from the gate, this disrupts the learning of everybody in the classroom. Please remember the start time for your child's class and abide by it. The finish times are staggered to ensure that everyone has a full school day and if children arrive late they miss learning. Ten minutes late every day adds up to a significant amount of lost learning over the course of a year – 6 whole days! This is important at all stages of learning from nursery to year 6 and beyond.

