

16th December 2022

'Every Child Counts, Every Moment Matters'

Millfields Lantern Walk

On Wednesday 30th November we hosted our 'Millfields Lantern Walk'.

We were really fortunate that the weather was kind and stayed fine, allowing everyone to enjoy a magical evening in our wonderful Forest School area. Thank you to everyone for supporting this event and for all of the lovely positive comments we received. A special thank you to all of the staff who volunteered to stay behind and help run the event, especially the forest school team and our two Mrs Cranes who worked very hard both before, during and after the event.



We must also thank Father Christmas, who was kind enough to take time out of his busy schedule to visit us.



A Christmas Message from Mrs Montandon

Dear Parents and Carers,

We come to the end of another term at Millfields. Time flies by so quickly it seems like only 5 minutes ago that we were starting the term. Thankfully, it has been very different to last Autumn term. We have loved being able to welcome you back into school for our Sharing Days, our Lantern Walk, our nativities and Carols.

It has also been lovely to be able to take the children on visits once again. Willow and Acorns enjoyed their visit to Attwell Farm, where they saw Father Christmas, some animals and made decorations. Father Christmas and Candy the elf also visited school. Candy was a very mischievous elf and didn't want to give up the presents that Father Christmas had brought for the children!

Yesterday, we took the children to the pantomime to see Beauty and the Beast. They were so well behaved it was a pleasure to take them out. Seeing their excited faces, hearing them laugh and boo was a real treat for me and the staff who took them.

Today, we say good bye and good luck to Mr Parker who is taking up a post in another school. We thank him for all of his hard work and commitment to the children of Millfields. We look forward to welcoming Mrs Berry back as Maple class teacher as Miss Smith moves back to Year 2.

The staff and I would like to thank you for the generous cards, gifts and good wishes you have sent us for Christmas. Whilst in no way expected, they are much appreciated.

Finally, on behalf of all staff and governors at Millfields I wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We look forward to seeing you all on January 4th.

Kind regards,

Lisa Montandon



Dates for your Diary

Here are a few key dates for your diaries:



Christmas / New Year Break



Friday 16th December: Last Day of Autumn Term / End of School

Tuesday 3rd January: TED day - school closed to children

Wednesday 4th January: Back to School / Spring Term

Tuesday 10th January: Reception phonics workshop

Friday 17th February: Break up for half term

We will add more dates into the calendar as the year goes on.



School Admissions 2023

If you have a child that is due to start school in September 2023 you must apply for a school place before the January deadline. Children who attend our Pre-School must also apply - as they will not automatically secure a place.

All admissions must be made via this link: https://emsi.worcestershire.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en?ReturnURL=%2FCitizenPortal_LIVE%2F

Applications for first and middle schools must be submitted by **15th January 2023** at the very latest. If you know of anyone that has a child that may be interested in joining our school please ask them to contact us for a tour so we can show them how amazing Millfields is!



Fantastic Friends



The Friends Association have continued their amazing fundraising with a Christmas Raffle, they also arranged for Father Christmas to visit all of the classes this week. Their hard work and your support really does enhance the learning and opportunities of the children at Millfields. This year they have paid for the beautiful sculptures at the front of school and for the coaches to the pantomime, so a very big thank you.



Attendance Matters

| Class | Attendance | Class | Attendance |
|----------|------------|--------|------------|
| Willow | 92.33% | Beech | 94.25% |
| Acorns C | 94.27% | Rowan | 95.79% |
| Acorns N | 93.33% | Cherry | 94.02% |
| Holly | 93.53% | Cedar | 93.79% |
| Maple | 92.60% | Hazel | 94.70% |
| | | Oak | 93.46% |

There is a strong link between regular school attendance and educational progress and attainment.

It is very important that children arrive in school on time, every day.

Please contact the school office by 9:00am on the first day of illness either via the ParentApp or by phoning or emailing the office. Keep the school updated at least every other day for the duration of the illness.



School Meals

Due to the increase in food and energy costs, the Governors have decided that unfortunately there is no alternative than to increase the costs of our school meals from £2.30 to £2.50 with effect from 4th January. Since Millfields have been running the kitchen we hope parents will agree that the meals have drastically improved and represent good value for money.



Keeping in Touch

If any of your contact details have changed, please do let the office know. The same applies for any health/medical changes or dietary/allergy changes.



Pick up arrangements

If there any changes to who will be collecting your child after school and it is after 2pm please call this information through to the office so that we can ensure this is passed on promptly to the teacher.



Free School Meals

We would encourage anybody who thinks they may be eligible, to apply for Free School Meals, even if your child receives the Universal Free School Meals (Reception—Year 2). Children eligible for Free School Meals also get additional support - e.g. help towards paying for school trips and uniform, and as long as the Government is still doing it, food vouchers for certain school holidays. It also helps the school as we receive extra money so that we can put in more support if your child needs it.

We just want to make sure that all our families get everything that they are entitled to.

It doesn't take long to apply, and you can do so here:

[https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20062/schools/684/
applying_for_free_school_meals](https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20062/schools/684/applying_for_free_school_meals)



Food Banks

Worcestershire

www.trusselltrust.org

Worcester (Mon—Fri 10am—4pm)

0808 2082138

7 Lowesmoor Wharf, Worcester WR1 2RS,
UK

Droitwich (Tues 12.30—2.30pm & Fri)

07532 130604 / 07532 130604

Droitwich Baptist Church, Ombersley Street
East, WR9 8QS

Redditch & Bromsgrove (Mon—Thursday

11am —2pm & Fri 10am– 1pm) 01527

69161

Number 24, Church Green East,
Redditch, B98 8DE

Malvern Hills Foodbank (Mon—

10.15am—12.45pm, Tues 1pm—

3.30pm, Thurs 10.15am –12.45pm)

07529 322985

Unit 4, Spring Court, Spring Lane
South, Malvern, WR14 1AT

Kidderminster (Weds 12.30—3pm,

Fri 12.30—3pm) 07469 216904

Unit 9, Swan Shopping Centre, Black-
well Street, Kidderminster
DY10 2DP



#SleighNoToLoanSharks

Christmas is a time for joy and happiness, but for the millions of families struggling with spiralling debt to loan sharks, it can be the most terrifying time of the year. Figures show that nearly one in ten people who borrowed from loan sharks last year did so to cover the costs of Christmas.

The England Illegal Money Lending Team (IMLT) is concerned that ruthless loan sharks will try to cash in on the festive period as many families struggle to cope with rising food, fuel and energy bills this winter.

Are you worried about someone who is being taken advantage of by a loan shark?

Contact the Stop Loan Sharks 24/7 Helpline on 0300 555 2222 for support

www.stoploansharks.co.uk

costoflivingsupport.campaign.gov.uk

- **Income Support**
- **Energy Bills—Cost of Living Payments**
- **Childcare Costs**
- **Household costs**
- **Childcare Costs**
- **Finding Work**



**Help for
Households**

costoflivingsupport.campaign.gov.uk provides access to
contacts who can provide support for households.

Visit **'Discounts and Offers'** for hot meals for children for £1
and discounted children's meals at leading supermarkets.



Stars of the Week!

Each week we celebrate children that have produced exceptional pieces of work, or have given of their best in class. Well done to all our stars that have worked hard during the last few weeks...



Willow



Acorns C



Acorns N



Holly



Maple



Beech



Rowan



Cedar



Cherry



Hazel



Oak



Forest School



'Every Child Counts, Every Moment Matters'

Term Dates 2022 / 2023

| Term | School Opens on: | School closes at the end of the school day on: |
|--|---|--|
| Autumn Half Term 1 | Wednesday 7th September 2022 | Friday 21st October 2022 |
| School Closed: Autumn Half Term | Monday 24th October 2022 to Friday 28th October 2022 | |
| Autumn Half Term 2 | Monday 31st October 2022 | Friday 16th December 2022 |
| School Closed: Christmas Holidays | Monday 19th December 2022 to Monday 2nd January 2023 | |
| Spring Half Term 1 | Wednesday 4th January 2023 | Friday 17th February 2023 |
| School Closed: Spring Half Term | Monday 20th February 2023 to Friday 24th February 2023 | |
| Spring Half Term 2 | Monday 27th February 2023 | Friday 31st March 2023 |
| School Closed: Easter Holidays | Monday 3rd April 2023 to Friday 14th April 2023 | |
| Summer Half Term 1 | Monday 17th April 2023 | Friday 26th May 2023 |
| School Closed: Summer Half Term | Monday 29th May 2023 to Friday 2nd June 2023 | |
| Summer Half Term 2 | Tuesday 6th June 2023 | Tuesday 25th July 2023 |

School will also be closed on the following days:

| Teacher Training Days |
|----------------------------|
| Monday 5th September 2022 |
| Tuesday 6th September 2022 |
| Monday 10th October 2022 |
| Tuesday 3rd January 2023 |
| Monday 5th June 2023 |

| Bank Holidays |
|---------------------------------------|
| Monday 2nd January 2023 |
| Good Friday: Friday 7th April 2023 |
| Easter Monday: Monday 10th April 2023 |
| May Day: Monday 1st May 2023 |
| Whitsun: Monday 29th May 2023 |