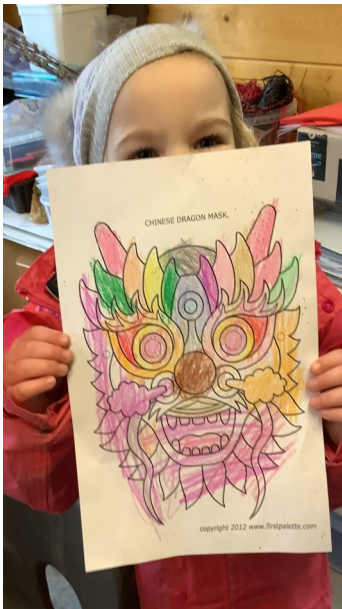


Chinese New Year Activities at Forest School

The children in all classes have been learning about the Chinese New Year traditions this month. Reception and KS1 children have carried out dragon dances around the forest with our musical instruments. KS2 children whittled their own chopsticks and then enjoyed noodles by the fire.



We enjoyed making dragons or dragon masks as well as hanging our hopes and wishes for this year on a tree.



RSPB Bird Watch 2023

During January and the winter months, we like to care for the wild birds. We all enjoy making different types of bird feeder to hang in the trees.



We built bird hides so we could quietly look out for birds as part of the RSPB Big bird watch 2023.



Lost Property at Forest School

The children are always encouraged to leave any belongings (when not in use) on the fire circle benches during the session. Water bottles are also kept in a box on the table by the fire circle. At the end of each session, the children are asked to collect their belongings before they line up. We then check the area and hold up any left belongings to be claimed.

At the end of the day, unclaimed but named items are taken to appropriate class and returned to the children. These hats and gloves have been collected from around the forest school site since the beginning of January. All are unnamed.



Please let us know if you recognise any and we will get them back to your child.

We need your unwanted materials and tools!

We are always keen to have more bricks, planks of wood, garden tools and wheelbarrows for the children to use. If you have any unwanted materials that you think could be useful to forest school, please contact the office.



Thanks for the Christmas trees!

We use them for all sorts of things and many of us were so excited to see a new batch this year.



Marshmallows

Please donate marshmallows for your child to enjoy at snack time with their classmates.



Fun in Acorns

Acorns have been having such fun learning all about our new topic "People who help us." We have had visits from all sorts of people who help in our communities such as Claire in the kitchen, Mr Barr and Mrs Montandon. We have had police visitors and are having some nurses, firefighters and a dentist over the next few weeks. We had to be detectives ourselves after the police had been to visit to investigate a crime in our classroom but thanks to our super detective work we solved the crime really well!



We have also enjoyed learning about the Chinese New Year. We made special lanterns, took part in a dragon dance and even tasted some Chinese food! Yum Yum!

Year 1 Activities

In PSHE, we discussed what our goals might be. We discussed how some goals are easy to achieve and others are much harder. We then talked about taking small steps towards achieving our goals. In Maple class, we used the idea of making a jam sandwich as taking small steps to achieve a final goal. The children were very good at following the step by step instructions and their reward was to eat the jam sandwich in class!



In History, we are learning about the Wright brothers who invented the first successful aeroplane in 1903. We found out about their first flights and how long they lasted. We designed and created our own paper aeroplane. We tested our design on the playground, to see which aeroplane travelled the furthest. Our winners are pictured below.





Library Books

Some of you have received a message asking for your child's outstanding library book to be returned. We have over 100 books missing from the library at present. If you are unable to locate the book we kindly ask for a contribution to replace it so that other children can continue to access these vital learning resources.



Juniper Club

This is a polite reminder that there is a strict 7 day cut-off for all breakfast and after school club bookings. Bookings must be made via the School Gateway app by going in to the Clubs section, please contact us if you need help setting this up. If you try to book within 7 days, the app will not allow you to. We are only able to accept later bookings if there is an urgent emergency and this request must be made via telephone to the office. Otherwise please ensure you have booked in advance, as we have to organise staffing.

Please do not send your child to club unless you have a confirmed booking. Parents of children who are not on the register will be contacted and asked to come and collect their child.

If you wish to cancel a booking and receive a refund, you can do this on the app with 7 days' notice. Beyond this date we are unable to issue refunds. Please refer to the Information and Terms and Conditions Booklet on the PA Connect app for further information. You can also request a copy from the office.



Parking

After receiving a number of complaints and videos over the last few weeks from local residents about inconsiderate parking, please can we politely remind you to park sensibly and respectfully in and around the school at drop off and pick up time.

Please do not park on the yellow zig zags, on double yellow lines, across dropped kerbs and across drives. Please do not double park.

The cones that have been placed on Swift Close near the school entrance should not be moved as these have been placed for Health and Safety reasons, to ensure the safety of children walking on the adjacent footpath.

We have been made aware that people are driving too fast when entering the social club car park. Please drive slowly and carefully as there are children nearby. We must stress that the front of the social club should not be used for parking or drop offs as this area is needed for deliveries for the club. We are very fortunate to be able to use the social club for parking but we need to respect these arrangements otherwise we will no longer be able to use the club for parking. Thank you.



Poppy Appeal

Thanks to your generous support, Millfields raised £369.74 for the Poppy Appeal.



World Book Day

It's World Book Day on 2nd March. We are asking children to choose a word and dress up to reflect their word. For example, if the word is 'yellow,' they can wear yellow clothes. Please bring in a donation of £1 which will go towards buying books for our library. Thank you!



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)

Britain's **Biggest** Breakfast

THE BIG BREAKFAST IS BACK!!...

At

TARDEBIGGE COMMUNITY HALL

Between

Bromsgrove and Redditch
(Postcode B60 3AH)

IN ASSOCIATION WITH
BROMSGROVE FARMERS CLUB

Saturday 11th March 2023

8.30am - Midday

Please join us - everyone welcome

**All proceeds go to Cancer Research UK
and The Primrose Hospice**

For Information: Helen Hirons - 07976 573306

**Our total to date is £54023.86 !!
We need your support to help beat Cancer**





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...



Millfields First School Gold Book
Friday 13th January 2023

Holly: Sonny for being such a kind, caring and patient friend. Sonny, Holly class are very lucky to have you.

Maple: Ollie for his improved attitude to learning. You are trying so hard Ollie, keep it up!

Beech: Owen for always being a great role model to others. You always try your best and never give up! Well done!

Forest School: Emily in Acorns C for trying really hard to join in with the session and play nicely with everyone. Well done Emily, keep it up.

Hazel: Remy for making such a big effort and persevering with his letter formation and handwriting. Well done Remy.

Acorns C: Kasima for always being a kind friend and having a smiley and happy face to cheer her friends up just when they need it!

Millfields First School Gold Book
Friday 13th January 2023

Rowan: Alfred for always being ready to learn and an excellent role model in our class. Thank you Alfred.

Cedar: Harry C for a great attitude to your work this week. You have been focussed and giving your all to each task. Great work Harry!

Cherry: Tyler for always being hard working, ready to learn and giving 100% effort to your school work. Keep it up!

Oak: Billy K for listening to what he needs to do to improve his work and for acting on this. We are proud of you Billy.

Acorns N: George for coming into school every day this week all by himself and with a happy smile. Well done George!

Millfields First School Gold Book
Friday 20th January 2023

Holly: Ellie for a dramatically improved attitude to learning. Ellie has worked incredibly hard this week and her focus has been outstanding. Keep it up Ellie!

Maple: Sensia for improved listening and participation in class lessons. Keep it up Sensia!

Beech: Ava-Rose for always trying her best and being a fantastic role model to others. Thank you Ava!

Forest School: Jack in Holly for being a brilliant role model to others. You are kind, helpful, you listen, participate, and always get changed super fast!

Hazel: Emily for anyways setting a great example to the rest of the class. You have a super attitude to work and school in general. Well done Emily!

Millfields First School Gold Book
Friday 20th January 2023

Rowan: Robyn for always being ready to learn and showing she can work well with others. You showed great team work this week when working with your partner during our drama session in English. Well done!

Cedar: Isla S for having a good attitude to her work and tackling all challenges given her this week. Well done Isla!

Cherry: Eve for always working hard, being ready to learn, and being an absolute pleasure to have in Cherry Class!

Oak: Finley J for a brilliant attitude to learning and for producing neat, careful work this week. Well done Finley.

Acorns N: Freya for coming into school everyday with a happy smile. We knew you could do it Freya!!

Acorns C: Kobi for always showing fantastic patience and kindness to others. He is always there to help others no matter what he is in the middle of.

Millfields First School Gold Book
Friday 27th January 2023

Holly: Elsie for always having a positive and focussed attitude to learning. Elsie always gives 100% in school and is a great role model to her friends.

Maple: Roman for a greatly improved attitude to learning.

Beech: Laila for always trying her best in each lesson and setting a fantastic example to others! Well done!

Forest School: Kobi in Acorns C for being a kind and calm friend.

Hazel: Ava for being a wonderful and supportive friend and for always trying your hardest to succeed. Well done Ava, you make us proud!

Acorns C: Albie who is now so brave when coming in in the mornings and is getting his coat, bag and water bottle independently.

Millfields First School Gold Book
Friday 27th January 2023

Rowan: Josiah for always being kind and considerate to others. You are always thoughtful and show great manners. A real role model in Rowan.

Cedar: Isla R for always being helpful and volunteering to support others. You are a great member of Cedar. Thank you for your help.

Cherry: Lilian for an amazing attitude to learning! You're always ready to learn, focused and make a fantastic friend.

Oak: Marni Hughes for being so thoughtful, kind and caring. Thank you Marni.

Acorns N: Harley for being such a positive role model for the other children and for his enthusiastic attitude to all aspects of school life. Thank you Harley.

Millfields First School Gold Book
Friday 3rd February 2023

Holly: Bella for being brave every morning this week. Bella does not always find it easy to come into school, but she has walked in with a smile on her face every day this week!

Maple: Tommy M for always being eager to learn and trying his hardest for every task. Keep it up Tommy!

Beech: Teddy for always having such a positive attitude to his learning. You always try your best and make me smile everyday. Thank you Teddy!

Forest School: Lily Rose in Acorns C for joining in with the activities calmly and for much improved attitude to learning.

Hazel: Riley for working really hard to improve his letter formation and handwriting this week. Well done Riley!

Millfields First School Gold Book
Friday 3rd February 2023

Rowan: Jamie, for always being ready to learn and share his ideas with the class. We always value your contributions. Thank you!

Cedar: Imogen for always being incredibly helpful and dependable to do the right thing. Thank you Imogen!

Cherry: Jaxon for trying your best to concentrate, focus and work independently in your written work! Keep up your super hardworking attitude!

Oak: Noah B for being amazingly brave and courageous this week. You've been so sensible about a tough challenge you had to face. Well done Noah.

Acorns N: Rupert for being such a kind and caring friend and for thinking of others.

Acorns C: Esme for having such patience and kindness with all of her friends and always having lovely manners.



'Every Child Counts, Every Moment Matters'

Term Dates 2023 / 2024

Term	School Opens on:	School closes at the end of the school day on:
Autumn Half Term 1	Wednesday 6th September 2023	Friday 27th October 2023
School Closed: Autumn Half Term	Monday 30th October 2023 to Friday 3rd November 2023	
Autumn Half Term 2	Monday 6th November 2023	Friday 22nd December 2023
School Closed: Christmas Holidays	Monday 25th December 2023 to Friday 5th January 2024	
Spring Half Term 1	Tuesday 9th January 2024	Friday 9th February 2024
School Closed: Spring Half Term	Monday 12th February 2024 to Friday 16th February 2024	
Spring Half Term 2	Monday 19th February 2024	Friday 22nd March 2024
School Closed: Easter Holidays	Monday 25th March 2024 to Friday 5th April 2024	
Summer Half Term 1	Monday 8th April 2024	Friday 24th May 2024
School Closed: Summer Half Term	Monday 27th May 2024 to Friday 31st May 2024	
Summer Half Term 2	Tuesday 4th June 2024	Friday 19th July 2024

School will also be closed on the following days:

Teacher Training Days
Monday 4th September 2023
Tuesday 5th September 2023
Monday 8th January 2024
Monday 3rd June 2024
Monday 22nd July 2024

Bank Holidays
Good Friday: Friday 29th March 2024
Easter Monday: Monday 1st April 2024
May Day: Monday 6th May 2024
Whitsun: Monday 27th May 2024



Dates for your Diary

Spring Term 2023		
Date	Event	Year Group involved
Thursday 9 th February	Sharing day (times to be confirmed)	All
Tuesday 28 th February	Trip to Dudley Zoo	Year 3
Thursday 2 nd March	World Book Day	All
Saturday 11 th /Sunday 12 th March	Uniform sale in the school hall	All invited
Wednesday 15 th March	School photos (class groups)	All
Thursday 16 th March	Mother's Day breakfast (slots to book starting at 8am- first slot, last slot 10am) Further details nearer the time	All
Tuesday 28 th March	Easter Bonnet Parade 2.30pm	Years 1 and 2
Tuesday 28 th March	Parents' Evening via Teams (3.30-5.30)	All
Wednesday 29 th March	Easter Lunch for children (book as usual)	All
Wednesday 29 th March	Parents Evening (in person) (3.30-7.00)	All
Thursday 30 th March	Easter Service in hall 9am	Years 3 and 4
Friday 31 st March	Easter Bonnet Parade 2.30pm	Willow and Acorns
Friday 31st March		Break up for Easter

Summer Term 2023		
Date	Event	Year Group involved
Monday 17th April		Return to school
Wednesday 19 th April-Friday 21 st April	Year 4 Residential to Malvern	Year 4
Wednesday 26 th April	Maple Class Assembly for Parents 9am	Maple Class
Wednesday 3 rd May	Oak Class Assembly for Parents 9am	Oak Class
Friday 5 th May	Coronation Celebrations (special lunch chosen by children- order in usual way)	All
Monday 8th May Coronation Bank Holiday - school closed		
Wednesday 10 th May	Hazel Class Assembly for Parents 9am	Hazel Class
Wednesday 17 th May	Cedar Class Assembly for Parents 9am	Cedar Class
Tuesday 23 rd May	Bikeability	Hazel Class
Wednesday 24 th May	Bikeability	Oak Class
Wednesday 24 th May	Holly Class Assembly for Parents 9am	Holly Class
Friday 26th May		Break up for Half term



Dates for your Diary Continued..

Monday 5 th June TED – school closed		
Tuesday 6 th June	School re-opens	All
Tuesday 13 th June	Lakeside Trip	Year 3
Wednesday 14 th June	Black Country Living Museum Trip	Year 4
Thursday 15 th June	Acorns N Assembly for Parents	Acorns N
Friday 16 th June	Father's Day Breakfast (slots to book starting at 8am- first slot, last slot 10am) Further details nearer the time	All
Wednesday 21 st June	Cherry Class assembly for Parents 9am	Cherry Class
Thursday 22 nd June	Provisional Sports Day (TBC)	(Years R-4)
Week of 26 th - 30 th June	Forest school open afternoons	Monday – Holly Tuesday- Acorns N Wednesday-Acorns C Thursday-Oak Friday-Cedar
Wednesday 28 th June	Acorns C assembly for Parents 9am	Acorns C
Wednesday 5 th July	Beech class assembly for Parents 9am	Beech Class
Thursday 6 th July	Millfields Golden Jubilee Celebration (street party meal booked in usual way)	All
Week of 10 th - 14 th July	Forest School open mornings	Monday-Hazel Tuesday-Maple Wednesday-Beech Thursday-Cherry Friday-Rowan
Wednesday 12 th July	Rowan class assembly for Parents 9am	All
Friday 21 st July	Leavers' assembly for parents 2pm	Year 4
Friday 21 st July	Special lunch chosen by leavers (book in usual way)	All
Tuesday 25th July End of Term		