

Principal: Mrs. Mills

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Message from the Principal:

Dear Parents/Carers, Welcome to this November's newsletter. What a busy four weeks we have had so far! Our children, as always, are amazing and a real pleasure to be with. They are working so hard in their lessons and are so eager to learn new things. As you can see from this newsletter, the children have had lots of enrichment opportunities and we still have many more to come! It has been lovely to welcome parents and carers back onto the Academy site at the 100% attendance awards and the parents evening. It was just so nice to see you walking around the corridors, admiring the artwork and enjoying a brew and some homemade lobby! I have had many proud moments at Mill Hill, but one that will stay with me for a long time is the amount of money parents/carers, children and staff raised for Children in Need. Yes a whopping £2644! Thank you and you should all feel so very proud of yourselves. Please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher, Miss Jennings, Mrs Hulme or myself if you have any queries – we are always here to help. Finally, I look forward to all the fun activities still to come this half term and thank you as always for the support you show the Academy.



Attendance & Punctuality



We are pleased with our current attendance of 94.2% and we are above national at 92%. It is crucial that children are in school all of the time so that they aren't missing out on learning time. The school gates open between 8:30 - 8:40am. Thank you to all parents/carers and children for making every effort to be in school on time.

Reading Zone

We are proud to say, our Reading Zone is now open as a Library on Tuesday afternoons. Your child will be able to visit the library once a fortnight to change their library book. Please speak to your child's class teacher if you are unsure of your child's library day.

Message from Vice Principal:

What a wonderful few weeks we have had! We have a range of activities planned across the coming weeks - see below for all the upcoming dates. The children across the academy continue to work extremely hard and are really enjoying their current topics. The children's topics were especially brought to life for children in Reception when they went on their double-decker bus ride and for Y1 when they visited Stafford castle. It was wonderful to see all the fun the children were having during their trips from the updates on Dojo. If you are unable to access Dojo, please speak with your child's class teacher and they will be happy to help. We have had stay and play sessions for our new Rising 3 children, who will be joining us in January. Please speak to a member of the Nursery team if you would like any further information. I have been blown away by all the generous donations for the Christmas Fayre. We would be extremely grateful for any full bottles, chocolate and tombola donations.



Message from Assistant Principal:

What a busy half term we have had so far! We have lots more fun and engaging activities planned in the run up to Christmas, ensuring this will be an exciting time for us all. As I have the opportunity to drop into lessons on a daily basis, I am extremely proud of how hard the children and staff work each and every day. I also have the pleasure of showing visitors around our academy, who are equally impressed by the behaviour and courtesy of our children as well as the stimulating environment we have created. Thank you to you all for the support we have received recently for our sponsored danceathon and recent parents evening. Remember to keep up to date with Class Dojo and if you have any questions, please get in touch with your child's class teacher or myself.



Our Motto



Important Dates

Friday 26th November
INSET Day—closed to pupils
Monday 29th November
INSET Day—closed to pupils
Wednesday 1st December
EYFS Performance
Thursday 2nd December
EYFS Performance
Friday 3rd December
Year 3 & 4 Carol Concert
Year 5 & 6 Carol Concert
Monday 6th December
Year 3 & 4 Carol Concert
Tuesday 7th December
Year 5 & 6 Carol Concert
Wednesday 8th December
Christmas Fayre
Thursday 9th December
KS1 performance
Friday 10th December
KS1 performance
Christmas Jumper Day
Christmas Dinner
Friday 17th December
Academy closes for pupils

Our Curriculum

Here is a list of the topics being covered in each year group next half term:

Nursery	Our real-life superheroes
Reception	The World and Beyond
Year 1	Are all castles full of turrets and turrets?
Year 2	Rescue me!
Year 3	The Stone Age
Year 4	Romans
Year 5	Vikings
Year 6	World Wars

You will be able to see daily updates on Dojo of the lessons happening at Mill Hill.



Hopes, Dreams and Aspirations Programme and Theme Of the Week

Through our weekly assemblies, the children will focus on different themes and key celebrations. This half term the themes are:

- Bonfire Night
- Diwali
- Remembrance Day
- Anti-Bullying Week
- Children in Need
- Hanukkah
- Christingle
- Advent
- Human Rights Day



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Rising 3s

Rising 3s is a programme where your child can start at our nursery the term after they turn 3. For example, if your child turns 3 between September and December, they can start in nursery in the January.

For more information, please contact the school office.

Parents Evening

Thank you to all parents/carers who attended parents evening. There was a real buzz around the academy and it was lovely to see people taking advantage of the book fair and testing out our new menu with Mellors. We have collated all of the information collected from the parental questionnaires and the feedback was very positive. If you have any questions or queries regarding parents evening or the questionnaire please get in touch with Mrs Mill, Mrs Hulme or Miss Jennings.

Double Decker Bus Ride

The Reception children had a brilliant time on the bus driving around our city! They went around Tunstall, visited Newcastle, Trentham, Stoke and many more places.

They saw lots of well known places and spotted fire stations, libraries and different monuments around the city! The children behaved brilliantly on the bus and did us proud being so sensible!



Stafford Castle

As part of their topic, Year 1 went on their trip to Stafford Castle. The children were amazing on their trip and remembered lots of their learning from school. They thoroughly enjoyed looking at different artefacts. They dressed some of the children up as knights to explore the armour they had to wear. Dressed as soldiers, they made their way up to the castle and charged past their attackers. They also tried out coin minting and they even made lavender bags.



Children in Need

Our danceathon was a huge success. Thank you to all the children for taking part - they loved dancing their way through the day - and for all of the sponsorships they received.

We raised a phenomenal £2644.



Remembrance Day

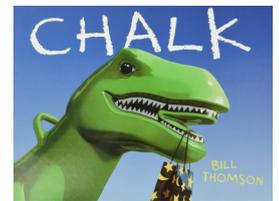
On Remembrance day, Mill Hill represented the community at a service at Tunstall Square to commemorate the soldiers. We also featured in the Evening Sentinel!



The children within school also took part in the two minute silence and their respect was outstanding. It was clear that they understood the significance of the silence. Thank you to everyone who created a poppy for our display. It looked fantastic!

Making Writers

For Making Writers this half term, the children used the wordless book 'Chalk'. They used their inference skills to understand the story and then a variety of creative writing pieces were created across the academy.



History Squad

This half term, we have welcomed the 'History Squad' into school. They worked with Years 4, 5 and 6 to develop their knowledge of their current topics: Romans, Viking and Anglo Saxons and Victorians. The children were totally engaged in the sessions and used their current knowledge to ask relevant questions to further extend their learning.

