

Principal: Mrs. Mills

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Message from the Principal:

Welcome to this month's newsletter and the final one for this half term. What a busy half term it has been! As you can see there have been lots of exciting experiences for our children and they continue to thoroughly embrace our school motto of "Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give up". Our children are making fabulous progress in all aspects of their learning. This is not only in the academic subjects but also in sports, the arts and the vast array of wider curriculum experiences. I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents/carers and the Mill Hill community for their continued support. This newsletter shows just snapshots of our work together, which is enhancing the strong links we already have with our community. As you know, Mrs Clarke will be leaving us after eighteen years at the academy. She is exceptionally sad to leave but she is excited to start a new journey in her career. I would like to thank Mrs Clarke for all her hard work and dedication in ensuring that our children over the years have had the very best start in life and also for the support she has given not only to the children but also to many parents and carers. She will be sorely missed and I, and all of the staff at the academy wish her all the very best for the future. Finally, I would like to wish you all a lovely half term break and see you all on Monday 31st October.



Attendance

Each week, we celebrate the classes with the best attendance and they win a big breakfast on a Friday. Our current whole school attendance is 95% and we are aiming for at least 96%. Attending school each day is vital to your child's education.

Just a reminder that children need to be in the academy between 8:30am and 8:40am. Anyone arriving after 8:40am is classed as late.

Website

On the school website, you will find all of the information regarding the academy. There are key dates, class pages with topic webs, newsletters, curriculum information, term dates and much more.

Here is the link to the website:

<https://clt.millhill.coop/>



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:

- Celebrating difference
- Bonfire Night
- Remembrance Day
- Anti-Bullying week
- Children in Need
- Online Safety
- Hanukkah
- Christmas



Message from Vice Principal:

What an amazing first half term it has been! The children have been there usual amazing selves and have really settled in their new classes. A big shout out to all the new nursery children who have taken to starting school in their stride. Please see overleaf regarding the Early Years Open Day as new admissions for the next academic year are open soon. The Early Years team are extremely sad to be losing Mrs Clarke after half term as you will all agree she has been an integral part of Mill Hill, in particular the nursery. I'm sure that you will all join me in wishing Mrs Clarke well in her new adventure. We were delighted to start our new Little Wandle phonics and reading programme and I want to thank you for your support in our new approach to reading.



Message from Assistant Principal:

Well this half term has gone by at the speed of light. The children have settled into their new routines and classes extremely well and are working their socks off. We have changed the way we deliver the curriculum this year and it has meant that the children can become fully immersed in the subject being delivered to support them in knowing and remembering more. It has been great to see that many children are reading at least four times a week as this really supports their learning. Next half term, the children will be bringing books home from our Reading Zone to read for pleasure. Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Please use Class Dojo to keep up to date with everything happening in the academy and if you have any queries, please get in touch.



Important Dates

Friday 21st October 2022

Academy closes for half term

Monday 31st October 2022

Academy opens

Wednesday 2nd November 2022

Christmas card competition closing date

Wednesday 9th November 2022

Photographs

Thursday 10th November 2022

Reception trip to the airport

Book Fair in school until 17th November

Monday 14th November 2022

Parents Evening

Friday 18th November 2022

Children in Need

Thursday 1st December 2022

Christmas Fair 3:00pm—4:30pm

Our Curriculum

Here is a list of the units being covered in each year group this half term:

Nursery	Our Heroes
Reception	Planes, Trains and Automobiles
Year 1	Formal elements of art Local history - Circus
Year 2	Local history - Proud to be a Potter How do living things change and have offspring?
Year 3	Prehistoric art How can we classify rocks?
Year 4	How does sound travel? What were the greatest achievements of the Ancient Greeks?
Year 5	How did England change during the settlement of the Anglo-Saxons and Vikings? How do we separate materials?
Year 6	Why was the Battle of Britain a significant turning point for the United Kingdom in World War Two? How do animal's living systems work together to maintain a healthy body?

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Harvest

Thank you to everyone for their kind donations to our harvest festival. All of your donations will be going to our local food bank 'Chell Parish Pantry'.

MacMillan Coffee Morning

We hosted our annual Macmillan Cancer support and raised a wonderful £84.86. Thank you for your continued support.

We also officially opened our defibrillator, which will be a real asset to the community.



KS1 Yard

The children have watched with excitement and anticipation as their new equipment has been built. The equipment is now complete and should be all signed off in time for the children to use after half term. How exciting!



Remembrance Day

Last year, we created a lovely poppy display at the front the school. We would like to do the same again, but we want to do it on a much larger scale. Therefore, over half term, we would like you to create a poppy to contribute to our whole school Remembrance Day display. All children who bring in a poppy will be entered into a prize draw.



Nursery and Reception Applications

Reception applications for September 2023 will open from 1st November and Nursery applications will open from 1st December.

Applications can be made at:

https://www.stoke.gov.uk/info/20033/school_admissions

On Tuesday 8th November, we will be having an open day for new Nursery and Reception parents. For more information or to book a place for our open day, please contact the school office.

Ofsted says our Nursery and Reception are GOOD and



Christmas Card Competition

All entries for our Christmas card competition need to be handed in by Wednesday 2nd November. The winning design will be used as the Mill Hill card that is sent to parents/carers and businesses and it will also be entered into the City Learning Trust's competition.

After School Clubs

After half term, the after school clubs will continue as they currently are. Should you wish to put your child's name down for a club or they would like to change, please speak to the school office to discuss this. It is great to see so many children taking part in after school clubs. The school council will be speaking to the children regarding clubs they would like to attend in Spring.

Sporting Events Well done Mill Hill!!

This half term, we have had three cross country events and the children have made Mill Hill proud at each event. The girls have had two podium finishes and the boys narrowly missed out.



In a city wide football competition, the girls football team made it all the way to the semi-finals. The team had gone unbeaten in the group stage and won in the quarter finals 4-0. Unfortunately, they went on to lose in the semi finals 2-1.

Last Friday, in the rain, we hosted a mixed year 5/6 friendly football match against Smallthorne Academy. In a very close and wet game, Smallthorne took the friendly title with a 5-3 win.



Mrs Clarke

On Wednesday 9th November, Mrs Clarke (formerly Mrs Mann) will be leaving Mill Hill to commence a new chapter in her life. Many of you will know Mrs Clarke as parents and carers and lots of you will also remember her as children yourselves. We would like to thank her for her dedication over the past 18 years and we wish her all the best in her new venture.



Bikeability

This half term, the children in Year 5 have taken part in Level 2 Bikeability. This helps the children to understand keeping safe whilst on their bikes and riding around roads and pavements. The children were awarded with a badge and a certificate. Year 4 will be undertaking their Level 1 course in January 2023.

