



# Mill Hill News

## Summer Term

# Key dates

## Dates for your diary:

**Monday 1st & Tuesday 2nd September 2025**

Inset Days

**Wednesday 3rd September 2025**

School open to students

**Tuesday 16th September 2025**

Year 4 Multiplication Timestable Check  
Parent Workshop

**Wednesday 17th September 2025**

Reception Phonics Parent Workshop

**Wednesday 24th September 2025**

Yr. 5 swimming starts & Yr. 6 SATS Reading  
Parent Workshop

**Friday 26th September 2025**

Macmillan coffee morning

**Monday 6th October 2025**

Parents evening

**Monday 6th & Tuesday 7th October 2025**

Yrs. 5 & 6 Bikeability

**Friday 17th October 2025**

End of Term Celebration Assembly

**Friday 24th October 2025**

End of Term Treat – Glow in the Dark  
Sports

## Hopes, Dreams and Aspirations assembly themes:

Through our weekly assemblies, the children will focus on different themes and key celebrations. For the next few weeks, the themes are:

- Being me in my World (All of the British Values)
- International Literacy Day & Roald Dahl Day
- Recycle Week & National Fitness Day
- World Gratitude Day & International Day of Sign Languages
- National Sporting Heritage Day & Black History Month
- Harvest Festival
- Diwali



Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...

# Senior Leadership

## Message from the Head of Academy:

Where has the time gone? It's hard to believe we've reached the end of another incredible academic year! It has been a fantastic journey filled with memorable learning experiences, growth, and achievements for our children. I want to say a heartfelt thank you to our amazing pupils – you've been absolute superstars throughout the year. You continue to make me incredibly proud every single day. A big thank you also goes to our wonderful parents and carers for your continued support of the Academy – your involvement truly makes a difference. And of course, my deepest thanks to our dedicated staff, who consistently go above and beyond to support and inspire our children. I hope the entire Mill Hill community enjoys a well-deserved, restful summer break. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Wednesday 3rd September**. As always, if you need anything in the meantime, feel free to contact me via ClassDojo.



## Message from the Vice Principal:

It's been another incredibly successful year here at Mill Hill, and I couldn't be prouder of what our children have achieved. The progress and attainment across all year groups has been fantastic, and it's a true reflection of the hard work, dedication, and resilience shown by our pupils every day. I'm sure you'll agree that the children benefit from a plethora of wider experiences during their time at Mill Hill – from inspiring trips and themed days to enrichment activities that support their personal growth as well as their academic learning. None of this would be possible without our dedicated and passionate staff, who create nurturing, engaging, and ambitious environments for all our pupils. Enjoy a well-deserved summer break making special memories together – hopefully with plenty of sunshine!



## Message from the Assistant Principal:

I want to say a heartfelt thank you for the incredibly warm welcome I've received within my new role as assistant principal since returning from maternity leave from staff, pupils, and families alike. It's been a real pleasure getting to know the children across all year groups, and as always I've thoroughly enjoyed working closely with our wonderful Year 6 pupils as they prepare for the next stage of their journey. Throughout the year, the children have taken part in a wide range of trips and exciting opportunities that have helped ignite their learning and bring the curriculum to life. I hope every child has had a happy and fulfilling year in their current class and is looking forward to an exciting new chapter in September. Wishing you all a wonderful summer break, filled with fun, rest, and special memories made with family.



## Message from the Assistant Principal:

Please see the attendance and behaviour page for a message from Mrs Salih.





# Tea & Tots

## 🌸 Thank You from Tea & Tots 🌸

A heartfelt thank you to all the wonderful parents, grandparents, and carers who bring their little ones to Tea & Tots. Your presence, warmth, and support have made this group a great success. Tea & Tots is more than just a playgroup — it's a space for grown-ups to enjoy a brew and a chat, and for children to explore, play, and delight in all the fun activities we have to offer. We're so grateful to be building this lovely community together. Here's to many more joyful afternoons filled with laughter, learning, and connection!



Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up....



# Rising 3's



This summer term, our topic has been all about 'Minibeasts' and 'Under the Sea'.

We've had so much fun exploring these themes through a wide range of exciting activities and games. The children learned about different minibeasts, their habitats, and the changing seasons. We also discovered fascinating sea creatures and explored life at the beach—including boats, floating and sinking, pirates, and ships.

We enjoyed sharing lots of lovely stories and nursery rhymes, including some of our favourites like *Incy Wincy Spider*, *Five Little Speckled Frogs*, *Row, Row, Row Your Boat*, and many more.

Creative play was a big part of our learning. The children used a variety of textures and materials in their artwork—painting, printing, using brushes, experimenting with shaving foam, and gluing and sticking.

The children have been fantastic, showing great curiosity and creativity throughout the term. They've learned so much, and we're very proud of them.

Well done to you all!



Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...



# Nursery



This term, we enjoyed exploring *Elmer the Elephant*, the colourful patchwork elephant who celebrates being different. Through his adventures, the children learned about kindness, individuality, and the importance of accepting others. They took part in creative activities like storytelling, art, and role play, all helping to reinforce Elmer's message that being yourself is something to be proud of.



The children created their own elephant designs to celebrate Elmer Day – how fabulous are they!

In maths, we have been reviewing much of our earlier learning. We have also begun exploring what numbers come before and after others using a number line, and have started learning about 3D shapes and their properties.



Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...





The children have loved exploring our jungle theme in music! We have created new verses and added actions to the songs. We have also designed sound effects for animals using a variety of instruments. They particularly enjoyed the song "Along came a crocodile"



We are so proud of our Early Years garden area this term. The children have been amazing throughout the process. They helped to plant the seeds, water the plants and once grown, we harvested and tasted our own produce. The children all knew how to be careful and enjoyed being little gardeners. Well done, everyone!



Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...



# Reception



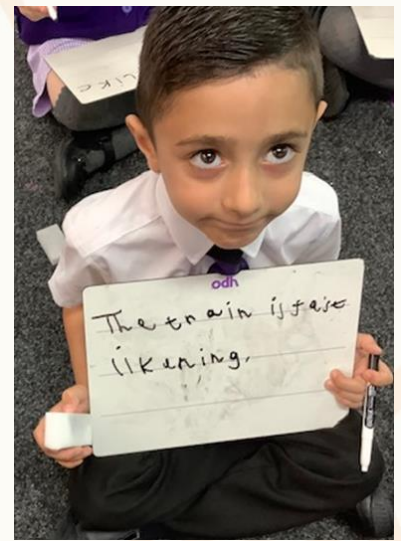
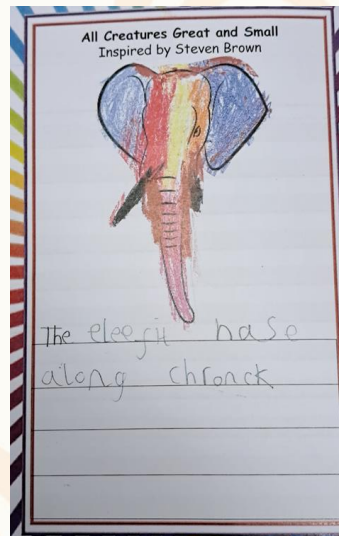
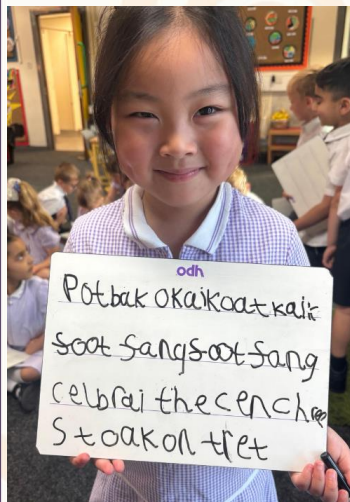
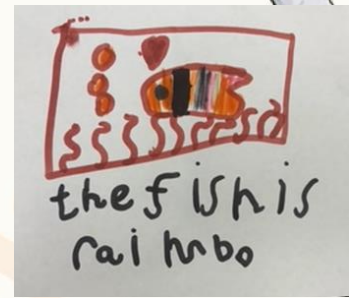
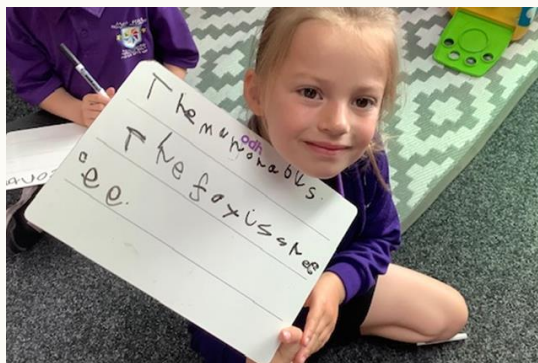
This half term, we have continued with our topic “All Creatures Great and Small” and we have been very busy! The children have enjoyed learning about minibeasts and life cycles. We were lucky enough to go on a minibeast hunt at Whitfield Valley Nature Reserve and also took part in a pond dipping activity. Not only have the children explored their locality, they have also found out all about animals from different habitats such as the desert, the grasslands and the polar regions! The children enjoyed finding out lots of facts! Towards the end of the term, they had a brilliant time at Blue Planet Aquarium learning about the marine life – even a great big shark, called Betty and Nemo!



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We have really focused on our use of phonics this half term and using them to write words, captions and sentences. The children have had a range of things to write about from labels to animal descriptions.



In our math's learning, the children have been looking at positional language and using this to describe where objects are in relation to others. They did a great job describing positions using the small world resources. They then had to listen and draw objects in places described to them using positional language. We also recapped sharing equally and then introduced grouping. The children did a great job as finding equal groups and leftovers.



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# Year 1



This half term, as part of our writing unit 'A postcard from the Seaside' we had the opportunity to visit Prestatyn Beach. Although the tide was in, we still had a fantastic day and enjoyed our delicious ice creams and ice lollies.



We took part in the KS1 Sports Day. We enjoyed competing in our running race, bean bag race, javelin and space hopper race.

Well done to our winning team Scorpius!



Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...





This half term, we also had session all about seatbelt safety. We watched a demonstration and made posters to hang inside our own cars to remind us how we can keep safe.



To celebrate Stoke 100, we took part in the largest cream tea party. We enjoyed a hot chocolate or cup of tea with a jam and cream scone.



To celebrate our hard work this year, we enjoyed our treats of funfair rides, trampolining, Laser Tag and a trip to the park.



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# Year 2



This half term has been an engaging and enriching one for Year 2. We commenced our topic on the Great Fire of London, during which the children participated in an immersive and informative workshop. They had the opportunity to consolidate and demonstrate their learning, as well as construct their own wattle and daub walls. Additionally, we were pleased to welcome a visit from the local fire station, which further enhanced the children's understanding of fire safety and the role of firefighters. It was a highly successful and memorable experience for all involved.



Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...





In design and technology, Year 2 have been exploring the different food groups and learning about the importance of a healthy, balanced diet. The children discussed the nutritional value of various foods and identified which groups contribute to overall wellbeing. Building on this knowledge, they carefully tasted a variety of ingredients, considering flavours and textures, before selecting their favourites to create their own personalised wraps. This practical activity not only reinforced their understanding of healthy eating but also encouraged creativity and decision-making. The children thoroughly enjoyed the experience and took pride in their delicious, nutritious creations.



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# Year 3



## Sports Day Success!

Year 3 enjoyed a fantastic morning of fun and competition at their annual Sports Day, with parents and children alike getting involved in the action. The children took on the hurdles, 100m sprints, sack race, and an exciting relay race. Parents also showed great spirit and enthusiasm in their own race, much to the delight of the crowd! It was a closely contested event, with all house teams earning plenty of points, but in the end, Aquila soared into first place, closely followed by Scorpius. The day was perfectly rounded off with a well-deserved ice lolly for all the children!

## Marvellous Maths

This term, Year 3 have been working hard to understand the value of money, learning how to use pounds and pence with confidence. They've also been telling the time, focusing on the difference between quarter past and quarter to – even using Roman numerals to help read the clock!



## Amazing Art

This half term, Year 3 have been showcasing their artistic talents by exploring both realism and abstract art. They focused on monochromatic pieces and experimented with using texture to highlight key features in their portraits, creating some truly impressive work!



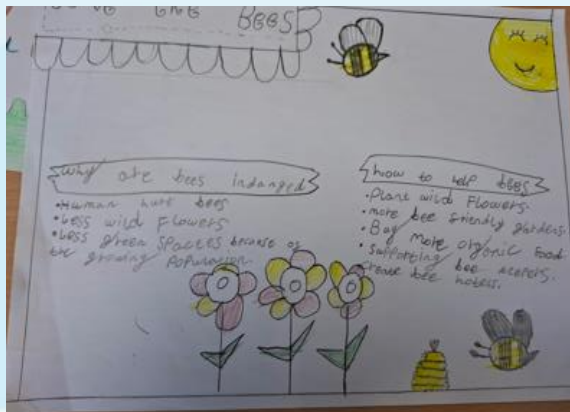
*Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...*





### Saving the Bees

In Geography, Year 3 explored the importance of protecting our bee population. They investigated the key issues causing the decline in bees and discussed practical ways they could help save them. This was a wonderfully engaging topic, and the children showed real passion and enthusiasm for the sustainability of bees and the environment.



### Wonderful Writing

Year 3 continued their exciting writing journey by revisiting the evil witch from *Hansel and Gretel*. The children wrote imaginative recount-biographies from the witch's perspective, detailing her horrific crimes over the years! This creative piece not only showcased their storytelling skills but also focused on using apostrophes for possession with confidence.



### Exploring the Wonders of Science!

Year 3 had a fantastic time at the Thinktank Science Museum! There were smiles all around as the children explored the interactive science garden, journeyed through the past in the museum's fascinating exhibitions, and looked ahead to the future through the exciting world of AI.



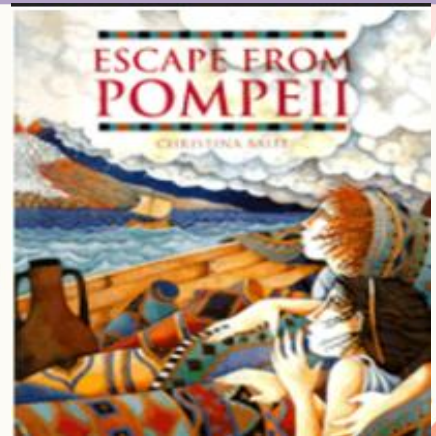
Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...



# Year 4



In our English lessons, we have been learning how to use direct speech in our writing. We have linked this closely with previous learning about Mount Vesuvius, its eruption and the destruction of Pompeii. To ensure that we could immerse ourselves in the whole process, we have watched reenacted clips of the event, performed our own drama, had many discussions, worked collaboratively and drafted our work before our final write up. We have thoroughly enjoyed the whole process and are proud of the work we've produced!



In our maths lessons, we have been learning about shape and statistics!



We really appreciate your ongoing support with times tables and encourage you to support the children with this as much as possible at home to ensure rapid progress is made.



Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...





In science, we have been learning all about sound. We have learnt how the ear works, how sound travels and factors that could affect this process. We have used tuning forks to create sound and created larger pinnae to test if this changes the volume of sound we receive. We also made our very own panpipes to learn about pitch, which included some careful measuring and cutting skills.



We have been lucky enough to attend the Halle event at the Victoria Hall, which we all thoroughly enjoyed!



We also celebrated 100 year of Stoke-on-Trent!



During our PE lessons, we prepared for Sports Day. We competed in races such as the 100 metres, hurdles, sack and relay. Fortunately, the weather held out for us and the sun even made an appearance!



Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...



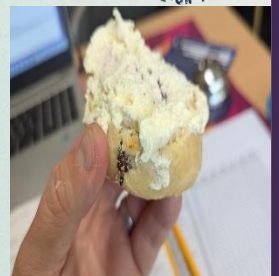
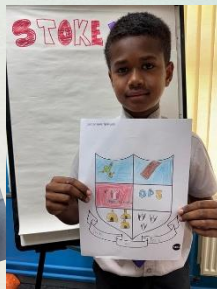
# Year 5



Wow! We can hardly believe that we are nearing the end of your child's time in Year 5! It's been a busy year full of lots of learning, laughter and experiences. We'll be sad to see the children move up to the next teacher but we know that they will continue to try hard and make the kind of progress that we know they are capable of. Good luck for your final year in primary school.



As a school, we thoroughly enjoyed participating in the Stoke 100 celebrations. We had a special lunch day (despite the typical British weather), decorated celebratory cupcakes, made bunting, took part in the Big Play at Victoria Hall and we worked with some local artists to make headdresses and costumes for the People's Parade. We also designed a new crest for Stoke-on-Trent to reflect the modern day city. We then finished the celebrations off by taking part in the biggest cream tea to try to set a world record. The scones were delicious!



This term our focus has been on North America as we have studied the Western United States and how it compares to the West Midlands and where we live! We were amazed when we found out that the United Kingdom could fit in to California 2.5X because it is so big compared to the UK. We then went on to look at the Maya civilisation who lived in what is modern day Mexico and the surrounding area. We had to use our knowledge of the Anglo-Saxons to help us compare societies that existed at the same time.



*Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...*





All of Year 5 were lucky enough to be invited to the design and technology department at Haywood Academy to make a summer puzzle out of wood.

They had an hour to make their puzzle and Miss Abbott was super impressed with how well the children worked and the quality of what they produced. All of the children thoroughly enjoyed their visit. This was also an opportunity for the children to see what facilities were on offer at high school as they prepare to move to Year 6 and make their high school choices.



Music this term has been delivered by Mrs Hollingshurst. The children have been learning to play the ukulele and even had the chance to go to Victoria Hall to take part in the Big Play where children from all over Stoke-on-Trent took part. It has been great listening to the children attempt to play the chords to accompany modern day pop songs. As well as learning to play the ukulele, the children have also had the opportunity to use modern technology to compose pieces of music which reflect different moods and pieces of art.

Sports day was a great success and the children all gave it their absolute best. They really appreciated the support from the huge number of parents who turned up to cheer them on.

P.E this term has focused on fielding games with a particular focus on rounders. It took quite a bit of time to understand the rules but we certainly have some big hitters in the year group. The children really enjoyed the competitive element to the game and had a great time putting their batting, throwing and catching skills to the test.

Year 5 attended the Halle Orchestra at the Victoria Hall towards the end of the term. The theme linked with our earlier science topic of Space. The children enjoyed the concert, especially when they did the alien dance and the music for Star Wars was played.



Have a  
great  
summer!

Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...



# Year 6



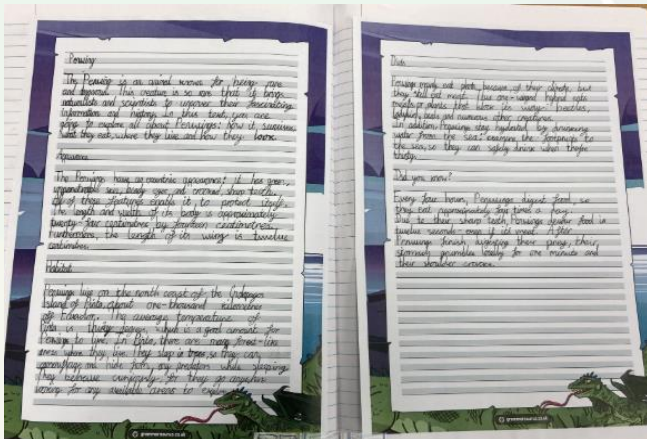
This term, Year 6 have been diving into the delicious world of food-inspired sculpture! Inspired by famous artists Peter Anton and Kate Malone, our children explored how everyday items can be transformed into imaginative and expressive pieces of art using clay. From sketching initial designs to experimenting with clay, the children used their creativity to design and sculpt their very own food-themed artworks.



Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...



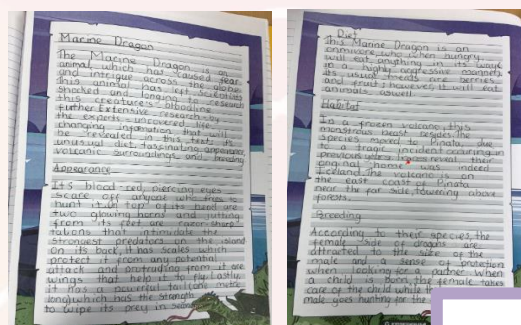
What a brilliant way to celebrate the end of primary school! Year 6 had an unforgettable day at Alton Towers for their leavers' trip. We're so proud of everything Year 6 have achieved and wish them the very best as they prepare for their next exciting chapter!



Mason

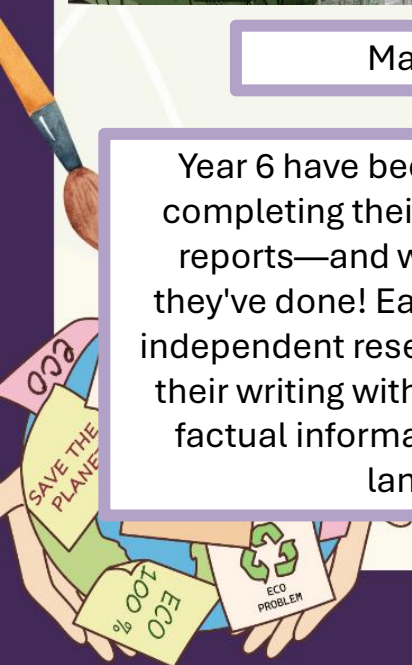
As you leave us and take your next big step into secondary school, we want you to know how proud we are of everything you've achieved. You've grown into kind, confident, and resilient young people, ready to take on new challenges and adventures. We'll miss you—but we know you're going to do amazing things. Good luck, Year 6 – the future is yours!

Year 6 have been working hard on completing their non-chronological reports—and what a fantastic job they've done! Each pupil carried out independent research, and structured their writing with clear subheadings, factual information, and engaging language.



Ethan

Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...





# Curriculum




Nursery	Nursery –Here’s where my story begins - All about me and my family
Reception	Planes. Trains and Automobiles
Year 1	Geography – Where in the World do I live Science– Observe and record seasonal changes
Year 2	History – How has technology changed over the last 50 years? Science – How do we know something is alive?
Year 3	History – How did daily life change in Britain from the Stone Age to the Iron Age? Science – How do the systems inside our body work?
Year 4	Art – Sculpture – What can pottery tell us about our past? D&T – Textiles – Fastenings
Year 5	Geography Fieldwork – What are the features of my local river? Art – Chromatic – How realistic do portraits need to be?
Year 6	History – How has crime and punishment changed in Britain through time ? Fieldwork – How can our school reduce its’s plastic waste?



Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...



# Behaviour & Attendance

**Well Done!**



Message from the Assistant Principal:

**Attendance to date:  
93.8%**

## Attendance

This year, we've celebrated great attendance in a variety of fun and rewarding ways — from our weekly class breakfast winners, to termly "Big Breakfast" events for 100% attenders, where children invited their parents or carers to join the celebration. We know that good attendance has a huge impact on children's learning, progress, and confidence, and we are grateful to you for helping us promote this throughout the year. Looking ahead to September, we kindly remind all parents and carers that you must call the school office each day your child is absent. If a child is missing from school and we can't reach a parent or carer to confirm the reason, it becomes a safeguarding concern.

Please also make sure to update the school office immediately with any changes to your contact number or address, so we can stay in touch when needed.

What can you do to increase your child's attendance?

Find out about your child's attendance

Try to make medical appointments outside of the school day.

Ask your child how they feel about school.

Phone as soon as possible to tell us why your school is absent.

Praise and reward good attendance: even small successes like attending all week.

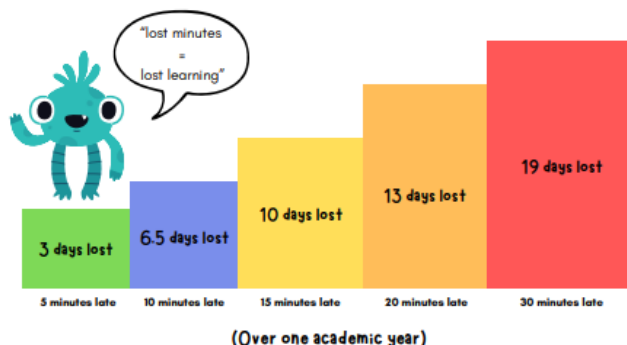
Only grant days at home for genuine illness (you will know).

Avoid taking holidays in school time.

## Every minute counts!

If your child arrives late for class:

- They miss out on important learning, which could effect their achievement.
- They don't have the social time to settle into class.
- It can be embarrassing for them.
- They may disrupt the learning of others.



## Mill Hill's Attendance Ladder



If attendance falls below 90% you are a persistent absentee and will be referred to the Educational Welfare Service in order to improve attendance.

What does my child's attendance mean?

What you can do:

- Have a regular routine for the start of each day.
- Help your child get their clothes and equipment ready before they go to bed.
- Set a reasonable bedtime to make sure they get enough sleep.

Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...



# Behaviour & Attendance

Well  
Done!



Message from the Assistant Principal:

## Behaviour

As we come to the end of another school year, we want to take a moment to celebrate the fantastic efforts and behaviour of our wonderful students. It's been a fun-filled year packed with exciting rewards for those who have consistently done their best and met their goals.

From epic discos and the ever-popular Party Roo, to high-energy Nerf wars and glow-in-the-dark dodgeball, the children have truly earned every moment of fun. We've bounced on bouncy castles, flipped on trampolines, zoomed in zorbs, scaled the climbing wall, and even enjoyed the thrills of our very own fun fair!

We are so proud of every child who puts in the effort to achieve the scores they need.

Their hard work and positive attitude have made this year one to remember.

Thank you to all our parents and carers for your continued support throughout the year.

We wish you all a safe, happy, and sunny summer break — and we can't wait to welcome everyone back in September!



Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...

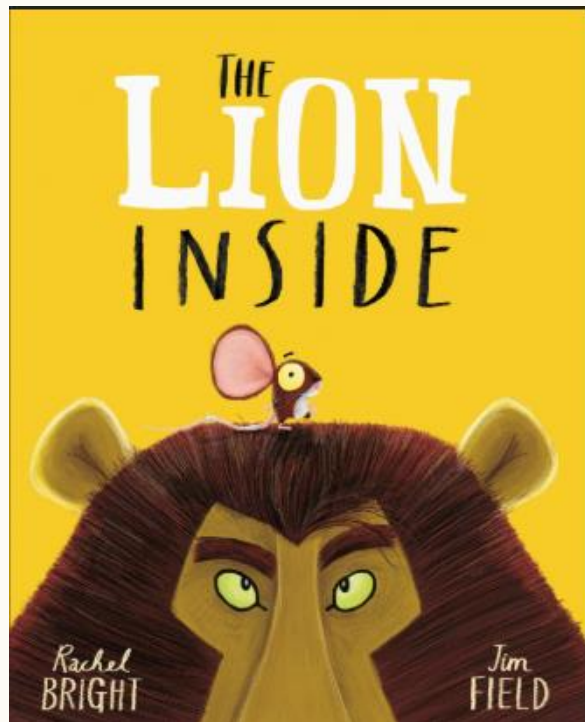


# Book of the Half Term

Find a cosy spot and enjoy these book recommendations from some of our teachers!

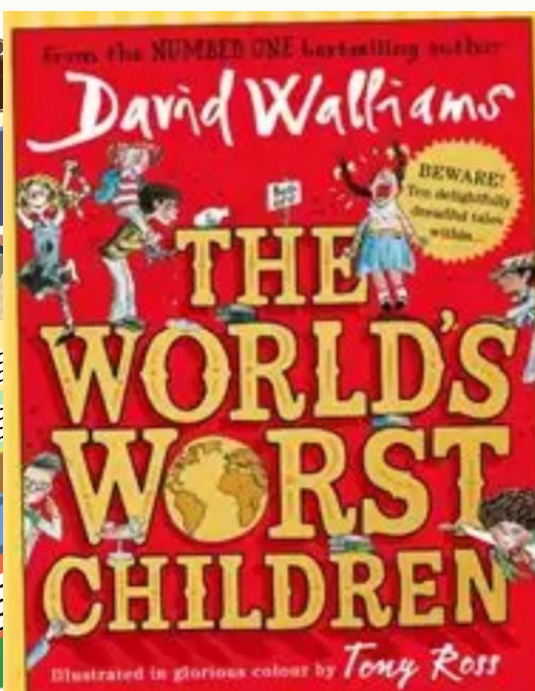
**For Early Years, Miss Shaw says:**

“The Lion Inside is a heart-warming picture book that delivers an important message about courage and self-confidence. Through the unlikely friendship between a little mouse and a loud, proud lion, the story teaches children that even the smallest voices can have great power. It is one of my favourite books to read to my little boy Finley.”



**For Years 1 & 2, Miss Gidman says:**

“Do you like funny stories that make you giggle and laugh out loud? Well, The World’s Worst Children 1 is just what you need! This book is full of silly, wacky, and sometimes VERY naughty children who get into all sorts of crazy situations. Each chapter introduces a new child, and let me tell you, these kids are really bad! From a girl who can't stop being rude, to a boy who is so greedy he eats EVERYTHING, these kids will make you laugh at their wild adventures.”



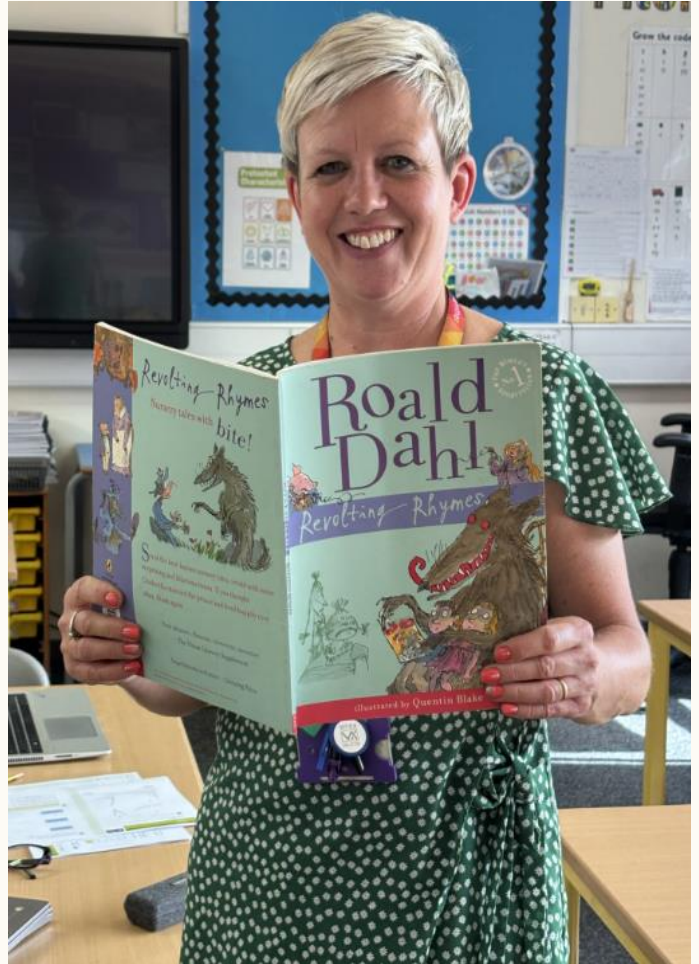
Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...



# Book of the Half Term

**For years 3 & 4, Mrs Wellington says:**

"I love Revolting Rhymes because it's really funny and full of surprises! Roald Dahl takes fairy tales I thought I knew and turns them upside down with silly rhymes and cheeky twists. My favourite part is how Little Red Riding Hood isn't scared at all—she's actually really clever! The poems made me chuckle, and the pictures by Quentin Blake are wiggly and wild. This is my favourite book because it makes reading feel fun and exciting, and I never know what's going to happen next!."



**For years 5 & 6, Mrs Norcup says:**

"I loved reading Charlotte's Web as a child. It is a timeless classic that celebrates friendship, loyalty, and the beauty of life. Through the touching story of Wilbur the pig and Charlotte the wise spider, it weaves a tale that is both heart-warming and thought-provoking. It is a book that you can never get bored of!"

Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...



# Fundraising

We raised an  
amazing  
£1312.98!

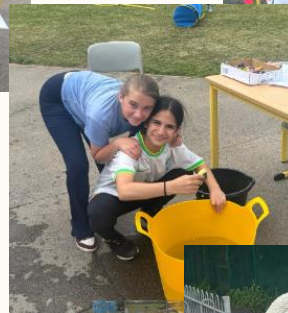


## Thank You – Year 6 Fundraiser Success!

A huge thank you to all the parents and families who supported our Year 6 fundraiser! Whether you donated, helped out, or simply cheered us on, your generosity and involvement made a real difference.

Thanks to your incredible support, we raised a **HUGE £1312.98** to help make the Year 6 Prom a truly special celebration for our leavers. The children are so excited, and we can't wait to give them the memorable send-off they deserve!

We're so grateful to be part of such a kind and supportive school community – thank you again for helping us make it all possible!



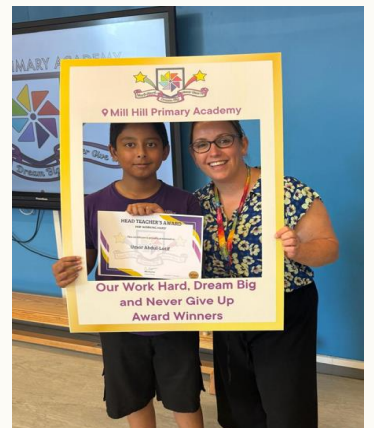
Donate

Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...



# Celebration

We had a wonderful time celebrating our final awards ceremony of the academic year! It was especially lovely to welcome parents to share in the special moment, watching their children proudly receive awards for 'Work Hard', 'Dream Big', and 'Never Give Up'. The room was filled with smiles, applause, and a real sense of achievement. We're incredibly proud of every one of our students for their dedication, determination, and growth throughout the year. What a fantastic way to end on a high note!



Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...



# Summer Fair



All we have to say is **WOW!**

With your incredible support, we've managed to raise an amazing **£2,671.45** in our Summer Fair!

This fantastic total will go directly towards the school, helping us create even more amazing experiences and opportunities for our children.

A huge thank you to our amazing staff - your dedication and hard work never go unnoticed. You go above and beyond every single day, and we are so grateful.

We'd also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the stall holders, ride operators, the ice cream man, Nick our local PCSO, and the climbing wall team for helping to make the event such a huge success.

We couldn't have done it without you all!



Work Hard, Dream Big and Never Give Up...