Millfields Mag FRIDAY 27TH MARCH 2020

VIER NES 27 DE MARZO DE 2020

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Millfields Learning at Home and at School



It's Friday everyone, and it has definitely been a very, very strange and unusual one for us all. All the staff at school are trying to get adjusted to not being here and seeing all of the amazing Millfields children, parents and carers, and of course their colleagues. I know that you and your families are all getting used to home learning and working in a different way too.

Firstly, I want to say a huge 'thank you' to all of you for the massive effort that you are putting in to keep your learning going while not being in school and not seeing your teacher and other staff that support and help you every day. Thanks to all the parents, aunts, uncles,

grandparents and friends who are keeping all the children busy with their work -at the kitchen table, in the garden, on the balcony, in the living room and on a PC, laptop or tablet. Well done everyone on completing your first week! Thank you for all the emails with photos of your amazing work that you have been sending to all the teachers -they love seeing what you have been doing, so please keep sending them.

I appreciate that this is a very challenging time for us all - many parents will find the idea of home-schooling daunting and overwhelming, remember that our children may be equally overwhelmed, maybe worried and confused. They see and hear lots even when we think they don't, their routines and structures are disrupted and they will feel the tension and anxiety from the adults around them. It is a completely new situation for them too - they may well expect the weeks ahead to feel like summer holidays; we know it will feel very different. Under these circumstances, home learning may well add to this anxiety and stress - for all of you. In that case, leave it. Your children need to be reassured, comforted, loved and feel secure more than they need to be learning. So, don't argue and fall out about any of the things we have sent home or provided. Instead, watch a film together on the sofa, share a book together and talk about the story. Bake and cook together. Paint pictures, create with play dough or junk modelling. Play board games. Do science experiments. Go on virtual tours of museums and art galleries and zoos. Do jigsaw puzzles. Build dens and play hide and seek. Build with Lego. Look at old photos and tell stories about family members, some of whom your children have never met. Sometimes, just snuggle up together and just be.

However, for some children, it may well be exactly what they need. They might thrive on the structure and the routines. They might be bored or anxious about not learning. They might be desperate to see their classmates and their teachers. They might love the workbooks and fly through the different tasks, and want more. Your child might be both of these children! Most children will be. Follow their lead, and use your gut instinct. You won't go far wrong. Stay in touch with your class teachers and the wider school community - we are all here to help and support as best as we can.

Don't worry about their academic progress. All the above will help them. Every child across the whole country is in the same boat at the moment; they will all be ok. When we get back to school, after celebrating being together again, we will pick up from where we left off and meet your child's needs like we always try to do.

So use the home learning resources, or don't, or do anything in between. Try to have fun and spend time together, looking after each other. Your child's emotional and mental health (and yours) is far more important than anything else. How they felt during this time will stay with them for the rest of their lives, far longer than the worksheets or online learning tasks.

Remember it is only one more week until what would have been the Easter break -please make sure you are planning to have that break! After Easter we will be starting to do regular virtual lessons, assemblies and other learning ideas. We are taking this hour by hour, day by day and week by week. Government guidance, advice and events are changing so quickly, so please support us as we try to support you and your children as best we can.

Be kind to each other, take care and stay safe. Stay in touch - we can help and support too. Thanks, Jane





Something On A Stick Day Saturday 28th March World Piano Dav Sunday 29th March **Doctors' Day** Monday 30th March Crayola Crayon Day Tuesday 31st March **April Fools Day** Wednesday 1st April **Autism Awareness Day** Thursday 2nd April World Party Day Friday 3rd April Bank Holiday (VE Day) Friday 8th May

Attendance Week beg: 16th Mar

Our school target: 96.5% Last week: 91.4% Winning classes: KS1 Brown (96.4%) KS2 Dunlop (95.4%) *Well done!*

In these difficult times these telephone numbers can be useful:

Child Line 0800 1111 Samaritans 116 123 Domestic Violence Hotline 0808 2000 247 Mind 0300 123 3393 Age UK 0800 169 6565 La Leche League 0345 1202918 (for mums struggling to get formula milk)

Reminder: Head Teachers Surgery CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE School Tours CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

On this day in History...

The first successful blood transfusion is performed, Brussels 1914



Millfields Rainbows

























