



Dear Parents and Carers

Learning—Laughing—Achieving

Christingle

Tuesday morning saw our year 3 children, parents and staff brave the icy conditions to join with all of the schools on Hayling Island at the College in celebrating the Christingle Service whilst raising money for The Children's Society. The service was led by Dr Jenny Gaffin and culminated in nearly 400 children standing in a circle to light their Christingles. Thank you to the parents who gave up their time to walk down with us.



**The
Children's
Society**

No child
should feel
alone



Miracle Child

On Wednesday morning Years 4 – 6 walked to St Mary's Church for their dress rehearsal of our production 'Miracle Child'. This was my first visit to St Mary's and it is a beautiful setting for our children to perform in. Some of the singing and dancing blew me away and I can't wait now for Thursday morning when we can share this with parents. Again, we were given great support by some hardy parents who braved the wet conditions to walk down to the church with us. Thank you.

Mill Rythe Holiday Village Panto – 'Oh no it isn't; oh yes it is!'

As an end of term treat we are taking the whole school to watch the pantomime at Mill Rythe Holiday park on Monday morning. A member of staff will remain at school in case any parents need to make contact with us and they will be able to communicate with everyone at the park. I am sure a great time will be had by everyone.

Campus Carols

On Tuesday afternoon at 2pm we will be joining up with children from Mill Rythe Infant School and Cherry Island Nursery to sing some festive songs. Weather permitting, this will take place on our playground at 2pm and will last for about twenty minutes. We will look forward to seeing you on Tuesday.

Green Fingers

Mr Darby has been running our Gardening Club this term. A few weeks ago the school received the very kind donation of an upright planter for our outdoor learning area. Gardening in school is a real passion of his, and he was thrilled when some of the year 6 girls suggested doing a 'Big Sister' activity with some of the boys from year 3. I was really impressed at how they wanted to share their gardening skills and knowledge (a few of them having been part of our prized butterfly garden from last year) with those who may have had none. It was a fantastic gesture and Mr Darby was overwhelmed with the results.

From the simple construction of the planter to the planting of a variety of bulbs ready for spring, these girls took charge and oversaw the whole thing with great fun and maturity. I know the boys from year 3 all thoroughly enjoyed it and hopefully an enthusiasm for horticulture has been ignited in them. Mr Darby is looking forward to working with them all again in the spring and seeing the results of their efforts.

We would also like to say a huge thank you to the company that supplied us with the planter. They had heard about our love of gardening at Mill Rythe and thought it would make a useful contribution to our campaign to drown Mill Rythe in flowers!

Their products are extremely well made, easy to construct and perfect for small gardens where your children might want to start their own gardening project. From tomatoes to strawberries, tulips to nigellas, these planters are perfect. A size for every occasion and project. You can order them from growbagbuddy.co.uk



Learning Behaviour Stars

Don't forget to look on our school Instagram account to see who the Learning Bee Stars were this week as well as keeping up to date with what our children have been doing. If you would like to follow us please search for 'millrythejuniorschool.'

Have a great weekend

David Bessant, Headteacher

Christmas Countdown for the last week of term

Monday 18 Dec	Our good neighbours at Mill Rythe Holiday village have invited us to see their panto in the ballroom at the holiday camp. We will walk down the lane for the start of the fun at 10.00am, <u>so please ensure the children have their coats with them</u> . NB —We will have our Winning House Swim at the beginning of next term. Date to be advised.
Tuesday 19 Dec Christmas Dinner	The kitchen will be serving Christmas dinner. If you have not booked a lunch you will need to provide a packed lunch for your child. If you are not sure if you have booked or not, do ask at the office and we can let you know.
Tuesday 19 Dec Campus Carols	At 2.00pm we will be joining with the Infant and nursery children for campus carols. This will take place on our playground, weather permitting, and should last for around 20 minutes.
Thursday 21 Dec Last day of Term	The children can wear something Christmassy with their uniform today—maybe some antlers or a Christmas hat, tinsel or their Christmas jumper. Our Christmas production 'Miracle Child' will take place at St Mary's Church, at 10.30am. Parents of Years 4, 5 and 6 children are warmly invited to join us on this special occasion. Don't forget that the children will need their coats today. School finishes at the normal time of 3.25pm.