



**Dear Parents & Carers,**

## **Learning – Laughing – Achieving**

### **PE Kit Sizing Evening**

On Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July Serious Sport will be holding a sizing session at the end of school in the hall. This is a great opportunity to place orders for new kit for next year with a 10% discount and no delivery fee. Come and join us from 3.30pm if you are interested. Alternatively visit the link below to place an order online – I'm afraid these will not qualify for the discount or free delivery.

<https://serioussport.co.uk/teamwear/stores/mill-rythe-junior-school/>

### **School Uniform**

Our school uniform is now available to buy in store at the Havant branch of Skoolkit, we hope this will be a welcome change for our parents. You can still buy the uniform from Brigade online with free delivery into school, they will be changing their product to match the Skoolkit material and colour.

### **Sports Days**

In blazing sunshine on Monday and Tuesday we had the pleasure of watching all members of the Mill Rythe family competing in a range of sprints, relays, field events and longer distance races. There were also some notable performances from our parents in the 80m sprints which resulted in some sore limbs the next day.



The atmosphere created by children, staff and parents on both days was really special and it was lovely to see our children enjoying each other's successes. I was particularly impressed with our young leaders from years 3, 4 and 6 who led different aspects of the sports days superbly. Mr Darby's commentary clearly left a lot to be desired at times...

I would like to say a special thank you to a core group of parents. Dennis Stanbrook was with myself and Mr Robinson on the field at 7am each day to put up gazebos for our children to shelter under between races and to ensure that Mrs North's water and first aid station was also protected from the sunshine. Andy Warner did an amazing job across both mornings of capturing such great footage of our children and then spent hours editing it so we could share it via instagram. Mrs Pattni donated apple and orange juice for all of our children to enjoy during the morning and our PTA did a wonderful job of keeping all of the adults who came to support the children refreshed. As a school we are fortunate to work with so many parents who give up their time and expertise to ensure our children get the best possible opportunities.

My personal highlight across the two sports days came in the final 600m race which saw Freddie and Finlay attempt to break the school record set by Jasper last year. Roared on by a

huge crowd, both boys produced fantastic runs with Freddie crossing the line fractionally ahead of Finlay but with both boys clocking a record equalling 1 minute 57 seconds. Both boys have developed into really exciting athletes and have set a great example to others in school in terms of what can be achieved through hard work and dedication.

Congratulations to Hardy who won the lower school sports day and Victory who won the upper school sports day.

### **Paultons Park**

Year 6 enjoyed a well-deserved trip to Paulton's Park as a treat for all of the hard work that they have put in this year. The sun was shining and the children were buzzing with excitement as this was a trip that they had been looking forward to.

The thrill seekers headed straight to 'The Lost Kingdom' where they enjoyed rides that made tummies turn and heads spin! Mr Erriker looked very nervous in one of the queues until he noticed that the child behind him was around the age of 3. Needless to say, he went on the ride and screamed the whole way round! It is believed that he then headed straight to Peppa Pig World...

The children came away with lots of special memories that they will take with them as they move on to their next schools.

### **Science Museum**

Yesterday, Year 5 went to visit Winchester Science Centre. What a day! In the morning, we explored all of the amazing hands-on experiences that the centre had to offer. We particularly enjoyed the Space Explorer section, which deepened our understanding of life outside of planet Earth. In the planetarium, we learnt how to recognise different star constellations in the night sky. We had a closer look at planets in our own solar system and learnt about how scientists plan to gather more information on them in the future. In the afternoon, we explored the different states of matter in a workshop run by the centre. Everybody loved turning different liquids into moon slime. The children showed great enthusiasm and interest throughout the day – well done Year 5!



### **Yr 2 Cheeky Chums, Sports afternoon and parents evening**

As part of our transition project to help our new year 3 children settle into the Mill Rythe Family, our year 6 children ran a super sports afternoon for Year 5 and 2 children last Monday. 14 stations were carefully set up and the ability of our oldest children to organise, teach and care for our visitors and existing pupils was inspiring to see. It was lovely to see so many happy faces leaving our school having had their first taste of Junior school.

Last Wednesday saw our year 5 children meeting their Cheeky Chums who are currently in year 2. They had a lovely afternoon exploring our school and learning about each other. We are looking forward to welcoming them into our Mill Rythe family on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July as part of our transition day when all of our children will work alongside their class teachers for next year. Children currently in years 3 – 5 will be told who their new teacher is on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July so that they can come into school on Thursday knowing who they will be working with.



On Wednesday evening, we had the pleasure of meeting the parents of our new year 3 children in September. The evening gave us a chance to share some more information about our school but to also share some of the special achievements of our children. Leo, Lacey and Lucy sang beautifully and Erin closed the evening by sharing her reflections of her first year as a member of the Mill Rythe Family. They were brilliant ambassadors for our school and they left Mrs Charlton and I feeling incredibly proud of them.

### **Portsmouth Schools Music Festival**

Last Wednesday Year 4 travelled to the Portsmouth Guildhall for the Portsmouth Schools Music Festival. Performing on the same stage that the Beatles entertained crowds from inspired our children as they sang 4 stunning songs. Throughout the day our children's determination to take on board last minutes tips from Miss Harrison and the way in which they adjusted to performing in such a huge arena alongside children from other schools that they hadn't met before made us all really proud. In the evening they performed superbly demonstrating great composure and pride in what they had worked so hard to achieve. I would like to say a special thank you to Miss Harrison for all of the extra work that she has done not only with our children but also the children from all of the other Havant schools in the lead up to the performance and to all of the staff and parents who supported the children throughout the day.

### **South East Hampshire Athletics Championships**

Last Thursday we took 36 athletes from across years 3 – 6 to compete in the final athletics competition of the year at the Mountbatten Centre. For many of our children this was the first time that they had run on a proper track, jumped into sand pits or leapt over high jump poles. Throughout the afternoon we witnessed so many fantastic performances that it is not possible to record them all here. The highlight of the day undoubtedly came from Ray Reynolds in year 3. Competing in his first athletics competition, he launched a throw of 49.46m – the longest ever recorded at this competition by a child in any age group!



Congratulations to all of the children who took part in this competition and who have trained so hard this year in school.

### Summer Festival – World Record Attempt

HI-5 are planning a World Record attempt at 1630 on 20th July 2019 at the Summer Festival (Hayling College). This event is hosted by Portsmouth Guildhall and held in aid of HI-5 (together with other charities). The World Record we are going for is, 'Most arm-linked people to stand up simultaneously!' The current record is 301! If we break the World Record, it will be held by "Hayling Island 5 Schools". If you would like to be part of the World Record attempt, please make sure that you arrive at the Festival by 1600, and please bring all the family along, the more the merrier! It's a really exciting opportunity for the five Schools and we hope to smash the current record!



If you haven't got your tickets for the Festival yet, these are available from each school office, or alternatively online through the Portsmouth Guildhall website.

### Public Health England

We have been asked to remind all parents that if a child suffers from diarrhoea or vomiting then they must be kept away from school until they have been without symptoms for 48 consecutive hours.

### Bank Holiday

You may have noticed that the Government recently announced a change in the 2020 early May Bank Holiday from Monday 4th May to Friday 8th May. This is to mark the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

### And finally...

We have an Instagram account for the school which will enable family and friends to follow on a regular basis different aspects of school life. The account can be found by searching for **millrythejuniorschool**. There is another account called millrythejunior but this **is not** the current account for our school. **The school account is not for children to follow on their own Instagram app as this is not meant for children under the age of 13.**

Have a lovely weekend.

David Bessant

Headteacher

### Key dates for the academic year 2018 – 2019 confirmed so far:

#### Summer 2

10 <sup>th</sup> July	Transition Day
12 <sup>th</sup> July	Yr 6 Enterprise Day
17 <sup>th</sup> July	Yr 6 Leavers Disco
22 <sup>nd</sup> July	Winning House Reward
23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Yr 6 Leavers Assembly 10am
23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Last day of term

#### Inset days for the academic year 2019-2020

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> September 2019  
4<sup>th</sup> November 2019  
6<sup>th</sup> January 2020  
1<sup>st</sup> June 2020

#### PTA AGM

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 3.30pm