



Learning – Laughing – Achieving

Partial Re-opening

During this last week we have been open to 123 children from across our school. Our three key worker bubbles are now full but I am pleased that both Miss Harrison and Mrs Shergold are going to be returning to school so that we can open our fourth key worker bubble from Monday 22nd June.

The news that schools are not going to be asked to open to all pupils this term must have been difficult for so many children and parents to hear this week. We will continue to support you with home learning and pastoral care throughout the rest of this term. Please do continue to call me or contact me via mjisclosure@millrythe-jun.hants.sch.uk if you have questions or if there are situations that we are not aware of but can help your families with.

Transition

Thank you for sharing your children's friendships forms with us this week. We are in the process of using this information to create our classes for years 4 and 5 in September. I hope to be able to share the new classes with you early in July. If your child is in years 3 – 5 you will have received a separate transition letter today.

Blue Bubble

It has been another busy week in blue bubble and we have definitely found our feet in our new bubble family! In English, we have been learning about integrating speech and have started to write part of a myth where Perseus meets the gods. We also read the myth, 'Hades and Persephone' where Persephone was condemned to spend half of the year in the underworld because she ate a pomegranate. Mrs Jenner then surprised us with a pomegranate to try! Most of us enjoyed it...

In maths, Miss Gray and Mrs Jenner have been 'trying' to teach us to tell the time and convert between 12 hour and 24 hour clock. Miss Gray says she dreads teaching this every single year! Thankfully, blue bubble were awesome and can now confidently tell the time on analogue and digital, convert between 12 hour and 24 hour and solve



problems involving adding and subtracting time. I don't think Hugo wants to see another clock again!

This week was our first PE lesson. It rained. A lot. Despite this, we had great fun playing football cricket. Miss Gray's team won - obviously.

In geography, we began our new unit on Mexico and in RE we created a piece of artwork representing peace – something Miss Gray is looking forward to this weekend after a week in the world's loudest group of just 10 children!



Orange (glitter) Bubble

Another fun week in Orange / Glitter Bubble! This week, we have been learning how to convert 12-hour time to 24-hour time. We have also put our knowledge to the test by solving lots of different problems too. In English, we are continuing our learning with Greek myths and we have begun writing our own recounts of 'Perseus and Medusa.' Here is an extract from Finley's brilliant writing:

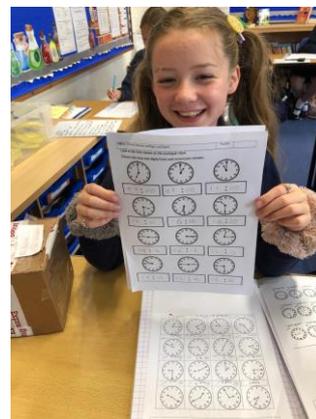
'As night fell, Perseus slumped beside the dying flames of his fire. The ink black sky cast haunted shadows around his camp. Pain was etched across his face at the realisation that his chances for survival, and for success, were slipping away.'



In PE, we all really enjoyed playing football cricket for the first time, with old 5AF against old 5MD. Unfortunately, old 5MD were victorious in all 3 games! In RE, we are learning about the concept 'peace'. We used watercolours to create a piece of artwork showing what peace means to us and we were all proud of our work.

Green Bubble

It has been a busy week in green bubble. During maths, we have been improving our knowledge time using both analogue and digital clocks, as well as using number lines to solve time problems. In English, we continued with Greek myths and the children have amazed me with the quality of their writing. Our topic afternoons have included an introduction to Mexico in geography, POP ART and discovering what peace is and what it means to us; something we don't get much of in green bubble! Both Mrs Neale and I have been impressed with our children's attitudes and enthusiasm. They have all settled into the new routine of school really well.



Yellow Bubble

The second week back and we are getting into swing of things; it's definitely starting to feel more normal to be washing our hands six times a day. As with all the Year 6 bubbles, we have been twisting our minds around time and converting back and forth between the 12 and 24 hour clock. On Tuesday's we have PE and the sun shone as we adapted the glorious game of cricket into FOOTBALL cricket. It was a triumph and after a hard fought battle between Oliver and Issac's teams, there was only one winner as Oliver's team emerged with a 16 run victory; I'm sure Issac's team will look to redress the balance next week... In English, we have continued to study Ancient Greek myths where Max display a range of rich vocabulary as he retold the story



It was a triumph and after a hard fought battle between Oliver and Issac's teams, there was only one winner as Oliver's team emerged with a 16 run victory; I'm sure Issac's team will look to redress the balance next week... In English, we have continued to study Ancient Greek myths where Max display a range of rich vocabulary as he retold the story

of Perseus and Athena. Everyone had a tale to tell as we studied the diversity of Mexico in Geography, we had no idea it was so big or so colourful. Next week we are looking forward to finding out more about Pop art and hopefully getting our paint brushes out.

Red Bubble

Red Bubble enjoyed a game of rounders football during this week's PE slot and loved running round, working as a team and improving our striking skills. Grace demonstrated some excellent football skills and ball control and should probably be signed up for England Lionesses! We could probably do with improving our fitness as many came back the next day sporting a lot of aches and pains!



We had our first weekly general knowledge quiz this week. My goodness, our general knowledge is shocking! We didn't know who Prince William was, what a cygnet was or the national flower of Wales. Jack had the highest score, scoring 23 and a half out of 60. SIXTY!! We are going to try to improve our general knowledge over the next week, and would appreciate your help by sharing fascinating facts with your child.

In English we have been writing myths –our fantastic vocabulary hasn't been diminished by lockdown. Speaking of vocabulary, we have been learning a word a day on top of our usual vocabulary learning and have so far we've learnt 'hushed', 'exiled', 'timid' so please ask us what they mean. Mrs Brydon has also been subjecting us to some vocabulary 'jokes'. This is her favourite:

I want to tell you about a girl who only eats plants. You've probably never heard of herbivore....

The bubble are REALLY looking forward to hearing more of Mrs B's jokes next week!

Purple Bubble

It has been another fabulous week in purple bubble as we have enjoyed continuing our journey around the world together. We have learnt why the River Nile was important to the ancient Egyptians and how they built amazing pyramids to bury their kings in. We've looked at African masks and learnt about the importance of water aid. We also had PE with Mr Timms who led us in some circuit training to try and keep us all fit and healthy. It has also been lovely to see lots of new friendships blossom as we all get to know each other better in the classroom and on the playground. Finally, it has also been a week of birthdays in the Purple bubble with Mr Darby turning 40 last Sunday, Skye had her birthday on Wednesday and Mrs Chessell's has hers to look forward to tomorrow!



Silver Bubble

This week silver bubble travelled to Africa! We explored Egypt and the river Nile before heading to Kenya and learning about the Masai tribe which led to us creating our own African inspired masks. We have had a lot of fun in Africa, learning about their traditional dances and having a go at drumming along to their music. We are looking forward to see where our journey around the world takes us next week.



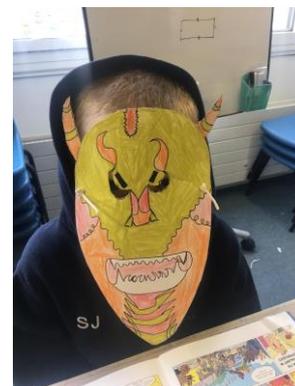
The children have worked hard on their descriptive writing skills, finishing the week by writing a captivating story introduction. We are using our time wisely in the ICT suite focusing on our maths knowledge as we complete the Oak Academy lessons and challenging each other on Timestable

RockStars. In PE, we have learnt some new games to continue to build the group's social interactions as well as having fun being chased by a shark!

I love working with all of the children in Silver Bubble who are always smiling whilst learning and having fun!

Gold Bubble

Next stop Africa. This week we explored the countries Egypt and Kenya. We visited the gift that is the Nile and discovered why it is the river of life. The children have produced some incredible paintings of the Egyptian pyramids and created their own African inspired masks. Did you know the most famous pyramid in Egypt is the Khufu in Giza? It took 40,000 Egyptians to build it.



Alongside our journey around the world, we have been continuing to develop our Maths and English knowledge. In Maths we have been looking at angles and the properties of shape and in English we have been writing character descriptions using adventurous language. It's been another busy week in gold bubble filled with fun and laughter.

A Message to 5AF

Hello 5AF! How are you? I hope you are all well and trying your best with the home learning. I'm sure you've managed to make the most of the sunny weather too and have eaten lots of ice cream!

I am now back in school every day teaching a Year 6 bubble group. I'm enjoying teaching again but I'm not so happy about getting up so early having got used to a more leisurely start to my days!

Unfortunately, I can't teach Year 6 and continue to ring you all each week as there aren't enough hours in the day. I would still love to hear all about what you've been up to (with pictures please!) so make sure you email mrjsclosure@millrythe-jun.hants.sch.uk and I will write back to you as soon as I can. You could also send me a letter to the school address; I would love to receive them and would look forward to replying. I can't wait to hear about how the last few weeks have been and I hope to see you all again soon.

Miss Furlong 😊

3IC

It has been wonderful talking to 3IC this week and hearing how well they are all continuing to learn at home. They are always so happy and cheery on the phone and it brightens my day talking to them. Lots of children have been enjoying following me on my virtual travels around the world. Mya has been so inspired she wants to travel to different counties when she is older! Willow has enjoyed writing about pyramids and I set her the challenge to build a pyramid out of her Lego! Sienna's family all had a penguin party where they wore penguin masks and ate like penguins- they are prawns, salmon and squid! Sounds yummy! Lollie and Samuel told me that they had both enjoyed doing some African dancing too. Millie is learning to be a photographer and Samuel has been helping his dad to concrete their patio if anybody needs theirs doing! Lots children are reading lots including Martha who has been reading some classic stories such as The Secret Garden and Jungle Book. Ioan was telling me how much he is enjoying getting stories from audible, he particularly enjoyed one about wizards. It was also lovely to hear that lots of the children were practising their times tables- keep it up all! I am very proud of you.

Inset days 2020-2021

Our inset days for the next academic year will be:

Thursday 3rd September

Friday 4th September

Monday 4th January

Monday 22nd February (please note this is different to MRIS)

Monday 7th June

Support from Revd Dr Jenny Gaffin

In these uncertain and challenging times many of us are experiencing extra pressures, personal worries and sadness. If you'd like a sympathetic listening ear please feel free to call Revd Jenny on 02393 070178 or you can email her on jennyhaylingvicar@hotmail.com. She'll be glad to support you through whatever situation you may be facing.

Delivering online safety to your children at home

Think U Know have created a series of videos to support parents educate their children in how to remain safe online during Covid-19 and the closure of schools to many children. These can be accessed from the link below:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/Support-tools/presentations-for-parents/>

Sharing work and experiences

During this time do please continue to keep in touch with us through mrjsclosure@millrythe-jun.hants.sch.uk and share the amazing work and activities that are taking place at home.

Take care of yourselves and your families this weekend.

David Bessant

Headteacher

The information below has been shared previously but will remain on each weekly newsletter for the time being.

Home Learning

We have been inundated with positive feedback about the home learning that has been set by staff for children across our school; thank you for taking the time to provide this feedback which has also been shared with all staff. I have also spoken to a few parents who have had a few teething problems and we have been able to address these quickly. If you are encountering any problems or have questions please contact me via: mrjsclosure@millrythe-jun.hants.ch.uk

Parents are not teachers and as such pupils should be able to complete the work that has been set independently; they will love to share with their families what they are doing and I would love to see work and other activities that are being completed at home. If you would like to share photos with me please email them to mrjsclosure@millrythe-jun.hants.ch.uk with the heading instagram. Some of these will be added to our account and shared with the MRJS family over the coming days and weeks.

There is flexibility for parents to guide children to complete work for the year group above and below their own if this is appropriate. We have also emailed individual learning home for some children. Please refer to the 'home learning during self-isolation' letter that can be found on the home learning page of the school website.



Top tips for supporting families working at home:

- **Opening you new school:** establish a place for your children to work from and get them involved in setting up their learning zones.
- **Establish routines:** draw up a plan with your child(ren) for each day so that they can see what work they will be completing when. Children react well to structured routines but these can also look different for different children. Not all of our children can sit and maintain focus on their learning for an hour at a time. You know your children better than anyone else so build in physical and mental breaks to help them with their learning.
- **Encouraging good learning habits with positive interactions:** think about the teachers that inspired you at school; what was it about their relationships and interactions with you that ensured you fostered a love of learning with them. Now is your chance to apply these with your own children.
- **Feed their love of learning:** it is more important than ever that we are all making good choices with the food we are eating and drinking plenty of water. Avoid sugary snacks and take regular fresh air breaks with opportunities for exercise beyond those that we have planned for each day.
- **Good teachers lead by example:** put plans in place to care for yourself too. Take time to relax; make sure your own diet is varied and balanced and that you partake in physical exercise.

If you would like me to speak to any children whilst they are at home with you then please let me know via: mrjsclosure@millrythe-jun.hants.ch.uk

Audible books

I was delighted to learn that audible books have made all children's books available to families whilst schools remain closed. I would encourage everyone to make the most of this opportunity - there are so many wonderful stories for children to be able to enjoy over the coming weeks. Please follow the link below to access them: <https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>

Mrs Brydon has identified the following broad categories that different year groups may like to choose from initially:

- Year 3 – choose mainly from 'Elementary', although there are one or two classics in 'Littlest Listeners' that children will love, such as 'Timeless Tales of Beatrix Potter' or 'Just So Stories'
- Year 4 – choose from a wide range of brilliant books in 'Elementary'
- Year 5 – Choose from 'Elementary' or 'Tween'
- Year 6 – Choose from 'Tween' or 'Literary Classics' such as 'Moby Dick', 'The Call of the Wild'

Mental health and wellbeing

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Educational Psychology team have shared the following guidance with schools for parents and families to refer to in the coming days and weeks.

<https://www.mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/media/1960/coronavirus-mental-health-and-wellbeing-resources.pdf>

The changes that we are all making to our everyday routines are significant and it is essential that we are able to support each other with our mental health and wellbeing at this time.