



## Learning – Laughing – Achieving

### Dear Mill Rythe Family,

I'd like to start by thanking all members of the Mill Rythe Family for their understanding and support during this last week. Thank you for your feedback about the actions that we took over the weekend and how this was communicated with you. We are really impressed with the quality of work that our children are producing at home and we are all learning about how to use Google Classrooms in the most effective way.



It was lovely welcoming most of 6GR back to school yesterday morning. They skipped back into school full of energy and laughter. After giving Miss Gray a wake-up call, they demonstrated how much they had learnt at home by producing some excellent work about Shackleton in English before demonstrating great fraction knowledge in maths. Thank you to the parents who have supported their children at home in the last 14 days.

I work with a brilliant staff team whose care for your children and each other mark them out as incredibly special people. In the last week, they have gone above and beyond once again to ensure that the provision and care for children both in school and at home has been as good as possible in really challenging circumstances. I hope that they can all have some much needed rest this weekend. The cards and emails that we have received from so many parents and carers have been wonderful and given everyone an extra spring in their step – thank you.

### School Assembly – Anti-Bullying

This week is Anti-bullying week which takes place every year in order to raise awareness about bullying. Every year, a different theme is covered and this year the theme is 'united against bullying' which we explored further in our assembly.

This year, we have seen people and communities rally together to help each other against a global challenge. Anti-Bullying week is celebrating this collective power we have, as individuals and together, that we can use to tackle bullying. Like pieces in a puzzle, parents, carers, teachers, politicians, children and young people can all play their part and make a difference.

The Anti-Bullying Alliance defines bullying as, 'The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. Bullying can be physical, verbal or psychological. It can happen face-to-face or online.' In our assembly, we discussed the different types of bullying in more detail and we explored the different impacts of bullying and how it can affect someone's daily life.

**So what can you do? If you are being bullied** – tell someone that you trust: a parent, teacher or an older relative. They will make sure it is dealt with properly. **If you know someone who is being bullied** – you must tell someone that you trust. They will be able to help. Be kind to that

person. They might be feeling alone, sad and scared. Smile, talk to them or include them in something. It will make a big difference!

## A week in the life of...

### 3AT

It has been busy as always in 3AT. We have been experimenting with friction and magnets in science. Ask your children to explain the difference between a non-contact and contact force – we think you will be impressed! The class had a fantastic afternoon doing art with Mrs Chessell. I am sure you will agree, their cats are AMAZING! They certainly put a lot of thought and focus into creating them.



And of course... STONE AGE DAY! I have to start by thanking the parents for all the effort that went into the children's costumes, they all looked excellent. We learnt so much from Flint, our visitor from the Stone Age. He made us laugh A LOT, especially when he was confused by Oakley's shoe, took it, smelt it and threw it away! We learnt how to hunt a Woolly Mammoth and understood how some types of human became extinct through their efficiency in hunting, gathering and evolution.

All of the children are doing exceptionally well in school every day with everything that is going on in the world around them. You should be proud of how resilient and understanding they all are.

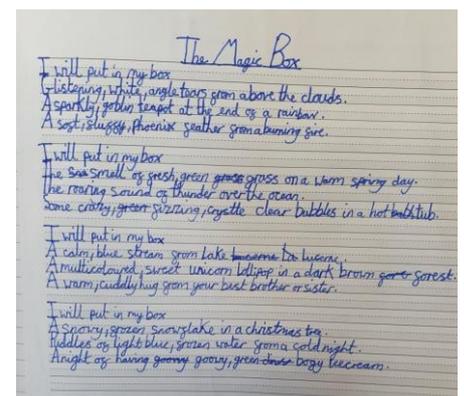
### 3MD

Our week started off 5 million years ago as a tribe of unruly, Neanderthal children raided our class, led by their intrepid elder 'Flint'. We learnt how to make tools out of stone and horse bones, how to skin a sabre tooth tiger and use its fur for shelter and clothes, and finally how to hunt and bring down a woolly mammoth! All this before we were whisked into the Bronze Age where we learnt how to send off our fearless leader in a ceremonial burial. The children were given the chance to hold and wave around a genuine sword whilst bellowing out their scariest battle cry whilst some children put their muscles to the test trying to list up a full weight chain mail. Mr Bessant came in at one point as well to try and lift the chain mail but alas fell through one of the tiny chinks never to be seen again. It was an absolutely awesome day and seeing all the children so captivated from beginning to end was a real pleasure to see. If only every day could be Stone Age day. Great work 3MD!



### 4JS

4JS have been working extremely hard on their creativity this week. As part of Art Week, we have been studying the work of William Morris. We explored how he repeats patterns and uses symmetry in his designs and then had a go at continuing one of his patterns. We all found this a lot trickier than we expected to! We then tried our hand at enlarging a section of pattern using a view finder. We are very pleased with our results. In English, we have been putting our knowledge of noun phrases to the test by writing a poem in the style of 'The Magic Box' by Kit Wright. By adding adjectives, noun modifiers and prepositional phrases we have created lots of beautiful stanzas of poetry. Maths has been



all about equivalent fractions this week. We have investigated the equivalent fractions of  $\frac{1}{2}$  and now have a rule we can use to find the equivalent fractions of other fractions.

Keep up the good work 4JS!

### 5MC

It's been a great last 2 weeks in 5MC and the children have really impressed me with their continued enthusiasm and dedication to their learning once again. Last week, we made some beautiful clay poppies as part of our Remembrance RE unit and we completed our WW1 topic by researching the reasons why the war finally ended. This week, we have continued to work towards finishing the book *Private Peaceful* and we are now at the stage of planning our end of unit piece of war poetry. We enjoyed a day of art on Wednesday this week where we learnt about the artist Keith Haring and we had a go at creating our own artwork in his unique style. A picture of our display board can be found on Google classroom so make sure you have a look! We've had a significantly smaller class in school this week but I know those at home are continuing with their remote learning with the same dedication. The whole class have made me feel very proud to be their teacher this week and I am looking forward to us all being back together again soon.

### 5SH

5SH have been busy learning about Remembrance in RE, in particular Remembrance Day honoured by many every year. We really enjoyed making clay poppies and honoured the 2 minutes silence in our bubble standing behind our chairs. The theme has continued into our English unit and we have been studying World War 1 poetry, poetic techniques and imagery. We are looking forward to writing our own War poems. We have also really enjoyed learning about the Solar System in Science. We were fascinated to learn how hot the sun was and how from 93 million miles away it can generate so much heat on Earth!



### 5SG

To start the week off, 5SG led by Miss Wright, learnt all about the street artist 'My Dog Sighs' before creating their own versions. Our display looks absolutely fantastic and the children were so excited when the artist himself commented on the Instagram photo that Mr Bessant put up! In maths, the children have continued to consolidate their understanding of multiplication methods and most have been able to apply this knowledge in problem solving. In English, the children have been writing and refining their war poems which include features such as alliteration, figurative language and onomatopoeia (which Miss Gilchrist hates having to spell!) Our new science unit, 'Earth &



Space,' is now in full swing: the children have learnt why Pluto's orbit takes longer than the Earths and how Aristotle realised and proved that the Earth was a sphere.

## 6SB

6SB and their special guests didn't have the week that we expected but we've pulled our socks up, slapped a smile on our faces and soldiered on! We've had a fantastic 3 days of art, exploring artists such as My Dog Sighs and Keith Haring, as well as exploring optical art and making clay pinch pot monsters. Each and every one of us has worked really hard on our art and Mrs Brydon and Mrs Howard have been really pleased with everyone's resilience and determination. Now it's back to our maths, English and foundation lessons; our next maths journey moves on to dividing fractions and finding equivalent fractions, decimals and percentages, and in English we'll be exploring the Endurance and developing our skills in speaking out loud!



## 6GR

6GR were the first to try out 'Google Classroom' over the last two weeks, and I must say, as their teacher, I am incredibly proud of how well they adapted to using it and the work that they produced was of an exceptional standard. We had a few teething problems in the first couple of days but over the course of the week, the children grasped how to use it effectively. It was lovely talking to the children and parents this week and hearing such positive feedback about how organised and easy to follow it has been. The children particularly liked the videos as they were more interactive. I, on the other hand, found it really hard to video myself teaching and each video was taken about four times! Initially, the thought of the children not being in school for 2 weeks was concerning, but google classroom has proved really effective in delivering high quality teaching and learning and has ensured that the children's progress has not been affected. I'm sure they are glad to be back in school with their friends and I will look forward to seeing them all soon.

## Safeguarding – Be Bright Be Seen

With darker evenings setting in, it is more important that you and your children can be seen when they are travelling back from school. Please see the poster attached to this newsletter for some top tips.

## 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.** We also have a lost property Instagram page which can be found at **MRJS\_lost\_property**. We will hold all lost property until the end of a half term at which point it will be donated.



David Bessant

Headteacher

## **Key dates for the academic year 2020 – 2021 confirmed so far:**

### **Autumn 2**

30<sup>th</sup> November additional Flu Immunisation Day

~~8<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> December School based book fair~~

14<sup>th</sup> December Love of Christmas Day and Christmas Shopping Day

16<sup>th</sup> December Intervention Celebration Assembly

17<sup>th</sup> December Christmas Dinner

### **Spring 1**

4<sup>th</sup> January Inset day

5<sup>th</sup> January Winning House Ice Bun and non-uniform day

7<sup>th</sup> January Yr 5 Parents Calshot Meeting

20<sup>th</sup> January Yr 6 Parents evening 4-7pm

21<sup>st</sup> January Yr 6 Parents evening 4-6pm

4<sup>th</sup> February Yr 6 Parents SATs information evening 4pm, 5pm and 6pm

12<sup>th</sup> February Love Day

### **Spring 2**

22<sup>nd</sup> February Inset day

23<sup>rd</sup> February Winning House Ice Bun and non-uniform day

4<sup>th</sup> March World Book Day

8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> March Practice SATs week

12<sup>th</sup> March Mother Day Shopping

15<sup>th</sup> March Parents evening 4-7pm 3AT, 4IC, 5SG and 5SH

16<sup>th</sup> March Parents evening 4-6pm 3AT, 4IC, 5SG and 5SH

17<sup>th</sup> March Parents evening 4-7pm 3MD, 4JS, 5JH and 5MC

18<sup>th</sup> March Parents evening 4-6pm 3MD, 4JS, 5JH and 5MC

31<sup>st</sup> March Intervention Celebration Assembly

1<sup>st</sup> April Winning house cinema and popcorn reward

### **Summer 1**

10<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> May SATs week

14<sup>th</sup> May History of Art Day

### **Summer 2**

7<sup>th</sup> June Inset day

8<sup>th</sup> June Winning House Ice Bun and non-uniform day

18<sup>th</sup> June Fathers Day Shopping

28<sup>th</sup> June Year 3 and 4 Sports Day

29<sup>th</sup> June Year 5 and 6 Sports Day

9<sup>th</sup> July Year 6 at Paultons Park

16<sup>th</sup> July Year 6 Leavers Event

19<sup>th</sup> July Year 6 Enterprise Day

22<sup>nd</sup> July Winning House BBQ and Waterfight

23<sup>rd</sup> July Year 6 Leavers Assembly