



Dear Parents & Carers,

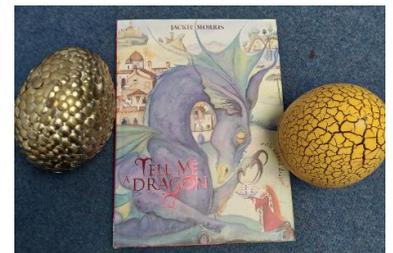
Learning – Laughing – Achieving

Welcome Back Mill Rythe Family

Welcome back to school at the start of what I am sure is going to be an exciting term; Year 3 have already been visited by a dragon and found some shimmering dragon eggs. It has been lovely to see so many happy faces coming into school this week and we are all really enjoying getting to know the newest members of the Mill Rythe Family in year 3, alongside the children who have joined us in years 4, 5 and 6.



All of our children have had a great first week getting to know their teachers and teaching assistants whilst learning, laughing and achieving alongside their friends. Local and national restrictions pending, we have a great opportunity this year to return to having our extra-curricular school clubs and our whole school topic days, called 'Love days.' Year 5 have already been on a visit to the beach today to see the Kitesurfing Armada which was a fantastic day.



Covid-19

Guidance around Covid-19 symptoms and when you need to self-isolate have been added to the end of this newsletter. It is a different approach to this time last year, where our focus now has moved to taking precautionary measures to limit the spread of Covid-19 in school whilst ensuring that our children continue to have a 'normal' school experience. Our precautionary measures are:

- Sanitising hands regularly throughout the day, when we enter new classrooms and before/after we eat.
- Additional cleaning of high contact points, for example, doors handles and classroom tables during the day.
- Increasing ventilation by having our windows open whilst maintaining a comfortable working environment.

If you would like further information about the precautionary measures we are taking, please read our [Covid-19 risk assessment](#).

Acting Headteacher: Miss Rebecca Vousden BSc PGCE

Deputy Headteacher: Erica Wintle BA Hons PGCE

Mill Rythe Junior School, Havant Road, Hayling Island, Hampshire PO11 0PA

02392 463663 www.millrythejunior.co.uk

Thank you

Thank you to all of our parents who have taken care of our animals during the Summer holidays. We wouldn't be able to have the farm without your support and your care. It isn't always the easiest job and your help is very much appreciated. Thank you to Stoke Fruit Farm who continue to supply our bird feed and straw, again your support makes it possible for us to have our school farm.



New Faces

I am delighted to welcome Mrs Falconer and Mrs Kenny into the MRJS family. Mrs Falconer is teaching in 4MF and is already enjoying immersing her children in Mayan Myths. Mrs Kenny joined us at the end of last term, working as a teaching assistant and lunchtime supervisor. Mrs Kenny has loved seeing our animals every day and has even brought her tortoise Osbourne in for a visit! We are really enjoying having them both with us.



Mrs Kenny

Mrs Falconer

Caring for others

It has been lovely to talk to two of our pupils this week who have had big haircuts in order to give their hair to the Little Princess Trust. The Little Princess Trust provides free real hair wigs to children and young people, up to 24 years, who have lost their own hair through cancer treatment or other conditions.



Online Safety



We have become aware this week of an App called Monkey which is advertised as *'the best place to talk to cool young strangers.'* Monkey is a social chatting app which uses live streaming to randomly connect you with other users. By using the app, you can collect bananas to buy merchandise. This app is very concerning because users have no control over who they are matched and live streaming with. The official age rating for this app is 13+ however [Netaware](#) rate this as an 18+ app due to its very poor safety features. There is a high risk with this app that your child could come across inappropriate adult behaviour on this platform. There are a growing number of reports of young people being targeted by adults that they don't know. See our attached information

sheet for how to keep your child safe on Tik Tok. Please note that the age rating for Tik Tok is 13+.

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Violin, Viola & Piano Lessons

Violin, Viola and Piano lessons are available in school. Lessons can be delivered on a 1:1 basis or in groups of 2 or 3 (if numbers allow). 1:1 lessons can be 20 or 30 minutes. Group lessons are 30 minutes. Further details are available from the office.

Covid-19 Symptoms, School Attendance and Testing

Please be aware that current [government guidance](#) advises that pupils who are a close contact, which includes family members, of someone who has tested positive for Coronavirus do not need to self-isolate and should get a PCR test. Pupils need to attend school whilst they await their PCR test and be collected and returned to school following appointments. Pupils should continue to attend school, unless they are ill with coronavirus symptoms or have a positive PCR test result. Pupils who are not ill with symptoms of Coronavirus, have chosen to self-isolate or who have tested negative will be recorded as unauthorised if they do not attend school.

The Coronavirus symptoms are:

- high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

For more information about symptoms, read the further [guidance on symptoms](#).

If you have one or more of these symptoms, you must self-isolate straight away for 10 days – or longer if you continue to have a temperature.

You must book a test using this link: [PCR Coronavirus test](#)

If your child's test result is positive, please inform the school by calling or emailing the school office.

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

Becky Vousden

Acting Headteacher

Key dates for the academic year 2021 – 2022 confirmed so far:

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Deputy Headteacher: Erica Wintle BA Hons PGCE

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Autumn 1

September – Year 3 Three harbours trip dates – see separate letter.

20th September Meet the teacher 3:30 – 4pm

27th September – School photos

20th October Love Day

20th October Parents evening 4-7pm

21st October Parents evening 4-6pm

21st October Year 5 World War 1 Day

Autumn 2

2nd November Winning House Ice Bun and non-uniform day

3rd December Annual Nasal Flu Immunisation Programme

6th December Love of Christmas day/ Christmas jumper day

9th November Year 2 parents opening morning and evening

15th – 19th November Year 6 Calshot Week and Year 3 – 5 Art Days

14th December SEN Celebration Assembly

15th December Christmas Show

16th December Christmas Dinner

17th December Christmas Jumpers

17th December House swimming rewards

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