



Monday 14th February 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

We have certainly had a lot going on over the last three weeks in school. Today, children are enjoying Love Day and taking part in a wide range of activities including sign language, origami, drama, engineering and stop frame animation to name a few! Year 6 have taken part in their Ancient Greek day to support their work in history. Last week, children took part in mental health and wellbeing week where they were encouraged to identify their areas of strength and think positively about themselves. Read on to find out about what we have been up to in greater detail.

Greek Day Year 6



Year 6 had a fantastic time during Greek Day. Their morning was run by the Rainbow Theatre where the children were fully immersed learning about life in Ancient Greece. The children acted out daily life in an ancient school, a busy market place and learnt about how people in Ancient Greece worshipped their Gods. The Year 6 teachers were so impressed with how confidently children performed in front of each other.



Children worked in groups to re tell a range of Greek myths including Odysseys and the Cyclops. A larger than life Cyclops came to visit Year 6 to help their retelling! The day was brought to life by the children's fantastic outfits.

In the afternoon, children in 6GR completed Ancient Greek food tasting whilst children in 6MC and 6AF

made Ancient Greek pots from clay. A highly successful day was had by all. Both staff from the Year 6 team and from the Rainbow theatre were impressed with the children's behaviour and enthusiasm throughout the day.

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

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Children's Mental Health Week

Last week was Children's Mental Health Week. We marked this in school through a special assembly organised by the Place2Be Children's Mental Health Week Team, which had the theme of 'Growing Together.' The idea behind this is that some growth is easy to see, like when we grow from babies into children, but other growth may be more difficult to spot.



Just like trees and plants need support to help them grow, we need support to help us grow emotionally. We need our parents and carers, our teachers, our friends. We often need others to help us to believe in ourselves, to keep going, and to try doing things a bit differently.

People can be like trees. Sometimes we feel like we are growing and developing and doing really well. For example, we might do well in our tests at school and feel like we have good friends. But at other times we might feel like we are not growing and developing like we want to.

We might get upset because we are finding our school work difficult or have fallen out with our friends. These feelings are very ordinary and even when we feel like things are not going right in our lives, we can continue to develop and grow – just like the tree can grow even when the conditions aren't quite right.



Throughout the week the children also kept a 'Gratitude Journal' and completed a 'Marvelous Me' card to celebrate the things that they like about themselves or are proud of. Please celebrate these with your children and keep them to refer back to when they are having a 'down' day to remind them of the things which make them marvelous. Perhaps you can even help them add to their list as well.

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Love Day

To celebrate Valentine's Day today in school we are having Love Day! The children have all signed up for activities which they would love to do. Some of the exciting activities on offer today include sports, painting, origami, sewing, nature walks, engineering, stop-frame animation, drama, music and more! We will take lots of photos and share them with you on Instagram so you can see what the children have been up to. Days like these give everyone a break from the routine of the school timetable and provide children with lasting memories of their time at primary school and a chance to experience different skills and activities that perhaps they might not do otherwise. We hope your children come out of school today buzzing about their day!



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Mr Timms Leaving

Unfortunately, we are saying good bye to Mr Timms at the end of the week. Mr Timms has made a fantastic contribution to our school teaching PE lessons and previously leading clubs. He is a popular member of staff with both pupils and staff alike and will definitely be missed. Whilst we are sorry to see him go, he is off to complete his training to become a police officer and we wish him the best of luck. PE and swimming will continue as normal after half-term.



Private Fostering

When a child is living with someone who is not a parent or a 'close relative', for example, a neighbour, great aunt, friend etc, for a period of 28 days or longer this becomes a private fostering arrangement. If you believe that you are looking after a child or your child is currently in a private fostering arrangement, it is the law for the adults who are arranging the agreement to inform the local council's Children's Services department. This means that additional support can be provided within these situations, if it is needed, for example, advice on benefits, parenting support and helping families who are in crisis come back together.

If you do find that your family is struggling, staff in school are always available to support and point families in the direction of additional support where it is available. Please contact us by calling 02392 463664 and asking to speak to Sue Ginn our Family Support Liaison Officer, Becky Vousden, Acting Headteacher or Erica Wintle, Deputy Headteacher or alternatively email admin@millrythe-jun.hants.sch.uk and we will contact you.

PE Kit

We have increasing numbers of children coming to school not wearing the appropriate PE kit on their PE days. For PE, children should be wearing: Plain or shadow stripe navy shorts, a navy-blue PE t-shirt, a dark coloured plain tracksuit for outside games and preferably our school PE hoody or a plain black or blue hoody. PE kit can be purchased through serious sport using this link: <https://serioussport.co.uk/teamwear/stores/mill-rythe-junior-school/>

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Non-Uniform Day Friday 18th February

Friday 18th February is a non-uniform day in return for a £1 donation, to raise funds for our Parent Teacher Association. Children can come in to school wearing their own clothes – please ensure that these are appropriate for the weather E.g. wrapped up warmly and wearing flat shoes.

School Dinner Accounts

A reminder that dinner accounts must be in credit to order a school dinner (not at a £0 balance). If you think that you might be entitled to Free School Dinners, please follow this link to check your status <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/fe-apply/>

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 hope that you all have a good week and enjoy the half-term break when we get there!

Kind Regards

Miss Vousden

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

Spring 1

15th February Year 4 Anglo Saxon Day

18th February Non-Uniform Day – bring in £1 if able to

18th February Last Day of Spring 1

Spring 2

28th February First Day Spring 2

28th February Winning House Non-uniform and Iced Buns

3rd March World Book Day

3rd March Year 5 Private Peaceful Theatre Trip

9th March Parents Evening 4pm – 7pm (excluding 4JS)

10th March Parents Evening 4pm- 6pm (all classes)

11th March Parents Evening 4pm – 6pm (4JS only)

25th March Year 3 Fishbourne Roman Palace Trip

28th March Year 4 Southampton Art Gallery Trip

1st April Last day for clubs, Read Write Inc, Reading Plus and Morning Mastery

6th April Year 5 Dell Quay Trip

8th April Winning House Cinema and Popcorn

8th April Last day of Spring term

Summer 1

25th April First day of Summer 1

2nd May Bank Holiday

9th May – 13th May Year 6 SATS week

13th May History of Art Day

16th May Walk to school week

27th May Last day of Term

Summer 2

6th June Inset Day

21st July Last Day of Term

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