

**Message from the Principal:** Welcome to the November edition of Mill Hill Primary Academy's newsletter. I do hope that you all had a lovely half term break and made many great family memories together. The children were so excited to be back and eager to recommence their learning. They were also so proud of the homework tasks that they had completed over half term. I had the great privilege of seeing a number of these projects and they were amazing! Staff have also been eagerly telling me how wonderful these projects are and have ensured that they are pride of place in classrooms! Staff and I would like to thank all the children for their hard work and parents/carers for no doubt supporting their endeavours. I hope that you enjoyed the work too! I very much look forward to all the exciting ventures planned in this newsletter and seeing you all at our Parents/Carers evening on Thursday November 21st. The next newsletter will be out in December however; I will write to you via parent mail if we have any important information to share with you



### Message from Mrs Hulme Assistant Principal (EY/KS1)

Welcome back. I hope you have had an enjoyable half term break and the children are ready for another busy half term. We have a lot to look forward to with the run up to Christmas. A big thank you to all the parents in Early Years who have been uploading observations and completing challenges on Tapestry, it is great to see all the wonderful things you get up to at home. If you haven't been able to log on to Tapestry or need a little help with adding your own observations, please don't hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher or pop in and see me.

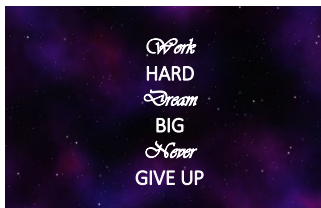


### Message from Mrs Steele Assistant Principal (KS2)

Welcome back from what I hope was a wonderful half term. Hopefully the children enjoyed their half term learning activities and are excited to continue or start their new topics. We saw so many examples of children following the new academy expectations last term and hopefully this will continue in the run up to Christmas.



### Academy Motto



### Attendance

In October RF, 1A, 1M, 2J, 3D, 3W, 4D, 4M and 6P had the best attendance and they were rewarded with a Big Breakfast! We also had 461 pupils with 100% attendance in week 5, 421 in week 6, 421 in week 7 and 417 in week 8. We still have 220 pupils that have been in school every day so far. Very well done to all of you!



### Punctuality

Children are invited to line up from 8.30am, with the school day starting promptly at 8.40am. Thank you to all parents/carers and children for making every effort to be in school on time. Every second of learning counts! If you are late can you please make your way to the Community Centre, where Mrs Lyons (our Attendance Officer) will greet you.




### Uniform

Children should be in full school uniform at all times. Our uniform policy is on our academy website [www.millhillprimaryacademy.coop/school-life/uniform-information/](http://www.millhillprimaryacademy.coop/school-life/uniform-information/) Please ensure that all academy uniform and PE kit is as listed in the policy. The uniform shop is Supersport Tunstall Uniform Shop, Tunstall High Street, ST6 5TT.

### Dreams, Hopes and Aspirations Programme and Theme Of the Week

Children and staff continue to develop their class folders with the top 5 things that make them happy and proud and our "Thought of the Week". Class representatives shared their folders at a meeting with the Principal and to their peers in a whole school assembly. The work they are doing is fantastic and they are so proud of their class folders. So far in our thoughts of the week we have covered manners and values, International Day of Peace, European Day of Languages, Rosh Hashanah, World Space Week, Yom Kippur, World Mental Health day, Sukkot, Diwali and Keeping Safe. In November we will be covering Parliament week, Armistice Day, Anti-Bullying week, British Values, Thanksgiving and St. Andrews Day. Please encourage your children to share their work with you and to bring in any work from home to add to the folder. We were planning to welcome Ruth Smeeth (MP for Stoke North) to the Academy as part of our work on Parliament week however, due to the General Election and Parliament being dissolved Ruth was not able to join us. We did participate in an election of our own on Wednesday 6th November. We had a polling station, voting slips and a voting box. Many thanks to the Student Council who organised this – we all thoroughly enjoyed the experience! All children and staff voted for their favourite pudding – and the winning pudding was..... Double Chocolate Cookie with 144 votes! This will now be on our Academy menu.

### Dream Big Curriculum

Nursery	Autumn Setting in and story time 	Tasty Rhymes 
Reception	Celebrations When I grow up! 	

As part of our 'DREAM BIG' curriculum, we want to inspire our children to be scientists, acrobats, doctors, historians, vets, dentists and singers for example. Indeed, anything they dream to be! We can't do this by ourselves so, we need your help to inspire the children at home too. Here is an overview of all our topics this term. It would be wonderful if you and your child could talk about the topics and their learning.

1	This is me! A day at the circus 	Mog at the vets 	3	Stone age boy 	Brave 	5	To infinity and beyond 
2	Explorers of the sea 		4	Attack of the predator 	Save our world! 	6	Full steam ahead 
							The Victorians 

### Half Term Treat

Children were rewarded for their hard work and good behaviour last half term with a film treat. They were able to watch a film and enjoy popcorn in the hall! They were so excited and had a lovely time. The treat for this half term is a "Christmas Bounce" which will take place on Thursday 19th December. The hall will be filled with bouncy castles and each class will be allocated a time to have lots of fun! Children will need to ensure that they work hard to be part of this wonderful opportunity.

### Afterschool Clubs

Every Tuesday - Dance  
Every Thursday - Football

### Music

During the first half term our children have experienced many fantastic music opportunities. Year 4 have been working alongside the Lichfield Music Cathedral school to prepare for their concert later this month. Our amazing "Songbirds" choir have also been busy learning new songs. This half term we are very much looking forward to hosting the Elgar cello workshop, which is a world renowned project to 5C. Many children also have lessons with staff from the City Music service and The City Learning Trust's Director of Music. A number of children also receive peripatetic lessons. It is always lovely to hear the sounds from the children singing and the instruments playing floating around the Academy.

**PTFA** The PTFA are busy with their fund raising plans and would like to ask parents/carers for their help! If you do know any local businesses that would like to contribute, please let the office know.

\* **Friday 6th December** Christmas Fair 3pm-5pm (See below for donations that we need for the fair) Children who bring in any items for the fair will be given a raffle ticket to be entered into a prize draw.

**Week 1:** Friday 8th Nov - **Chocolate**

**Week 2:** Friday 15th November - **Full Bottles**

**Week 3:** Friday 22nd Nov - **Teddies/Toys/Tombola items**

**Week 4:** Friday 29th November - **You can choose to bring in any items from Week 1—Week 3**

### Keeping Children Safe

To ensure that all children, parents/carers and staff are safe could we please ensure that children's bikes/scooters are pushed rather than ridden once on the Academy premises. Following a number of concerns raised could parents/carers please discuss with your child road safety. Please see attached link for the information regarding the Green Cross Code.

[www.roadwise.co.uk/schools/using-the-road/green-cross-code](http://www.roadwise.co.uk/schools/using-the-road/green-cross-code)



Our Local PCSO is Nick Warrilow.

You can follow his twitter account for information@PSCOWarrilow.

It is always great to welcome PSCO Nick Warrilow into the Academy and we are very appreciative of his regular drop ins. He led a whole school assembly on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October to our children on keeping safe over the half term break, with particular reference to firework awareness.



### Celebration Friday

Every Friday is a special day! We share our attendance and punctuality figures which includes the winning classes. We also have Happiness, Lunchtime, Super Learner, Century Tech, Reading and Head teacher Awards. The children get very excited and are really proud of their achievements. It is also wonderful to see them support each other.

### Breakfast and Kool Kids Club

Just a reminder that we do have a morning and an afternoon school club available to parents. If you would like any more details, please contact the school office.

Please can we ask that you telephone the number when you are collecting your child/ren.

The telephone number is :- 07596 144943

### Autumn Visits

**22nd November -Year 4 Concert at Trentham High**

**20th and 27th November—Year 3 visit to Poole's Cavern**

### KEY DATES

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 13TH	-	PHOTO DAY
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 15TH NOVEMBER	-	CHILDREN IN NEED (NON UNIFORM DAY Pyjamas/Children In Need merchandise)
TUESDAY 19TH NOVEMBER	-	BOOK FAIR ARRIVES IN SCHOOL
THURSDAY 21ST NOVEMBER	-	PARENTS EVENING
FRIDAY 29TH NOVEMBER	-	INSET DAY
MONDAY 2ND DECEMBER	-	INSET DAY
WEDNESDAY 4TH DECEMBER	-	SONGBIRDS CONCERT
THURSDAY 5TH DECEMBER 9AM	-	EYFS CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE
FRIDAY 6TH DECEMBER 9AM	-	EYFS CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE
FRIDAY 6TH DECEMBER	-	CHRISTMAS FAYRE
TUESDAY 10TH DECEMBER 9AM	-	KS1 CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE
WEDNESDAY 11TH DECEMBER 1.45PM	-	KS1 CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE
THURSDAY 12TH DECEMBER	-	ACADEMY CLOSED DUE TO GENERAL ELECTION
FRIDAY 13TH DECEMBER	-	CHRISTMAS LUNCH AND CHRISTMAS JUMPER
FRIDAY 20TH DECEMBER	-	NON UNIFORM DAY (PTFA CHARITY DAY) CHILDREN MAY WISH TO BE IN CHRISMAS COSTUMES. ACADEMY CLOSSES AT 3PM (KOOL KIDS CLUB OPEN TILL 6PM)
MONDAY 6TH JANUARY	-	ACADEMY OPENS

### Art

**In Autumn Term 1, we covered the following in our art lessons.**

- Y1 - discovered primary colours, circus themed art and Joan Miro.
- Y2 - practised oceanic art using mixed media and learned about Hokusai.
- Y3 - enjoyed prehistoric art activities such as cave painting, and Stonehenge themed artwork.
- Y4 - experienced Predator themed art, using various media to illustrate animals, focusing on sketching skills.
- Y5 - got creative focusing on Solar System themed artwork, using a variety of media to produce exciting art.
- Y6 - investigated creating industrial atmospheres and 'Steampunk' using chalk, charcoal, pastels and paint.

**In Autumn Term 2, we shall be covering the following this half term**

- Y1 – investigating Toys and creating their own.
- Y2 - oceanic art, pattern and printing.
- Y3 - prehistoric art activities, including model making using natural materials.
- Y4 - artwork using recycled materials inspired by 'The Lorax'
- Y5 - intergalactic art activities based on the solar system
- Y6 - exploring the artwork of Lowry and producing work in his style

### Homework

Children should be receiving spelling and reading homework every week. We also expect children to complete some online activities on Education City, Times Table Rockstars or Century Tech.

### Charity Box

Our Hilarious hair day raised £246.00 which was donated to the Dougie Mac and to one of our families who have recently suffered a loss.

Thank you for all your support.

### SCHOOL HALL FOR HIRE

We have availability to hire out our school hall from 5pm most evenings.

Should you be interested or know someone that runs a club or fitness class and are looking for a venue, then please call Mrs Yates in the school office on

