

04th October 2023

Dear Families,

We have had a fantastic start to the new academic year. The positive attitudes, collaboration, and hard work that we have all observed right across school really must be celebrated. Without exception, every child has truly embraced the challenges and opportunities that have come their way over these last few weeks, demonstrating resilience and determination to complete the challenges they have been set. It has been a pleasure to see such enthusiasm and eagerness to learn and there is no doubt that this positive mindset will ensure that we continue to have another excellent year, full of achievement and many magic moments.

Yesterday, our outdoor team created a special magic moment for us all when they welcomed families at the end of the day to come and press apples in our kitchen garden, throughout the day classes learnt about the process of making apple juice and there was lots of fun in preparing the fruit and using the press. Below are some pictures from the day.



Staffing update

Mrs Hutcheson has now made a happy start to her maternity leave and we await the lovely news that a new Mill View baby has arrived! Mrs Neale will soon be starting her maternity leave at the start of November. When this time comes, Mrs Telford will be increasing her current days and Mrs McCrimmon will also be working a day in Little Wrens to cover Mrs Neale's absence. This is great news in ensuring continuity for our Little Wrens and also supports the work we are currently focussing on regarding transition to main school and the connection between our Nursery and Reception curriculum.

At the start of this term Mr Morris and Mr Glendenning, our sporting duo, were asked to take on the role of co-chairmen of the Cheshire Schools Sports Association. This was due to the great work they have done in organising and promoting active lives for our children and those in the local area. The role involves coordinating and organising tournaments and competitions for a range of sports which is great news for our school and also great professional development for Mr Glendenning and Mr Morris.

I'm sure you are all now aware that I will be stepping away from Mill View in January to take on a temporary role within our central trust. It's no secret that the last five years have been the absolute highlight of my career and I feel it a privileged to work at Mill View, alongside such brilliant people (big and small). It has therefore been a very challenging decision to make both professionally and personally for many reasons. However, knowing that there will be such a strong team in place to keep things moving forwards in my absence gives me the absolute confidence that Mill View will continue to be the very best place for our children to learn and grow.

Attendance









Good attendance at school is essential to the global development and academic progress of children. At Mill View we work through a progressive curriculum where every lesson builds on the one before so missing just one day of learning can impact on future lessons and understanding. If that happens over time, it is just impossible for us to support a child to catch up on the learning lost. We absolutely understand that at times children are just too ill to attend and must stay at home, but we encourage families to make decisions regarding other absence with careful consideration. At the end of each half term, Mrs Gibbons tracks attendance, persistent absence, lateness and unauthorised absences. Should she have concerns regarding absences or patterns of lateness, she will be make appointments with parents to see how we can offer support. Please be aware that all term time holidays will be unauthorised in line with our local school partnership policy, further details regarding our policy can be found on our school website <https://www.millviewschool.co.uk/page/attendance-and-punctuality/123905>



School platforms

Over the past few years we have searched for a communication and payment system for school that does everything we need it do, unfortunately such a system does not currently exist. Over time, we have reviewed the systems we have and added new ones to streamline the apps parents need to use while balancing our need and want to be able to directly message parents, allow easy payments and also share your children's learning journey in real time.

Below is a quick reminder of the systems and apps that we use. If you have any doubts regarding accessing or using these platforms please contact admin@millview.cheshire.sch.uk or businessmanager@millview.cheshire.sch.uk and we will help you. We will even help you download what you need onto your devices if you bring them to the office.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole school messages and sharing general information or requests relating to school events, newsletters and dates. • Two way messages between class teachers and families. • Class and individual work feeds sharing live learning and photos within class. <p>Staff will aim to respond to messages sent within 48 hours. We would not expect a staff member to respond in the evening or over the weekend. If you need an urgent response to a message please contact Mrs Doyle head@millview.cheshire.sch.uk</p>
<p>School Spider</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School surveys • Tasks directly relating directly to school admin e.g. data collection forms. • After school teacher led club reply / consent forms • School events / competition consent forms that need a reply • Parents evening bookings
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School meal bookings and payments • Trip and residential payments • Payments for other school events <p>Any information regarding the details of trips and events will be sent on Seesaw also</p>
<p>IPal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miller Club payments and bookings for families who use wrap around care.
<p>School Website</p> <p>https://www.millviewschool.co.uk/</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School curriculum information • An overview of school vision and priorities • Holiday dates (these will also be sent out as they are updated on Seesaw) • Reception open day dates • School polices • Newsletters • Information regarding Governance • Public information such as End of Key Stage data, Ofsted reports
	<p>Class WhatsApp groups are a great way to connect with other parents in your child's class, these are often set up by parents when they join us in Reception and offer a welcome community for many of our parents.</p> <p>Class WhatsApp groups are not monitored by school and are completely independent from our school platforms.</p> <p>However, it is important to remember that messages that feel negative in nature towards school can make others in the group feel uncomfortable and they may not necessarily agree despite not responding to the conversation, so much so that when this occurs other parents within the group often feel compelled to share the messages with us so we are aware.</p> <p>We ask that If you are ever need clarity, feel unhappy or confused regarding our communications, decision making or any other aspect of school life, that you approach us directly so we are aware and we can work together. We understand that families will discuss school matters between themselves, but ask that it is done with care and consideration for others within any group that discussion or comment might take place.</p>
<p>Homework apps</p>	<p>All log ins for homework apps relevant to your child's year group will be in the back of their reading diary</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;">     </div>

KidsBank collection <https://kidsbankchester.com/>

We are aware that Kidsbank supports many families in our local community and across Chester. They do a brilliant job in providing clothing and personal items for families who are struggling and facing difficult circumstances.

If you would like to support their current appeal, we will be collecting the items listed on their October wish list to donate. They especially welcome new & sealed items if you are in a position to donate these. Donations can be left with in the school office and we plan to drop them off over the half term holiday.

As always, if you need us please get in touch.

Best wishes,

Mrs Doyle & The Mill View TEAM



KidsBank
A helping hand

October Wish List

Clothing

- Warm Pyjamas (2-12)
- Winter Jumpers (3-12)
- Long Sleeve Tops (7-12)
- Winter Dresses (3-12)
- NEW Pants (2-12)
- NEW Knickers (2-12)
- Slippers (ALL children's sizes)
- XMAS Party Dresses (3-12)
- XMAS Jumpers (3-12)

Other

- Size 1, 6 & 7 nappies
- Children's toiletries
- Deodorant
- Cloth Books
- Cot Bed Sheets
- Hot Water Bottles
- Blankets



KidsBank Chester | 21-23 Garden Lane |
 Chester | CH1 4EU
www.kidsbankchester.com

Dates to add to your diary Information regarding school trips or class specific events will be shared directly on Seesaw. Please check dates on every newsletter to avoid missing additional dates or changes. MVP holiday dates https://www.millviewschool.co.uk/serve_file/10430264	
Book makers - MVP family & friends social group & chat while book making for school	Every Wednesday 9am, all welcome. Grandparents are very warmly encouraged to come along too!
Reception Robins family phonics and reading evening	Tuesday 10 th October at 6pm
School photos	Thursday 12 th October
Non- Uniform day, donations collected for Pupil Parliament council projects 2023/24	Friday 20 th October
PTA school disco (PTA will share more information nearer the time)	Friday 20 th October
End of Autumn Term 1	Friday 20th October
Staff INSET (children not in school today)	Monday 30 th October
Start of Autumn Term 2 for children	Tuesday 31st October
Parents Evenings	Wednesday 01 st November & Thursday 02 nd November
STEAM project share the learning – families invited into class. All presentations will also be recorded and posted on Seesaw if you are unable to make it.	Thursday 09 th November Years 1 & 2 - 1 - 1.30pm Years 3 & 4 - 1.30pm -2.00pm Years 5 & 6 - 2.00-2.30pm
PTA Christmas jumper swap day (more info to follow)	Wednesday 15 th November
PTA Non- uniform day. Raffle prizes and bottle tombola donations to school (more information to follow). Children may also wear their Children in Need spots and make a donation that we will pass on to the charity if they wish.	Friday 17 th November
PTA Christmas Fair	Friday 01 st December
Key Stage One Christmas Performances	Tuesday 12 th & Wednesday 13 th December 1.45pm
Key Stage Two Christmas Service at St Michael's	Thursday 14 th December 1.45pm and 6.00pm
Non-Uniform and Christmas dinner day	Friday 15 th December
End of Autumn Term 2	Friday 15th December
Staff INSET	Tuesday 02 nd January
Start of Spring Term 1 for children	Wednesday 03rd January