

12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Families,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that you had an enjoyable break over the holidays. Everyone has come back to school brilliantly, adapting to staff changes well and we are all set for the coming weeks full of learning and new opportunities.

### Remembering Mrs Hughes

We have felt so uplifted by the support, care and thoughts we have received as a staff over the past weeks since Mrs Hughes' death: from our school community, our CAT community and the wider community. We talk so much as a school about the importance of TEAM at Mill View. It is fairly straightforward to be a good TEAM when things are going smoothly but it is a true testament to the strength of our whole school TEAM that staff, children, families and others connected to our school have handled such a tragedy so beautifully, finding strength in one another and grieving together.

Today Mrs Hetherington and I have spent time with each class again, talking to them about how well they are working as a TEAM and reminding them of the support that is in place for them at school. We also explained some of the ways they might like to remember Mrs Hughes when school is closed for her funeral on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January.

Mrs Hughes was full of fun, sparkle and smiles; we think it is so important that we keep hold of this energy. Below is a list of suggestions for things you might like to do with your children next Friday (or another day) to remember Mrs Hughes. We're sure you'll have more to add and would love to see pictures of what you get up to on Seesaw.

- Put on some loud music and have a big old dance, she loved to dance!
- Go for a walk or climb a mountain, she loved exercise in the outdoors!
- Wear something sparkly or green, she loved sequins!
- Go for a cycle ride, she loved to cycle!
- Be extra smiley, she was always smiling on our gate first thing in the morning!
- Have a small adventure, she was so adventurous!
- Try something new, she was always keen to try something new and would usually encourage others to join in!



## Staffing Update

We want to wish Mrs Doyle all the best in her 2 term role as Director of School Improvement in CAT (Cheshire Academies Trust). We will very much miss but know she will have an incredibly positive impact on the schools she will be supporting and in the development of the leadership of CAT. She has promised she'll be visiting us and will be coming back for an assembly we have planned for her at the end of this term which was postponed from the final week of last term.

The Senior Leadership for the next 2 terms is



Mrs Gibbons  
*Head of School*



Mrs Hetherington  
*Assistant Head*



Mr Lenton  
*Executive Head*

Mrs McCrimmon has taken on the role of EYFS Lead (Little Wrens & Robins) for 2 terms.

We are also excited to congratulate other members of our staff who are taking on roles within CAT. I think this really does highlight what an amazing staff we have – as we already know, we have teachers in school who really are at the peak of their professional skills and their new roles will really enhance our work within school, providing exciting opportunities for collaboration.

Mrs Robinson has taken on the role of Teaching & Learning (SEND) Lead for CAT. She will continue her work at Mill View but her 3 days with us will now be Wednesday, Thursday and Friday for those parents who need to contact her regarding SEND matters.

Mrs Thomson has taken on the role of CAT Subject Lead for Reading, Writing and Phonics. Mr Glendenning has taken on the role of CAT Subject Lead for Maths. Mr Morris has taken on the role of CAT Subject Lead for Computing. This will not change their roles or teaching commitments at school.

## Teaching and Learning at Mill View

Mrs Hetherington and I had the privilege of visiting a secondary school Doncaster [xpschool.org/](http://xpschool.org/) who use a **Expeditionary** approach to learning. Expeditionary Learning is an educational approach that takes learning beyond the classroom and immerses students in real-world experiences and outcomes. At its heart is character development. This approach is something we have already adopted at Mill View and will continue to develop this term through 'Expeditions', where the children will have the chance to showcase their in class learning in a 'real-world' environment. Below are our Expeditions for Spring Term. Dates have been arranged by class teachers and will be shared in the next week.

Sparrows	Make and Sell Fruit Smoothies for local community @ Upton Pavilion
Owls	Creating and Running their own Chocolate Cafe @ Kingsway Cafe
Kestrels	Designing and Making a Virtual Canal Tour for tourists
Hawks	Creating and Launching Travel Website @ School Hall
Falcons	Sustainability videos @ Chester University
Eagles	Host our own Museum Exhibition @ Grosvenor Museum

Mrs Robinson is leading a training programme in school with our teachers and learning coaches. **MITA** (Maximising the Impact of Teaching Assistants). This has led to some changes already to our support staff structure and further improvements will be implemented throughout the year.



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**PTA**

The PTA Christmas Fair was a huge success with lots of activities and stalls on offer, and of course Santa! The PTA raised just over £1,000 to support resources for school. We are always keen to welcome new members to the PTA so do let anyone in our office know if you can help with upcoming events or would like to join the PTA. As always, if you need us please get in touch. Please make a note of the diary dates below and if you have any questions at all just send a Seesaw message to ask.

Best wishes and our kindest regards,

Mrs Gibbons & The Mill View TEAM

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 <a href="http://millviewschool.co.uk/serve_file/10430264">millviewschool.co.uk/serve_file/10430264</a>	
Book makers - MVP family & friends social group & chat while book making for school	<b>Every Wednesday 9am, all welcome. Grandparents are very warmly encouraged to come along too!</b>
PTA Meeting	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> January The Hub, 3.30pm
Little Wrens Nursery open tour for potential new applicants (please share with anyone who may be interested). Call school to book in.	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> January
School and Miller Club closed	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January
PTA Film Night straight after school	Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> January
<b>Last day of Spring Term 1</b>	Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February
<b>HALF TERM</b>	
<b>First day of Spring Term 2</b>	Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> February
Reading café Week in school	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> –Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March
World Book Day – dress up as a character Please note info below from Cheshire Libraries <i>Do your bit to help save the environment and money this year, by donating unwanted World Book Day fancy dress costumes at Barnton, Blacon, Frodsham, Hope Farm, Lache, Little Sutton, Neston, Northwich, Sandiway and Wharton libraries. Donated costumes will be quickly checked and put out for those who need them (no donation or payment required) from Thursday 1 February to Wednesday 6 March.</i>	Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> March
Neurodiversity Awareness Week	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March
Parents Evening Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 5, Year 6	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March
Parents Evening Nursery, Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 5, Year 6	Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March
Parents Evening Year 3, Year 4	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> March
Dance Showcase Year 3 & 4	Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March First performance - 1.45pm / Second performance – 6.00pm
Parents Evening Year 3, Year 4	Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March
<b>End of Spring Term 2</b>	<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March</b>