



20th October 2017 The Home / School Partnership Curriculum Newsletter Autumn Term 2

Dear Parent,

This has been a very busy and eventful term. It's always a good thing to look forward but it is also good to look back sometimes and reflect on what has been achieved so far this school year.

**Sywell Class** —I would like to give a special mention for our new children in Sywell class, who we all think have settled really well into school. Well done to Lizzie, Alex, Archie, James, Henry, Finley, Sonny, Jemima, Ezra, Dylan, Luke, Phoebe, Alexandra, Beatrice and Felicity—we are glad that you are part of the 'Milton family'. It has been good to see so many parents at the Stay and Play sessions this week. The children all received their Bibles this week from Holy Cross Church in assembly on Wednesday.

**Harvest assembly**—thank you all for your donations for our local foodbank. When I asked for volunteers to assist with preparing and presenting the assembly I was inundated with offers! I am so grateful to all those children who gave up their own time to help prepare and lead the assembly. Our children showed us that they are very much aware of the needs of others and the assembly gave us all a moment to be thankful for all that we have and sometimes take for granted. Some of those children helped me deliver your donations to the local drop off point last week. Thank you to all of you for your support.



**Outdoor project update**— the 'hidden paths' have now been laid and will now give us all year round access to the area at the end of the field. We are now looking at options for seating and carrying out the final modifications to the caravan. Shortly after the holiday, we will be completing this project with the help of our School Council. The children are very much steering this project and have been meeting monthly throughout the year. You can read the minutes of their meetings on the website. They have clear ideas for the playground too and the council members will be meeting with representatives from playground marking companies in November to choose the designs for our playground area.

**Northampton in Bloom** —you may recall that we were visited at the end of last term by a judge from the Northampton in Bloom competition. The organisation was so impressed by the work on the school site and the huge community support that we have been awarded the Silver Gilt award, which I understand is unusual for a first time entrant in this competition. Thank you all for your fantastic support with this project. Whilst many of the plants have not survived for the autumn term, we will be tidying up and planting some bulbs in the grounds shortly.



**Parents' Evenings**— you should by now have received your appointment time for Parents' Evening. All appointments will take place in the hall. Please email the office if you have not received an appointment time. We look forward to meeting with you.



**Read on**—for news about the FOMS, a new community initiative and the governing board.



**FOMS** —our Friends' Association has got off to a fantastic start this year! At the recent AGM, Sarah Giordano and Julia Sparks were elected as joint Chairs of FOMS. They are ably supported by a very enthusiastic team of parents and friends of the school. We also express our thanks to those who have stepped down from FOMS at the end of the summer term. Thank you to FOMS for organising our Macmillan coffee morning, which was a resounding success. Yesterday's Autumn Fete was a new venture and was well received too. We look forward to lots more from the FOMS this year—please do give the FOMS your help and support this year.

**Great news — Community Defibrillator**—coming soon! We are delighted to announce that a community defibrillator will be installed at the entrance to the school car park to serve the whole Milton community. This is a joint project, initiated by FOMS, supported and funded by the FOMS, the school, Holy Cross Church and Hunter Maclean, with the ongoing running costs supported by the Parish Council. The preparations are being made in the next few weeks and will give you more information as things develop.



## School Governing Board

Mrs Parker's term of office as Chair has now finished and following the recent meeting of the governing board Mr Peter Heffron takes over as Chair of Governors for this academic year.

Mr Neil Goram remains as Vice Chair of Governors for the coming year. We are immensely grateful to Mrs Parker for her support in this role and are delighted that she is remaining on the governing board. The board is now looking for an additional parent governor representative—we will be sending out information immediately after the holiday about this post.



## School Lunch Cost.

Please note the current charge for paid school meals is £2.30.



We have been informed by ABM our catering provider that there will be a new menu after half term although we have been unable to confirm when this will appear on ParentPay. If you have already booked meals for after half term please log in and review your choices just before we come back to school in case you need to update to a choice from the new menu.

Thank you

## **ONLINE SAFETY**

Please find below an article from Mrs Carpenter about keeping safe online.



### **The 5 digital parenting rules that REALLY matter**

There's a lot of advice about online safety out there, some of it contradictory and much of it about five years out-of-date.

The internet has now become an unavoidable part of everyday life and one that should also be part of family life too.

We live in a time where wild Pokémon are roaming around museums and digital blocks are being used to recreate The Great Fire of London. Who wants to miss out on the fun and creativity that the digital world has to offer?

It would be a missed opportunity for children not to actively engage and develop skills through these digital endeavours and research shows that ultimately digital-savvy kids are far safer online.

### **Follow the link to the top 5 tips for internet safety**

<http://parentinfo.org/article/the-5-digital-parenting-rules-that-really-matter>

## **Roof Replacement Work**

This work is being funded through successful bidding for government funds. The work, which will involve replacing the flat roof sections is now likely to start in January due to delays at other schools.



## Dates for your Diary

Sywell Class Parents Curriculum meeting	3pm	Tuesday October 17th
Sywell Stay and Play and Bible Presentation		Wednesday October 18th
FOMS Autumn Fete	3.30-5pm	Thursday October 19th
<b>School closed for half term</b>		<b>Mon - Fri Oct 23rd - 26th</b>
<b>Training Day</b>		<b>Monday October 30th</b>
<b>School re-opens</b>		<b>Tuesday October 31<sup>st</sup></b>
Band starts	8.15am	Monday November 6th
Parents' evening – appointments – hall	3.40 – 6pm	Monday November 6th
School Photographs		Tuesday November 7th
Parents' evening – appointments – hall	3.40 – 6pm	Tuesday November 7th
Friends and Family Friday	3pm	Friday November 24th
FOMS Christmas Event (details to follow)		Friday December 1st
Visiting Pantomime		Thursday December 7th
Reception & Irchester Class rehearsal		Tuesday December 12th
Reception & Irchester Class Production (tickets) 2pm		Wednesday December 13th
NHS Flu vaccination programme (Years R, 1,2,3 & 4)		Thursday December 14th
Reception & Irchester Class Production (tickets) 6pm		Thursday December 14th
<b>Close for Christmas</b>		<b>Wednesday December 20th</b>
	<b>2018</b>	
<b>Training Day</b>		<b>Wednesday January 3<sup>rd</sup></b>
<b>School re-opens</b>		<b>Thursday January 4<sup>th</sup></b>
Young Voices Concert		Monday January 8th

<http://www.milton.northants.sch.uk/index.php/calendar#year=2017&month=10&day=2&view=month>