

Milborne Message - 24th September 2021

Message from Sharon Staddon

Dear Families,

It's been another very busy week but it has been absolutely wonderful to hear the children learning new songs and celebrating their learning.

I had the pleasure of seeing out Year 4 children at St. Mary's on Wednesday. How they've grown and changed over the summer! By chance I also met many year 8 children who are ex Milborne so that was an unexpected treat.

After half term we are hoping to run a **school choir** led by Mrs Tudge, affectionately known by the children as Hattie's mum. There are definitely some singers in the school and I hope that they will sign up when the time comes.

You will be receiving, later today, an updated version of the letter regarding our Covid practice. It is the same as the previous one apart from an addition explaining **School Case Procedure**. We have taken the measure to use Lateral Flow Tests (LFT) or rapid tests, rather than PCR for school cases as they are quicker and easier to access and generally less traumatic for the children. I also think they will be around for a while and unfortunately, will be something the children get very used to doing. Again, this is something we have chosen for our school because it makes sense to me, where there is any doubt to test, before returning to school and potentially spreading the virus further. Your help in this is greatly appreciated. I liaise with Public Health regularly and I have shared that some of you had difficulty booking a PCR test when your child had no symptoms. This should NOT be the case. If you had this experience, possibly if you phoned to get an appointment, rather than booking online, please let me know as Public Health would like more information so that they can ensure all call handlers are giving out accurate advice and guidance.

How to get regular rapid tests

Order tests to do at home

You can get rapid lateral flow test kits sent to your home.

[Order rapid lateral flow home test kits on GOV.UK](#)

Pick up tests from a pharmacy

You can collect up to 2 packs of 7 rapid tests from a local pharmacy.

[Find a pharmacy near you where you can collect rapid tests](#)

Information: From 4 October 2021, you'll need a collect code when you pick up your tests from pharmacies. A collect code matches your details to the test kits you collect from a pharmacy. This service will be available from 1 October 2021.

Parent Consultation appointments:- Our Parent Consultation appointments will be held at the end of this term. These consultation appointments will be 'face to face' in the School Hall. After your appointment you will be able to go into your child's classroom and look through their books.

Please could we ask that you do not take any books home. Bookings will 'go live' on the following dates:-

Rabbits = open on 25th September at 6am and close on 4th October @ 8:30am and will be held on the 5th October only.

Robins and Raccoons = open on 1st October at 6:30pm and close on 11th October at 8:30am and will be held on Tuesday and Thursday.

SEN appointments will be with Miss Wittman on the 12th and 14th October and will also open on 1st October at 6:30pm and close on 11th October at 8:30am and will be held on Tuesday and Thursday

Please see the attached booking instructions. The link to the booking system is in the attached document, but for ease it is:- <https://milborne.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Top tips I have been asked to include top tips on managing children's emotional states and behaviours, where I can which is why I have been adding these. I hope you are finding them helpful and useful reminders of things we all forget from time to time.

Hi's and Byes are really important for your child. So how you leave your child and how you are when you meet again has a significant impact on how they feel. Whatever has happened in the morning before drop off needs to be resolved and made right before your child leaves you. Even if it seems quite a small thing to you they often dwell on it during the day. It's the same at pick up. Whatever is going on for you, your child needs you to be with them at that moment..

All school systems are under constant review and changes will be made if it is thought that is best for the majority of the children and is feasible for the school to be able to maintain these safely. There are discussions going on currently with staff about some possible changes and we will let you know those once we have a definitive plan. This is likely to be a move closer to some systems we have had in the past.

As a staff, we feel that the pick up arrangements are less effective than they could be, although since we agreed to change it they seem to be super efficient, which is typical!

From Monday, **pick-up** for Robins and Raccoons will be from the playground. Rabbits pick-up will be as normal. Please could Robin's parents keep to the right and Raccoons to the left as you are standing looking at the school building. The gates will be open just before 3pm. This will enable parents to gather together but to be socially distant where possible in the playground. The area will be marked out with cones. If you've got a child in both classes try to hover in the middle!

The staff will line the children up at two points as they have done in years gone by and release them as soon as they have spotted you. It can be really hard to see you when faced with a crowd of faces so it is always helpful just to wave a hand to make yourselves known, which will help speed up the process. Hopefully this will allow parents an opportunity to talk to each other which is more difficult in linear queues, and will mean less time waiting. The gates will be locked again at 3.10pm to allow clubs to use the space freely. The exception to this is Monday as we have an outside provider providing tennis lessons so they

really need to be able to start lessons properly as soon as possible after 3pm so we would ask for a speedy exit on Mondays especially.

All systems working well are dependent on everyone following the rules, and I am delighted that many more people are using the **Drop Off zone**. Please keep it free for those dropping off. Car park bays can be used in the school car park or outside the school but please do not park in unmarked areas as it holds up all the traffic and blocks access for larger vehicles such as coaches, fire engines and ambulances. Alternatively, we do have permission to use the pub car park and walk from there.

Since 2019, we have worked hard on thinking about changes we wanted to make regarding the children's learning. It took a long time to formulate our thinking but we believe we are in a place now where we can articulate those clearly and seek your views and ideas. Parent Forum members were the first to learn about our manners, politeness and life skills approach that is now starting to come to fruition in a more robust way. I hope that as many of you as possible can join us on 7th October. I am hoping that after the meeting we will be able to pull many different threads together and we can form a plan that we can share.



Milborne School Community Meeting October 7th 2021 @ 4pm



You are warmly invited to join the staff and governors for an MSA school community meeting.

It has been an exciting time behind the scenes at Milborne and we want to give everyone the chance to come into school and share in the groundwork that will help us create and maintain a bright

future for our school.

As children, parents, staff and governors, what do we wish for all children at Milborne? What is most important to you? We want to know so it can be included in our work. You are the final missing piece of the jigsaw! We hope to have our whole school community represented to hear what your most

important values are, so please join staff, governors and our special guests...the school council children!

There will be cake and coffee too! Everyone is welcome. Please save the date.

Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the sunshine.

Yours sincerely,

Sharon Staddon
Headteacher

Dates For Your Diary:-

- 1st Oct** - RACCOONS Wessex Trip (healthy snack, water bottle & packed lunch required)
- 1st Oct** - Parent Forum 9:15am (Invite only)
- 5th Oct** - Individual School Photos
- 5th Oct** - Reception ONLY - Parent Consultations
- 7th Oct** - Milborne School Community Meeting @ 4pm - school hall
- 12th Oct** - Yr 1 - Yr 4 Parent Consultations (and SEN consultations)
- 13th Oct** - Harvest Festival Service @ Church led by Y4 starting @ 2pm (children go home from church)
- 14th Oct** - Yr 1 - Y4 Parent Consultations (and SEN consultations)
- 15th Oct** - Reception - Harvest Workshop @ 9am (in classroom/outdoor area)
- 19th Oct** - Last Day of term (3pm pick-up)
- 20th Oct - 29th Oct** - October Half-term break for Children
- 1st Nov** - Children back in School
- 1st Nov** - Flu Vaccinations (all children)



Parents are able to download the **FREE and UPDATED** mobile app which can help to keep up to date which school information while on the move!

Any text messages sent by the school are converted into **free notifications** for app users, saving the school the cost of the text - the more app users we have, the more money we can save!

Current app users should find that their app updates automatically, but if not, simply install the update from the Apple App Store (iPhone/iPad) or Google Play (Android). Newcomers will need to go to Apple App Store or Google Play and download the new version directly, for **FREE!** The school name will just be Milborne and you will have been sent your login details. If you would like a reminder or have not received your details, please contact Mrs Hosford in the school office.

EXTERNAL INFORMATION:-

- Total Sports - Half Term activities. Please see the attached flyer for more information.
- DASP Music Brass Lesson:- **NEW Starter Brass Lessons**

Would your child like to start learning the trumpet?

We are delighted to be able to offer an opportunity for children in years 3 & 4 from any DASP first schools, to start to learn the trumpet in a small group. The session would run 5-5.30pm on a Wednesday at the Thomas Hardy School (if we have a lot of interest, we may be able to offer an additional session at 5.30 – 6pm).

The cost for each term (10 sessions) would be £55 and would include the hire of a trumpet for the term (for the first half term, the cost would be halved as only 5 sessions would be available).

If you are interested in your child taking part in this scheme, please contact Hanna Trevorrow at htrevorrow@thomas-hardye.net by Monday 4th October. We hope that the sessions might start after half term.