Oxfordshire County Council

**Mill Lane Community Primary School**

**The Windmill Community Nursery**

**Mill Lane Chinnor Oxfordshire OX39 4RF**

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**Newsletter**

Tuesday 7th January 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

Time to welcome in a new year and a new term. The last two terms were extremely busy with the School’s 50th birthday celebrations, the redevelopment of the Gruffland area, the arrival of the goats, the development of the outside toilets in to storage areas, the wonderful Christmas performances across the school, many MLSA events including a marvellous fireworks display and numerous trips and workshops for the children to enjoy. The next term is just as busy with the Year 6 residential trip, Science week with workshops, VR workshops for KS2, the O2 concert, Book Week and class celebration assemblies. All events and the term dates for next year are at the end of this newsletter.

**School Day**

This is just a reminder that the school day for all KS1 & 2 classes starts at 8.45am. The gate is open from 8.40am. It is important that the children arrive on time as each class starts the day with early morning activities tailored to their individual needs to develop their phonic/spelling and maths skills. The Reception Class starts at 9am. Lunch time for Reception is at 11.45am, Year 1 - 4 is 12pm and Year 5 - 6 is 12.15pm. Afternoon lessons start at 1pm when the register is retaken.

**Curriculum**

Here are the topics for the classes this term:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Nursery** | **Reception** | **Year 1** | **Year 2** | **Year 3** | **Year 4** | **Year 5** | **Year 6** |
| Let’s find out about..patterns in our world | Toys | Great Fire of London | Home and Away | Under the Canopy | Blue Planet | The Victorians | Chocolate (Maya) |
| Spring - Growth and Change | Amazing Animals Come Outside!  Growth | My World  (Great Britain and Chinnor) |

**Uniform**

As we start the new year, it seems the right time to send out a reminder about the school’s uniform policy. Children should wear a white shirt or white / red polo shirt, grey / black trousers, shorts or skirt and a red jumper / cardigan or fleece. We have listened to parents who asked that we keep the red polo shirts as they hide numerous stains! Clothing does not need to have the school logo on it. Children should wear black shoes or black trainers (with no different colours). For health and safety reasons, children are not allowed to wear any jewellery other than a watch or tiny stud earrings. Earrings cannot be worn during P.E lessons or swimming sessions and must be taken out by the child. Staff are not allowed to remove earrings at all. New guidance states that taping earrings does not provide adequate protection. Children need to have shorts, t-shirt, tracksuit bottoms, trainers / plimsolls for P.E. If they consistently do not bring in their P.E clothes, we will provide them with clothing from the second hand store where possible.

**Promoting Core Values**

Many visitors to the school comment on how polite, helpful and friendly the children at Mill Lane are and how well behaved they are. As a school we felt we should celebrate this more and also promote the core values of the school. The core values of the school are: respect, resilience, trust, community, creativity, equality, teamwork and being openminded. These values sit alongside the 6 learning behaviours we expect to see in class which are: respect each other and our environment, kind hands/feet/words, follow instructions, treat others as you would like to be treated, work together & cooperate and always try to do your best. Each child will receive a ‘Value Star’ reward booklet. Whenever a member of staff sees a child displaying any of the school’s core values, they will put a stamp in their Value Star booklet. When they have completed a grid of 25 squares, they will receive a certificate and small prize. Each time they complete a grid of 25 squares, they will receive a certificate and small prize.

**Choir**

The Choir will take place in the music room in the outside huts after school on Thursday. The children are busy preparing for the O2 concert on Monday 3rd February. Coaches will leave school at 12pm after the children have had lunch. Because the children will not return until after 11pm, they may arrive late on Tuesday to catch up on their sleep. Children will be expected to be in school by 10am.

**Class Assemblies**

Just to give you plenty of warning, there will be class assemblies taking place every Friday morning at 9am. Below are the dates for each class:

Friday 28th February: Class 5

Friday 7th March: Class 4

Friday 14th March: Class 3

Friday 21st March: Class 2

Friday 28th March: Class 1

Friday 25th April: Class 6 Kilvrough Assembly

**Dates for your diary:**

Monday 13th January: 3.30pm – 6.30pm Year 3 Parents Evening

Wednesday 15th January: 3.30pm – 6pm Year 3 Parents Evening

Thursday 16th January: KS2 VR workshops

Tuesday 28th January: Year 6 I.M.Ps workshop

Thursday 30th January: Year 6 Junior Citizens visit

Monday 3rd February: Choir to O2

Monday 10th February to Friday 14th February: Science Week

Monday 10th February: Bright Spark science workshops

Tuesday 11th February: Introduction to Robotics workshops

Tuesday 11th February: Year 6 and Reception Class height and weight checks

Friday 14th February: Last day of term

**Term Dates 2024 – 2025**

**Term 3:** Tuesday 7th January 2025 to Friday 14th February 2025

 INSET Day Monday 6th January

**Term 4:** Monday 24th February 2025 to Friday 4th April (1.30pm finish)

**Term 5:** Tuesday 22nd April 2025 to Friday 23rd May 2025

Bank Holiday 5th May 2025

**Term 6:** Tuesday 3rd June 2025 to Tuesday 22nd July 2025 (1.30pm finish)

INSET Day Monday 2nd June

**Term Dates 2025 - 2026**

**Term 1:** Wednesday 3rd September 2025 to Friday 24th October 2025

INSET Days Monday 1st & Tuesday 2nd September

**Term 2:** Monday 3rd November 2025 to Friday 19th December 2025 (1.30pm finish)

**Term 3:** Tuesday 6th January 2026 to Friday 13th February 2026

INSET Day Monday 5th January 2026

**Term 4:** Monday 23rd February 2026 to Friday 27th March 2026 (1.30pm finish)

**Term 5:** Monday 13th April 2026 to Friday 22nd May 2026

Bank Holiday 4th May 2026

**Term 6:** Tuesday 2nd June 2026 to Friday 17th July 2026 (1.45pm finish)

INSET Day Monday 1st June & Monday 21st July

Yours sincerely,

Tineke van der Ploeg