Oxfordshire County Council

**Mill Lane Community Primary School**

**The Windmill Community Nursery**

**Mill Lane Chinnor Oxfordshire OX39 4RF**

**Head Teacher Miss Tineke van der Ploeg**

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Tuesday 4th June 2024

Dear Parents,

I hope you have enjoyed the half term break and had a good rest. As usual Term 6 is a very busy term and we have lots of exciting events planned to end the year on a high note. All important dates can be found at the end of this newsletter.

**Staffing**

I would like to congratulate Amanda Moseley on her appointment as assistant head at Winslow Church of England School. It has been a pleasure to see Amanda develop as a leader and she has played a pivotal role in developing the literacy curriculum within the school. We wish Amanda all the best for the future. We are currently advertising Amanda’s position so we are unable to say where the class teachers will be next year until we make an appointment. At the end of Term 5, we also said farewell to our caretaker, Graeme Hemming, who was on a temporary contract. Fortunately, we have been able to find a replacement, Victor Zammit. Victor has previously worked at Barley Hill Primary School.

**Sports Day:**

We are really looking forward to being able to run our usual sports day and BBQ this year; hopefully the weather will at least be dry. Put Friday 19th July in your diaries to come and watch the children take part in individual races and then a carousel of activities. As usual, sports day will be rounded off with a BBQ and picnic. However, this year we are also offering a ‘Fun on the Field’ afternoon for all families that would like to stay and join in with the fun. There will be lots of activities for adults and children of all ages to take part in. There will be Forest School activities, inflatables, games and competitions. We are holding this event to carry on raising funds for the Gruffland Project. More information will follow.

**Sports Week:**

Sports day will mark the end of a week where children will have had the opportunity to try a range of new activities. On Monday 15th July there will be skateboarding workshops, Tuesday there will be a Kidz Fit workshop and the activity wall will be back again on Wednesday 17th July.

**Parent Consultations:**

Reports go out on Monday 15th July. They will look different to previous years as we have listened to parents’ comments and included more information regarding what children have covered in all subjects. You will have the opportunity to discuss your child’s report on Thursday 18th July when we will be holding parent consultations at 3.15pm – 8pm. More information about this will follow nearer the time but booking will again be online.

**Gruffland Project**

I am pleased to say that work on the Gruffland project is already under way. This week, work has started on clearing the old environmental area so that the different designated areas such as the sensory trail and kitchen garden areas can be created. The MLSA has kindly set up a fundraising page to help us reach our goal in order to complete all aspects of the project: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/LkwSVJ9ymGMgkTuJ>. Already, Florence Hathaway has raised money by making and selling Loom Band bracelets and Fletcher West has organised a sponsored litter pick around Chinnor to collect money for the project. We will continue to sell ice poles when the weather is nice but will send an email out to warn parents when they will be on sale. All monies raised goes to the Gruffland project.

On a happy note, the 2 goats have been chosen (see picture) and will be ready in September to finally bring goats back to Gruffland. The old toilet blocks have been reorganised to make way for the MLSA equipment to be stored so that their old building can make way for a new outdoor classroom area.

**Hot Weather (Hopefully)**

Now we are in the Summer Term, I am sure we will soon be welcoming in warmer weather for longer periods of time. Therefore, we would ask that you keep to the following guidelines:

· Children must not wear open toe sandals or sling backs for health and safety reasons.

· Children need to wear appropriate clothing to protect them from the sun, it is important that they do not wear tops with thin straps e.g. for P.E. We also ask that children do not wear short shorts or short skirts.

· Children should have a named sun hat and a water bottle with water. Sun cream should be named and cannot be shared between children in order to safeguard those children with allergies. We are also unable to administer sun cream to children so you might want to demonstrate this to them so they are able to apply sun cream on their own.

**Holiday Clubs**

We wanted to give you an early heads up about forthcoming holiday clubs for the summer. There will be holiday clubs on offer for most of the summer holiday either provided by Mill Lane or by a local company called Shields & Dragons. Mill Lane will be providing a club from Thursday 25th July to Friday 2nd August and will then run one from Tuesday 27th August to Friday 30th August. There will also be a holiday club on the 2 INSET days in September (Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September). Bookings can be made via the School Gateway portal. Shields and Dragons will be also be providing activities during the holidays and we will let you know the dates when we have them.

**Last Day of Term:**

The last day of term will be on Wednesday 24th July. We will be holding our Leavers and Celebration Assembly at 1pm. School will finish at 1.30pm and there will be no after school club on this day.

**Events for your Diary**

***Term 6***

Monday 3rd June: INSET day – school closed

Tuesday 4th June: Children return to school

Tuesday 4th June to Friday 14th June: Year 4 Multiplication Check takes place

Wednesday 5th June: Year 5 & 6 ‘Home, fire & road’ safety talk

Friday 7th June: MLSA Mufti Day in aid of Father’s Day Sale

Monday 10th to Friday 14th June: Year 1 phonics screening

Tuesday 11th June: Year 2 trip to Museum of Natural History

Tuesday 11th June: KS2 cricket tournament

Tuesday 11th June: Reception Open afternoon for new children

Wednesday 12th and Friday 14th June: MLSA Father’s Day sale

Tuesday 18th June 2pm: Choir perform at Dorchester

Tuesday 18th June: 3.30pm Reception Open afternoon for new children

Thursday 20th June 4pm: Thame Partnership Sports for KS2 children

Saturday 29th June: MLSA fun day

Tuesday 2nd July: Year 1 Mudefield Spit trip

Friday 5th July: LWS Taster day

Friday 5th July: Class swap morning

Wednesday 10th July 10am: Year 5 & 6 dress rehearsal for end of year performance

Thursday 11th July 2pm & 7pm: Year 5 & 6 end of year performance

Monday 15th July: End of year reports go out

Monday 15th July: Skateboard workshops

Tuesday 16th July: Kidz Fit workshops

Wednesday 17th July: Activity wall experience

Thursday 18th July 3pm – 8pm Parents evening

Friday 19th July 9.30am: Sports Day starts

Friday 19th July 1pm: Family fun on the field

Friday 19th July 5pm: Leavers disco

Monday 22nd July: ‘Rock Band’ concert

Monday 22nd July: Reserve Sports Day

Wednesday 24th July 1pm: Leavers assembly

Wednesday 24th July 1.30pm: School closes (no after school club)

**Term Dates 2024 - 2025**

**Term 1:** Wednesday 4th September 2024 to Friday 25th October 2024

INSET Day Monday 2nd & Tuesday 3rd September, Friday 4th October

**Term 2:** Monday 4th November 2024 to Friday 20th December 2024 (1.30pm finish)

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

 INSET Day Monday 6th January 2025

**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 2025

Yours sincerely,

Tineke van der Ploeg