

Millhouse News

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Well we have come to the end of another week in lock down! We should congratulate everyone for getting to the weekend – another week closer to the light at the end of the tunnel. This week has been tough for many people for a variety of reasons but staff, children and parents have persevered and things are gradually getting there. Thank you to all the parents who have helped their own children and others get on board with our home learning provision.

We don't know how long we will remain closed for. The government have said schools will get two weeks' notice before they reopen and we can hazard a guess about how they will decide which schools open first but nothing has been confirmed. We are desperately missing all the children and can't wait to get back to 'normal' school. As soon as we know anything, we will of course let you know.

Home Learning

Just a few little tips and pointers for making the home learning more accessible:

- If the connection is poor during the live class sessions, try turning the WiFi off on devices that aren't being used. We know there could be many devices connected at any one time in a house and this will affect connection speed and quality.
- The Google Classroom app can be used on a mobile for accessing the live sessions, seeing and uploading work (see information on last week's newsletter). Please remember, that children don't need to complete work on a device' it can be done on paper and then a photo taken to upload.
- We are aware that Amazon kindle devices don't allow the Google Classroom app. These devices can still be used but the children will need to go through the 'silk' internet browser using the URL <https://classroom.google.com/> and sign in via the web rather than the app.

Nursery Provision

A letter has been sent to all Nursery parents explaining our position on Nursery opening expectations. Please note that although the Nursery will technically be open for all Nursery children, we will be following our risk assessment and numbers will be limited. This may mean that session times will be different to your child's normal times and we may have to put a rota on place for different days. Any parents who contact the school regarding the Nursery opening, will be contacted next week. **If** we are able to have any more nursery children in school, this will start the week beginning 1st February.

Parents do not have to send their nursery child in to school. If you feel that your child is happy, doing well and are safe at home it is ok to keep them there. Parents will not be penalised for keeping their child at home.

Wellbeing & Support

Staff will continue to check in with parents and children throughout this time, especially if the children do not attend the live sessions. Please note that if a member of staff calls you, they will need to speak to your child as well as you. If this is not possible at the time, they will arrange another suitable time to speak to them. If a member of staff cannot make contact with a child, they report it as a safeguarding issue to Mrs Haken who will either send a letter or make a home visit to check on the child.

Looking After Yourself

It is important that we all look after ourselves during this (and any other) time. If we don't do this, we are never going to be able to look after others properly. With this in mind, we have attached a 'self-care' calendar to this email. Although it says 'September', it is appropriate at any time and may give you some ideas of things we can all do to take time for ourselves and make sure we are emotionally and physically well.

Let's Get Physical!

As a break from the home learning activities how about trying one of these?

Noak Hill Gymnastics Club are running some free gymnastics sessions via zoom. Please see the attached leaflet.

If your child enjoys the Marvel Universe, why not have a look at some of the activities on the Youth Sports website:

<https://www.youthsporttrust.org/wonder-woman-1984-resources>

And finally...

We wanted to share with you a poem that was written by Lily in Year 5. We think it is beautifully written.

Well done Lily!

Star

Star, star in the sky
You look like a
butterfly
Flying through the
dark night sky
Filled with glory and
no lies

Star, star shining
bright
Flying through the
moonlight
I'll see you tonight
When the clock
strikes midnight

Dreaming in my bed
Light fills my head
Magical beams above
my bed
Sending me to the
day ahead

Star, star in the sky
You look like a
butterfly
Flying in the dark
night sky
Filed with glory and
no lies