



Number
11

MILTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL
New Website: www.milton.cambs.sch.uk
7th January 2010

Dear Parents / Carers

A very 'Happy New Year' to everyone; I hope you all enjoyed the festive season and that the children are fit and ready for the new term.

Can I take the opportunity to thank everyone for collecting the children so promptly at 1.30 on the last day of the autumn term. We were all pleased to have the opportunity to finish the Christmas term 'properly' and I know the children enjoyed playing in the snow. Many of you will be aware that on that day Radio Cambridge briefly broadcast an incorrect message which caused confusion for a few parents, on these occasions they are handling a lot of information so sometimes mistakes are made. The website is probably the most reliable source of information but it is important to regularly refresh the page so that the most recent information is displayed.

Towards the end of last term the children were very tired and it began to impact on the punctuality of some of the pupils. While we appreciate that all families have occasional 'difficult' mornings it is important that children arrive at school on time. Children who are late do not have a calm start to the day and often miss important information. **The whole class is affected by late arrivals that disrupt early morning routines. The Education Welfare Officer will be in school to monitor the registers for attendance and lateness.**

Health & Safety

A teacher is on duty on each playground from 8.45am. Children should not need to come into school before the bell rings. Mr Brown, the school caretaker will salt the playgrounds and paths on slippery mornings. The boat in the KS1 playground can become dangerous in bad weather so **until further notice children are not allowed to climb on the boat before school.** Please reinforce this safety rule with your child.

During the school day children are only allowed on the KS2 apparatus when they are supervised by staff. Children may only use the equipment at the end of the day if supervised by their parents – **children must not be left alone on the school premises to play on the field, KS1 playground or the apparatus.** Accidents do happen and staff are not always available after school to attend to children.

Parent/Teacher Consultations

Parent/teacher consultations will take place on **9th & 10th February**. As this is a particularly important term for Y6, we will be allocating 15-minute appointments for these parents. Please make sure you sign up for an appointment on Monday 18th January & Tuesday 19th January. Lists will be available from 7.15 – 9.00am and 3.30 – 6.00pm.

Children's Clothing

At the end of term there was the usual pile of unnamed lost property. Please can you check that your child's clothing is clearly named; labels do fade in the wash. Please also check that your child has brought home their own uniform, it is very easy for it to become muddled and parents are rightly concerned when their child's named clothing is lost. Thank you.

We have a large stock of recycled school uniform that is available at 50p per item; please contact the office if you would like to purchase anything.

At the end of term staff were concerned that a number of children were coming to school without coats. I appreciate that those travelling in cars may not always be aware of the temperature but the playgrounds at lunchtime can be very cold and children **MUST** have coats to wear.

Is your child eligible for free school lunches?

We are aware that in the current financial climate family circumstances can change unexpectedly and not everybody is aware of the opportunity provided by the provision of free school meals. If you receive any of the following benefits you can apply for free school lunches for your child:

- Income Support *or*
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance *or*
- Child Tax Credit, - so long as you are not entitled to Working Tax Credit and your annual income (as assessed by HM Revenue & Customs) does not exceed £16,040 *or*
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit *or*
- Support under part VI of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999
- Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Note: From 1 May 2009 where a parent is entitled to Working Tax Credit during the four-week period immediately after their employment ceases, or after they start to work less than 16 hours per week, their children are entitled to free school lunches

TO APPLY, you need to complete an application form (available from the school office) or by calling 01480 372307 or 01480 372308, or visit the web page and do it online
<http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/education/parents/help/lunches/>

The information you provide is confidential so if you are eligible, please apply.

Class Newsletters

The children will be bringing home class newsletters this week. These outline the year group curriculum for the term. We hope you find them useful.

Headlice

As new term begins please may I ask you to regularly check your child's hair for headlice. A Nitti Gritty comb is available free on prescription from a GP. Medicated lotions are also available on prescription but are of limited use due to the development of resistance in the headlice. For more information visit the web page: [http://www.nhs.uk/livewell/childhealth6-15/](http://www.nhs.uk/livewell/childhealth6-15/pages/nits.aspx) pages/nits.aspx.

Yours sincerely

S J Dorrington
 Head Teacher

Favourites Week – 18th to 22nd January 2010 *All your favourite School Dinners in one week!!*

Monday – Crispy Chicken Burger or Quorn Burger in a Wholemeal Bun
 Ice Cream and Melba Sauce or Chocolate Sponge and Chocolate Sauce

Tuesday – Roast Beef & Yorkshire pudding or Macaroni Cheese
 Carrot Cake and Vanilla Sauce or Fresh Fruit Salad

Wednesday – Margarita Pizza or Pepperoni Pizza
 Gingerbread Person and Milk or Fudge Tart and Chocolate Sauce

Thursday – Pork sausages or Quorn Sausages with Onion Gravy
 Flapjack and Milk or Apple Crumble and Custard

Friday - Fish Fingers and Tomato Sauce or Cheese and Potato Pie
 Steamed Jam Sponge and Custard or Chocolate Cracknell and Juice

£2.00 per meal.

Please make payment for the number of meals chosen during this week on Monday 18th.