

Milborne Message - 22.07.22

Dear Families,

This is the last MIlborne Message of the year and also my last message to you. It is very hard to believe that I have been here for eight years; I have been privileged to be part of your family during that time and others before you. I have seen bumps becoming babes in arms to confident, happy, well rounded children leaving Milborne. And that is the absolute crux of everything. The children who leave our school stand out and shine and together we have provided children with that environment, so that they are nurtured to be the very best version of themselves. We are relentless in that aim.

This has now culminated in our lovely new Logo and Values and I know Mrs Cheeseman will continue to build on these next year. We are an example of where our values are truly lived and not just laminated. Having that understanding of the Science behind our triggers and behaviours really helps us to manage, learn and improve what we do and this is a never ending cycle as there is always room for improvement. I know how many of you enjoyed Clare Williams' talk and we hope to have her back in 2022-23 to learn more about this.

We are also saying **Goodbye to Mrs Andrews and Mrs Peppin**, both who have been long standing members of staff and have taught, nurtured and supported children over many years. They will be sorely missed but we wish them every happiness in their new roles.

A massive thank you to all who worked so hard to ensure the Tea party was such a success and to everyone who came along.

We welcome **Mrs Emma Dewey** to Year 1/2 and **Mrs Latham Winning** to the office, extending her current role. We also welcome **Mrs Carpenter** back to Milborne in a TA capacity.

I am also very pleased to share that, after many, many years we are now in active discussion on the feasibility of moving **Ladybirds** into Milborne School as soon as possible but not before Autumn Half Term 2022

Milborne should be officially part of **Wessex Trust** by September and there is a lot of work with Finance and Due Diligence going on in the background to make this as smooth as possible. I know that everyone is very much looking forward to this. Thank you to those who make up **GTAT and DASP** who have been at the forefront of education for many years, leading the way in terms of collaboration and learning. I have felt honoured to be part of such a forward thinking group.

We continue to pay into **Doodle** as a resource for home and school. Evidence shows that when used regularly this has a significant impact on your child's learning, not least because it recaps on previous learning, thus helping it move to long term memory freeing up short term or working memory for new things, but also because it is personalised for your child. So it's the right next steps at the right time. This was used really successfully during Lockdown, but since we have returned to school the usage has dropped significantly. Please keep Doodle up over the summer. It is for a short amount of time each day but it will make a big difference.

Reading is crucial for learning all through life and it brings a huge amount of joy to many people. Mrs Gough has done some fantastic work fostering a love of reading across the school and we have seen the impact of this. You, as key partners in your child's learning, have a massive part to play too. Where you have read regularly the children have made accelerated progress. Please take time now when the children are young to do this. It is a wonderful opportunity to share some quiet time with your child and to build relationships. It is also a time for learning and sharing thoughts, perhaps offering reassurance over potential anxieties and worries. I have yet to meet anyone who later in life said they wished they had spent **less time** reading with their child. Whilst life is busy now, you will never regret this time spent and you can never claim it back later. If you miss it, you miss it.

Dorset's Summer Reading challenge has started. The children have already been introduced to it and I know many of you do it every year. It would be great if every single child in our school took up this challenge, which loosely is to read 6 books in 6 weeks. These are all free from ANY Dorset Library and children receive a certificate and medal. These are usually given out in school assembly, so it's a lovely shared celebration. If you haven't signed up, there is still time!

As always it has been very busy this term, with lots of wonderful experiences being made. There have been many class trips, RNLI visit, Farm visits, Heathland visits, to name just a few. We were also treated to the Year 3/4 performance of **Raccoons Wizard Of Uz.**

I have included a few photos to share with you. There are also photos and videos on Tapestry. Thank you to Mrs Cheeseman and Mrs Pratt for all their work in getting this together. It really was lovely to see the children shine in a different way and to see children find their talent for some for the first time.







I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the **Governing Body** both past and present for their absolute commitment to ensuring the success of the school and for their challenge and support to me. This is their role and they volunteer to do it in their own time, giving hours and hours for years on end to support the school. We owe them a lot. I know that three of our Governing Body members have come to the end of their tenure and if being a Governor is something you think you might be interested in

There have also been some stalwarts in the **FOS team and in the Parent Forum** working often behind the scenes to make changes and improvements possible.

Milton Abbey have supported us throughout both in terms of leadership meetings, Governing body involvement and not least singing and swimming. They have also helped with transport keeping the cost of some trips down and therefore, possible. This year they have helped with listening to children read. These programmes have had such a positive impact on the children at Milborne.

A huge thank you to **Maria Timperley** and the Just add Water team for all their support teaching swimming lessons at Milton Abbey.



The children at Milborne are very fortunate to have such a committed team behind them and a **staff team** who work tirelessly going above and beyond to promote your child's learning and wellbeing. You saw this particularly during Lockdown and I know you really appreciated it, but this continues for everyone at Milborne; you just won't all see it now as it is more targeted.

I honestly had not thought that leaving was going to be quite as difficult and emotional as it was. I have been absolutely overwhelmed by your very generous gifts and kind messages and cards, and emails over the last few days. I really do

appreciate them all. I don't think I've really processed that I am actually leaving and it's not just the usual end of term, so I can only imagine how Mrs Andrews and Mrs Peppin are feeling after so, so many years at Milborne. The **Tea Party** was such a lovely way to celebrate our time in school. Thank you to everyone for making it happen, the arrangements, cakes, gifts, the list goes on -but somehow, at the busiest time of the year for everyone, you pulled it off.





Finally, I wish all the Year4 class every happiness and success in their new school and the new Reception class the very best start to their school journey. I wish you all a fantastic summer break, whether you choose a staycation or brave a plane and wish you all every health and happiness in the future.

Thank you for all your help and support. Thank you for being you- Goodbye!

Yours sincerely,

Sharon Staddon

At Milborne, we nurture and celebrate every unique child.