Milborne Message 13.03.2020

Message from Sharon Hunt!

Dear Parents,

Covid-19 virus (coronavirus)

As you will be very aware there has been much in the media about this, especially more recently and I am aware that there is a lot of conflicting information out there. I want to be clear, that as a school we always try to take a very reasoned, measured approach to any decision that involves the school but particularly around school closure. We have no plans to close currently but there are generally two situations where that might be the case:

- 1) If it is a government directive
- 2) If it is unsafe for us to remain open due to supervision levels

In the meantime, we are taking various extra precautions to try to keep everyone safe and rely on everyone 's honesty and integrity to do this.

You can help at home too by having a good handwashing routine, coughing into clothes (the elbow) and 'the football handshake'.

If you are self isolating, please let us know and we can confirm drop off and pick up arrangements with you.

Teach young children how to wash their hands with the NHS handwashing song:

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S9VjeIWLnEq
- https://www.what0-18.nhs.uk/parentscarers/child-unwell-ok-go-nurseryschool

Public Health England recommends that in addition to handwashing before eating, and after coughing and sneezing, everyone should also wash hands after using toilets and travelling on public transport.

As you know we are using **Doodle** app to support English and Maths. This has made a significant difference to many children. Yesterday we had the Doddle assembly, parent workshop and further staff training from Doodle. Thank you to those who came along. I hope you found it helpful.

Speaking to the parents who attended one key piece of information was Doodle Connect, allowing you as parents to link with your child's account through an app and monitor their use and learning. The optimal learning takes place when children remain 'in their green zone' which is set for each child and usually works out at being 10 minutes daily. We have four areas of learning in separate apps: Doodle Maths, Doodle English, Doodle Spell and Doodle Tables. One of the attractions to this particular programme for us was that it rewards EFFORT over ability so all children can do well. Therefore the leaderboards are showing greatest effort not greatest ability.

Every child has a log in and password. Please make sure you are sure your child can log in and access this.

If you haven't already done so or want to download the Doodle Connect, see the advice below from Doodle,

Follow these steps:

- Download the DoodleMaths, DoodleTables, DoodleEnglish and DoodleSpell apps onto an Apple, Android or Amazon device
- Ask your child to sign in using the details attached (remember, it's case sensitive!)
- In the app, tap on **Grown Ups** and follow the instructions to link yourself to your child's account
- Let your child work through their x-a-day exercise without any help encourage them to do it independently, and if they're really unsure, guess!
- Log in to parents.doodlemaths.com with your Grown Ups username and password to see how your child is progressing
- Download the **DoodleConnect** app (available on iOS) or log in to the **Parent Dashboard** to receive progress snapshot updates

Why DoodleMaths and DoodleEnglish?

- Doodle improves children's confidence and ability in maths and English. Using the apps for just 10 minutes a day is proven to help children make three months of progress in just one month!
- The intelligent algorithm powering the apps learns what your child's strengths and weaknesses are and builds a personalised work programme tailored around them
- It's fun and engaging, with educational games, motivational collectables and regular nation-wide challenges and competitions to take part in!

Encourage your child to be within their target zone by earning their target number of stars per week. We are running a **14 day challenge on Doodle ENGLISH** to see who can go on this programme and complete their x activity on 14 consecutive days starting on **MONDAY 16th March**

This programme will play a significant role in daily work if we find ourselves having to close.

School Council - **Comic relief** Today we carried on from Nick Butter's visit with our Bleep Test. Bleep test winners were:

YR Aria, Frankie, Charlie Y1/2 Erin, Phoenix, nayte Y3/4 Isaac and Isabella

No swimming- I have just received notification that Milton Abbey are restricting access to the site, including the swimming pool until Saturday 28th March. Clearly, this has an impact on our swimming lessons which will not be taking place.

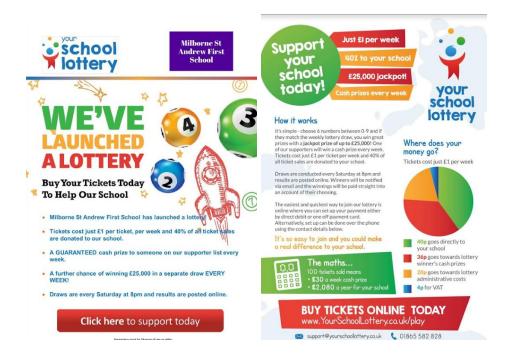
School Council have requested to fundraise for the Koala in Australia following Bushfires and tpo raise awareness of plastic in the oceans. To this end we are holding a sale at the end of the day (2.30pm- 3.15 pm) on Friday 20th March. Weather permitting this will be outside but otherwise in the hall.

Please send in any cakes, biscuits, books, games, toys, second clothes and uniforms in good condition to help out. Children can bring in some money on the day as they will have the opportunity to go out as a class prior to hometime.



FOS School Lottery - see attached to find out more

The first draw will be on Saturday **9**th **May.** These are also on social media. Please share so that we reach a wider audience.



This is the link to use if you would like to buy a ticket

https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/milborne-st-andrew-first-school

Early warning: we are currently discussing plans for **VE themed week** culminating in VE celebration. Before 8th May finish (this is a bank holiday this year) You may want to begin to think about food options coloured clothing (red, blue, white) banners bunting etc. More details to follow.

Have a lovely weekend!

Yours sincerely,

Sharan Hund

Sharon Hunt

Key information

- ONE WAY SYSTEM Please could we remind parents of the 'unofficial' one-way system in place between 7:45 - 9:30 in the morning and 2:30 and 3:30 in the afternoon. A copy of the map is attached. This system is to help maintain a steady flow of traffic and avoid any collisions and near misses.
 - Unfortunately this morning 4 parents were seen to be driving the wrong way round which caused a backlog due to residents and parents dropping off vehicles being parked on the roadside therefore parents trying to leave after dropping off could not maneuver out the way. Thank you.
- RACCOONS Parents Irish Dance Workshop <u>Reminder</u> Please could parents, who have not already done so, make a contribution towards the costs of this event via Schoolcomms. Thank you.
- **Parent Consultations** Please see the eSchools Letters home for the instructions on how to book your parent consultation with your child's teacher. A paper copy has also been sent home in their school bag.
- ROBINS & RACCOONS OE This is a gentle reminder that on either a Wednesday or Thursday
 afternoon depending upon when Adrian is available (the dates are on the website), your child will
 need their outdoor school PE kit, waterproof outerwear such as trousers and coats and most
 importantly their wellington boots. As the weather is a little unpredictable of late, we also
 recommend a hat, gloves and scarf just in case.
- NITS Please could we ask that parents regularly check (once or twice a week) for Nits and treat
 accordingly straight away. For more information please follow this link:
 https://www.gov.uk/guidance/head-lice-pediculosis

Key Dates:-

- 19th March Irish Dancing Workshop (Raccoons only)
- 20th March School Council Sale (raising money for Koalas)
- 24th March Parent Consultations
- 26th March Parent Consultations
- 27th March Reception Parents Phonics Workshop (9 10:15am)
- 3rd April Egg rolling / Egg Decoration judging morning (Only 1 egg to be decorated)
- 3rd April LAST DAY OF TERM (pick-up @ 1:15pm)
- 6th April to 17th April Easter School Holidays
- 20th April First Day back for children
- 22nd to 24th April Hooke Court Residential Trip (Year 4's)

- 23rd April Parent Feedback session with Mrs Hunt (9am till 10am)
- 27th April Year 4 Orienteering @ St Mary's Middle School (Yr 4's only)
- 5th May Year 4 Bluebell Walk (Trees4Dorset) (Packed Lunch required)
- 8th May VE BANK Holiday (no children in school)
- 13th May Kingston Maurward Cow Maths trip (Raccoons only)
- 18th May 22nd May WALK to School Week
- 18th May Reception Multi-skills festival @ St Mary's Middle School
- 15th May 29th May HALF TERM BREAK
- 1st June First Day back for Children
- 2nd July TRANSFER Day (Y4 parents to take and collect children from Middle School)
- 5th July DASP Summer Festival @ Weymouth Pavilion (3pm onwards)
- 6th July **SPORTS Day** (1:00 till 3:00pm)
- 9th July Music Festival Day (PM time to be confirmed)
- 13th July Reserve Sports Day (1:00 till 3:00pm)
- 16th July Celebration Assembly (2:00pm till 3:00pm)
- 17th July Year 4 Leavers Assembly (9:00am till 10:30pm)
- 17th July LAST DAY OF TERM (pick up @ 1:15pm)

Wider Community Information:-

- **FAMILY INFORMATION SERVICE** Please follow the link to the latest newsletter and information:- https://mailchi.mp/dorsetcouncil/february-fis-newsletter?e=5ad5011868
- Baby & Toddler Groups Please visit www.playandbloom.co.uk for more information.
- **Dorset Council, Activity and Health Team** Please see the link to their latest newsletter https://mailchi.mp/dorsetcouncil/make-2020-your-year-to-get-active?e=5ad5011868
- **Dorset Council Health** Please follow the link to the latest newsletter https://mailchi.mp/dorsetcouncil/youre-invited-for-an-nhs-health-check?e=5ad5011868
- Helen Eaton February Autism Newsletter Please follow this link to the latest newsletter https://mailchi.mp/a7814fe9ed1d/february-autism-newsletter?e=f091d37836
- ACTIVATE Coast & Greenspace Newsletter Please follow this link to the latest newsletter https://mailchi.mp/dorsetcouncil/make-2020-your-year-to-get-active-3119537?e=5ad5011868
- EASTER Holiday Football Club Please see the attached.
- All Stars Cricket Please see the attached.
- Relax Kids Afterschool club Please see the attached.