

Milborne Message - 10th September 2021

Message from Sharon Staddon

Dear Families,

As you start to get back into a routine, **Families Dorset's Back to School digital issue** is now ready to share.

This Sep/Oct edition includes back to school tips for parents transitioning their children into new settings and on how to get the most from school visits. Plus, there's plenty of insightful parenting articles and ideas for an action-packed Autumn season.

Simply click or copy & paste this short URL **<https://bit.ly/38CMfB5>** to the magazine online.

Top Tip:

'How was your day?'

After a child's first day back at school or in the classroom, it can sometimes be tough getting them to open up and share how they're feeling.

Instead of asking the typical "how was your day?", as an alternative you could try using one of these questions that have been compiled by [BigLifeJournal](#).

These conversations starters for parents and carers are much more fun and interesting, and children may answer with more than a single word.

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Milborne School Community Meeting October 7th 2021

4pm



You are warmly invited to join the staff and governors for an MSA school community meeting.

It has been an exciting time behind the scenes at Milborne and we want to give everyone the chance to come into school and share in the groundwork that will help us create and maintain a bright future for our school.

As children, parents, staff and governors, what do we wish for all children at Milborne? What is most important to you? We want to know so it can be included in our work. You are the final missing piece of the jigsaw! We hope to have our whole school community represented to hear what your most important values are, so please join staff, governors and our special guests...the school council children!

There will be cake and coffee too! Everyone is welcome. Please save the date.

As promised last week, please see the summary of our current **School Development Plan**.

Aim: To review and embed enhanced curriculum from last year (restorative curriculum, outdoor are, the arts)

This will cover areas such as

- Music and Phonics review and changes
- Developing the outdoor area
- Embedding a reading culture
- Setting up Talk for Writing across School
- DASP DEI Inclusion and Equality training and plan
- Develop Life skills further through Skills Builder programme

Aim: To improve communication in all areas, staff, parents governors and wider community

This will cover areas such as

- Rebranding School logo and letterheads
- Knowledge Organisers and Newsletters showing learning and developments across school
- Adding top tips to newsletters
- Organising a diary of community events and parents to school events possibly cookery for all

Aim: To improve the perception of behaviour with parents and wider community

This will cover areas such as

- Further training on trauma Informed responses
- Launch new badge system
- Create information leaflet for parents
- Arrange training with TIS lead and parents

Hopefully, you will already start to see the impact of **Talk for Writing** practices and be able to share these together at home as all classes have started this.

Drop off for all classes is now **8.45am - Gates will be locked at 8:55am**

Pick up for all classes is **3:00pm**

Attendance:- At this time of year we always send out a reminder of the attendance letter (an updated copy will be available on the website from next week) and reiterate the importance of being in school. It can be sometimes tricky to work out if your child is well enough to be in school, especially thinking about Covid 19 and colds. You can always give us a ring and we will happily talk it through.

Dates for your diary - This is still being worked on and we will send out an overview of dates for the year next week to help with planning at home, so watch out for that.

It has been mentioned before that there are a lot of children accessing inappropriate content online at home. If we hear about this or notice anything in school we will always let you know. It is also worth remembering that apart from the obvious risks and dangers for the children, failure to protect children from accessing these is a form of neglect under the definition used by safeguarding teams in the police and social care.

Systems and procedures in school-

As you will be aware the rules around bubbles and mask wearing, amongst other things have changed and schools can be much more relaxed than they have been able to be over the last 18 months.

Thankfully, this means that for now at least, school is a more normal environment for the children than the one that they have become accustomed to. The government guidelines state that each school can now decide the best measures for their environment.

When we reviewed the systems we had in school there were many things that we found had improved by the new measures and should be kept even when the restrictions were lifted.

These were across the board including virtual meetings, virtual staff meetings and training, virtual and face to face meetings with parents for meeting and for consultations, offering parents and staff more flexibility, storytimes for children each day, and the play time routines. We also kept things such as the hand sanitising as part of the school day and using the toilets in class groups.

Staff and students liked the play arrangements and the children were much more settled returning to the classrooms. There were also notably fewer incidents and accidents. The children liked having more access to resources rather than taking it in turns between the classes.

In a nutshell, we decided to keep things that we thought worked better during the pandemic, as being forced to think about things differently provided us with opportunities to try things other ways. The children have the opportunity to play together on Fridays and we will monitor this closely.

Please can I remind you to **drive slowly and carefully** especially in the residential areas surrounding our school for everyone's safety. It was great to see increased use of the drop off zone during the last year. Please continue to use this. It is a great way to encourage independence and to help relieve any congestion in the car park.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours sincerely,

Sharon Staddon
Headteacher

EXTERNAL Information:-

- Woodlanders Afterschool Club:- we are planning to run an after-school club on Fridays between Friday 24th September and half term for 5 weeks, from 4pm until 6pm - please see the attached information
- Pilates - Monday evening held in the School Hall starting at 6:30
- YOGA - Tuesday evenings starting at 6:15