



Millbrook Messenger

Top Tips

1. Phone the school if your child is ill on 872800.
2. Please supervise your child in the playground after school.
3. Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school
4. **Make a note of the diary dates. Check out the calendar on the website.**

Hobbit Week

Last week was "Hobbit Week" with the whole school focusing on Hobbit related activities such as cooking Hairy Hobbit Feet biscuits, making Hobbit houses and collages of giant dragons, Hobbit tea parties, year 3/4 had a secret visitor who left footprints in school and everyone wrote amazing Hobbit stories.



On Tuesday we were very fortunate to have a visit from Adam Brown, who plays Ori the dwarf in The Hobbit trilogy. He came along to an assembly and then did a question and answer session with years 5 and 6. Adam was introduced by Mrs Sylvester, who is a close friend and has known him since childhood. He brought a couple of his props from the film with him. He showed everyone his 'dwarf hands' and his slingshot. He spoke about his costume and said "I'm quite skinny but in the film they had to make me really short and fat. Everyday I had to pull on this fat suit which made me look much bigger than I am, wear a big hairy wig, and pull on shoes with hair on them which looked like my feet, and the rubbery hands. We had to rehearse a lot to get used to wearing the heavy costume so that we learnt how to act as hobbits. At the beginning of the day I had to use lots of talcum powder so I could pull the hands on easily but it was really, really hot when we were filming; by the end of the day the powder mixed with sweat and it just ran down my arms all dirty and grey!"



Then on Wednesday afternoon we had a performance to the whole school of The Hobbit by a visiting Theatre Company. All the children enthusiastically joined in and had a very enjoyable afternoon.

Diary Dates

Weds 15th October—Falcon Class Assembly at 9.15am

Fri 17th October — Harvest Service at Freshbrook Church 9.15am

Tues 21st October — Last day of school before the October Holiday

Weds 22nd October — Staff Training Day

Mon 3rd November — Children return to school

Tues 11th & Weds 12th November—Parents Evening 3.30-6pm

Parents and carers are welcome to attend our Celebration Assembly every Friday at 2.30pm

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Worsley Road, Freshbrook, Swindon SN5 8NU

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Website: www.millbrook.swindon.sch.uk
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Harvest Festival

We are holding our Harvest Festival service at Freshbrook Church on Friday 17th October at 9.15am and all parents/carers are welcome to join us. For the service we would like the children to donate items to support the work of Swindon Foodbank. Please see items on the list below, please do not send in any fresh food. A member of the Foodbank team will be at the service to talk about their work in Swindon.



Swindon Foodbank

helps Individuals and families "In Crisis" in your community. If you would like to donate food to help us help them please consider donating items from our stock list below:

- ◆ Long Life Fruit Juice
- ◆ Coffee (100g jars)
- ◆ Sugar (500g bags)
- ◆ Cereal (Medium: 500g)
- ◆ Long Life Milk
- ◆ Tinned Fruit (Pears, Peaches, Pineapple)
- ◆ Cooking Sauce (Pasta/Curry)
- ◆ Tinned Potatoes
- ◆ Tinned Meat (Ham, Corned Beef, Stewing Steak)
- ◆ Tea
- ◆ Tinned Soup
- ◆ Biscuits
- ◆ Baked Beans
- ◆ Meal (Tinned Spaghetti, Macaroni, Meat Pie, Curry)
- ◆ Pasta & Rice (500g bags)
- ◆ Tinned Vegetables (Carrots, Garden Peas, Sweetcorn)
- ◆ Tinned Tomatoes
- ◆ Tinned Fish (Tuna, Sardines, Mackerel)
- ◆ Rice & Sponge Pudding

THANK YOU on behalf of all of those whom you have chosen to help today by making a food donation



Tel: 07932 108732
www.swindonfoodbank.co.uk
Follow us on facebook

Swindon Foodbank. Registered Charity no. 1112928

Class Assemblies

Class	Date (all at 9.15am)
Falcons	Wednesday 15 th October
Hawks	Wednesday 12 th November
Hedgehogs	Wednesday 19 th November
Badgers	Wednesday 26 th November
Otters	Wednesday 21 st January
Eagles	Wednesday 28 th January
Kites	Wednesday 4 th February
Seahorses	Wednesday 11 th February
Starfish	Wednesday 11 th March
Turtle	Wednesday 18 th March
Ladybird and Bumblebees	Wednesday 22 nd April

Governor of the month

Hello, my name is Troy Wilson and I am the chair of the governing body at Millbrook. It's really good to get this opportunity to tell you a bit about myself, the governing body here at Millbrook and my view on the progress we are making.



So, firstly a bit about me ☺ I have 2 children in Millbrook (Year 1 and Year 4) and my oldest daughter moved on from Millbrook to go to secondary school at the end of last year. I take a big interest in the education my children receive and hence joined the governing body (4.5 years ago) as I wanted to make sure they

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were getting the best possible opportunities. Since joining the governing body I have been involved in a variety of areas ranging from overseeing the school finances, recruitment of our current Head Teacher, analysing the school data, overseeing the school standards, more recently our conversion to Academy status and the decision to build the 'Lodge' (Hawk's new classroom).

What does the governing body do?

At a high level, the role of the governing body is to act as the strategic leadership of the school to ensure that every child gets the best possible education.

It's a very simple statement that in practice requires a lot of hard work and commitment to ensure it happens. In essence the work of the governing body can be broken down into 3 key areas:

- Ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction.
- Holding the head teacher to account for the educational performance of the school its pupils and the performance management of staff.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

The core activities of your governing body centre around focussing on these 3 areas. We do this through a series of committees and meetings that involve the Head Teacher and staff. The committees we have focus on finance & staffing and standards & curriculum. In these we ensure that our budget is spent in the best possible way and ensure that everything is being done to raise the educational standards of the school.

We are also assigned to be leads for subject areas. My two are standards/school data and PE. The purpose of being a lead governor for a subject is to know an area of the school in detail and act on behalf of the governing body to ensure that everything is being done for our children in that area.

So how is the school doing?

Being very open, the school has come from a difficult position to what we see today, which is a consistently good standard of education across the board. The teaching staff have in effect turned the school around which is reflected in both the attainment of our children and the atmosphere within the school. As a parent of children in the school this is something that I'm very proud of as I can now say that when a child starts at Millbrook I know that they will get a good education and have fun in the process.