

Congratulations to Hawks and Dolphin classes who had the best attendance overall last year.



Millbrook Messenger

Top Tips

We would like to extend a warm welcome to all our new pupils and parents that have joined us for the first time in both Foundation Stage and other year groups, everyone has settled in really well. Also welcome back to all our other children. They have all settled back into school in a positive and happy way. They have come back with a great attitude and are looking very smart. Thank you for your part in that, it makes for a great start to the year.

1. Phone the school by 9am if your child is ill on 872800. **If they are sick or have diarrhoea they must not return to school for 48 hours.**
2. Make a note of the diary dates. Check out the calendar on the website.
3. Please ensure your child has their PE kit in school.

Celebration Assembly

Parents and carers are welcome to attend our Celebration Assembly which is held every Friday at 9.00am. We celebrate the achievements of your children, both in and out of school and give out the weekly attendance cup, along with various certificates and awards.

Staying Healthy at Millbrook

Our first House competition of the year, Cross Country, will be taking place for children in Years 1 - 6 on Friday 29th September. This is the 6th year of this competition and Water were the winners last year. It has always been a very successful event which will be taking place within the school day. Children are encouraged to bring a t-shirt in their house colours to wear as part of their running kit. (Fire—Red, Earth—Green, Water—Blue, Air—Yellow)



Congratulations to Air who were the overall winners last year.



Diary Dates

Friday 29th September - Cross Country Competition

Wednesday 4th October — School Photographs

Tuesday 10th October—YR 6 PGL information evening 6pm

Thursday 12th October Little Prince Theatre Performance

Friday 20th October — Harvest Service 9.15am at Freshbrook Church

Millbrook Primary School & Pre-school

Worsley Road, Freshbrook, Swindon SN5 8NU

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Phone: 01793 872800, **Fax:** 01793 882589, **Website:** www.millbrook.swindon.sch.uk
Email: secretary@millbrook.swindon.sch.uk **Twitter:** @MillbrookPri

Parking and Road Safety

We would like to remind all parents **not to park** in the school car park and to use either the church or Tesco/Community Centre car park when bringing children to school. **The disabled parking bays in the school car park are only for the use of blue badge holders.**

We have received complaints from local residents and would ask that you are considerate to other road users when bringing your child to school. Please do not park on the double yellow lines, especially in front of the large emergency gates, on Gainsborough Way, as this puts children at risk when crossing the road and prevents access to the emergency services should we need them.

School Photographs

On Wednesday 4th October Stanley Baker Photographers, our school photographer, will be in school to take photographs. During the school day children will have their photos taken on their own and with their brothers and sisters. If you would like a photo with other family members these will be taken on a **first come first served basis from 8am –8.45am** on the day.

Additional Uniform Supplier

Millbrook Primary School embroidered school uniform is now available to purchase from Tesco Direct. Parents need to: Browse to www.Tescodirect.com

Search for "**Uniform Embroidery Service**" (using the search box at the top of the website)

Enter "**Millbrook Primary School**" into the search box, and click on the school marked with our Freshbrook, Swindon, SN5 8NU address. You will see that there a number of Millbrook schools, so please make sure you click the correct one!

There are most common school sweatshirts, cardigans and P E Bags available here . Unfortunately , Tesco are not able to offer the round neck P E t-shirt. Uniform can be delivered to your home for £3 or delivered free to our local Tesco store for collection.

The Famous School Branches (Tel 520842) and OHM Clothing (Tel 530806) also still supply our uniform locally.

We have lots of second hand uniform available in our "Swap Shop" at a cost of £1 per item.

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School Uniform Reminder

We have high expectations for all our children and are proud of our school uniform and logo. Wearing the school uniform is one obvious symbol that the children share these expectations. Extremes of fashion in clothes, footwear, hair styles or denim clothes are neither acceptable nor appropriate for school. Shoes should be appropriate and for your child's safety high heels, sling-backs, flipflops or boots should not be worn. Trainers should only be worn during PE Lessons or after school clubs. Long hair must be tied back at all times.

Uniform List

Purple sweatshirt/fleece/cardigan

Purple polo top

Black or grey trousers/skirt/shorts

Black shoes

Purple and white check summer dresses

PE Kit

Purple t-shirt

Black shorts

Daps or (Trainers for KS2)

During the winter children may wear black jogging bottoms for outside PE.

All PE kits need to be kept in a separate bag which is clearly named. We recommend a drawstring purple PE bag

A Millbrook Book Bag is provided free of charge to children when they first start at Millbrook. Children may use another bag e.g. rucksack to bring all their items in to school

Jewellery

Jewellery should not be worn to school. The exceptions to this rule are earring studs in pierced ears, and small objects of religious significance. We ask the children to either remove these items during PE and games, or to cover them with a plaster provided by the parent. Watches may be worn, however an alarm or distraction could result in the watch being confiscated. We are unable to take responsibility for any jewellery, watches or precious item brought into school should they be lost or damaged.

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Admissions September 2018

Year 7 & Foundation Stage 2 (Reception) Class September 2018

Remember to submit your application before the closing dates.

**Secondary School applications must be received by the
Admissions Department at Swindon Borough Council by 31st October 2017
and FS2 applications by 15th January 2018**

We have arranged some dates for parents of prospective September 2018 Starters to look around the school and ask any questions that they have on Tuesday 10th October at 1.45pm, Thursday 12th October at 5pm, Monday 16th October at 9.45am and Friday 17th November at 9.45am. Please contact Mrs Cox in the school office to arrange your appointment.

The next two Staff Training Days for 2017–2018 are;

Monday 30th October and Tuesday 31st October 2017

Class Assembly Dates 2017–2018

Parents and carers are welcome to attend their child's class assembly on the following dates, all take place at 9.15am.

Wednesday 15 November	Hawk Class
Wednesday 22 November	Falcon Class
Wednesday 29 November	Badger Class
Wednesday 17 January	Foxes Class
Wednesday 24 January	Otters Class
Wednesday 31 January	Kite Class
Wednesday 7 February	Dolphins Class
Wednesday 28 February	Starfish Class
Wednesday 7 March	Turtle Class
Wednesday 14 March	Seahorse Class
Wednesday 21 March	Ladybird & Bumblebee Classes

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Attendance

The government deem any child with **attendance below 90% to be persistently absent**. As part of this process we will write regularly (termly) to inform all parents when their child's attendance falls below 93%. We do appreciate that there will be times when children will be off school and there are times when this is unavoidable. To put this into perspective 90% attendance is equivalent to missing half a day of school per week or half a year of schooling in five years of primary education. This also includes schooling missed through arriving late for school. The chart below helps to explain the effect poor attendance can have on your child's education.

School starts at 8.45am and any child arriving between 8.45am and 9.00am will be marked as late in the register. If a child arrives after 9.00am this is marked as an unauthorised absence. Headteachers are not permitted to authorise any leave or absence from school unless the circumstances are "exceptional" relating to a "one off" isolated situation.

GOOD	<p>Your child's attendance is above 97%</p> <p>As well as being an excellent attendee your child will have the best opportunity in "<i>Achieving Excellence and Fulfilling Potential</i>" which is our school aim and vision for your child. Your child is likely to achieve and have real opportunities for the future.</p>
SATISFACTORY	<p>Your child's attendance is between 93% - 97%</p> <p>The national threshold is 95%. The government's aim is for children to miss less than 10 days per year.</p>
CONCERN	<p>Your child's attendance is between 90% - 93%</p> <p>Attendance below 93% may mean a referral to the Education Welfare Service.</p> <p>Your child is missing so much time that it will be difficult for them to keep up with their school work.</p>
SERIOUS CONCERN	<p>Your child's attendance is below 90%</p> <p>Your child will have missed more than 18 days, approximately half a day per week, each school year.</p> <p>Following an Education Welfare Service referral Parent/Carers may face a fixed penalty fine as your child's attendance is below 90% and they are "Persistent Absentees."</p> <p>Your child is missing so much time that it will be almost impossible for them to achieve what they would be capable of achieving if they were in school full time.</p>

