

TERM 1 NEWSLETTER 2016/2017

Milestone Academy



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Dear Families

Since September 8th Milestone Academy has been in full swing. You can, by reading this newsletter, get a snapshot of the activities that continuously occur at the Academy. Clocks will have gone back of course by the time we return on Monday 31st October but rest assured that colleagues will be taking the learning of your sons and daughters forward in Term 2. Have a happy term's break.

Kind regards and thank you for your ongoing support at Milestone Academy

Nigel Jones

NEWS

PHASE 1

Flamingo Class had a lovely afternoon out today. All the students were able to independently search for their own pumpkin on the patch, which they will be decorating in their art lesson tomorrow. A few students also came in to the farm shop and helped to load and unload the pumpkins. They used their £1 coins to pay the shopkeeper at the till.

I have attached in some photos.

Ellie Orbell – Flamingo Class



Teacher



What a lovely and busy start to the school year we have had! Everyone has settled back into Phase 1 really well and we welcomed lots of new faces too. We have been learning all about our school and using maps of the local environment to find our way around. Flamingo and Giraffe Class lead our harvest festival assembly and I wanted to thank all the parents and carers who came along to see their child perform, as well as all the donations of food that we received.

We have enjoyed our Paralympic celebration day today with lots of sports related activities as well as learning all about the history of the Paralympics and celebrating team GB success. May I wish you all a lovely half term

Nicky McCarthy - Phase 1 Leader

TERM DATES 2016/2017

Term 1 Thurs 8th Sept – Fri 21st Oct

Term 2 Mon 31st Oct – Wed 21st Dec

Term 3 Tues 3rd Jan – Wed 8th Feb

Term 4 Mon 20th Feb – Fri 31st Mar

Term 5 Tues 18th Apr – Fri 26th May

Term 6 Mon 5th Jun – Fri 21st Jul

Staff Dev Days: 5th Sept, 6th Sept, 7th Sept, 9th Feb, 10th Feb, 10th Jul

Bank Holidays: 1st May

SPORTS NEWS

Kent FA in affiliation with Kent Sport have been running an after school football club supported by staff from Milestone Academy. We have had 17 young people engaging in sessions which have been very enjoyable.

We will be hosting a football tournament for 8 other special schools and ourselves on Thursday 10th November which should see around 90-100 young people taking part.

Steve Devereux – PE Leader

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHER

Please note that the school photographer will be in school on Monday 31st October (our first Monday back after half term).

Nursery children will be photographed later in the year. We will let you know when this will be nearer the time.

PHASE 2

Phase 2 pupils have had a busy term settling into their new classes and for some into a whole new Phase. Meadow class have been horse-riding, Ocean class have been offsite swimming and pupils in Forest and Valley have been out on the minibus participating in the local community. Forest class also led a celebration at our Harvest Festival assembly where children were invited to be thankful for all foods even those they are not keen on! Many thanks for all your generous offerings, these will be passed on to those in need. Have an enjoyable break.

Simon Stanton – Phase 2 Leader

PHASE 3

Unlike Cher, Tudor Class were able to 'Turn Back Time' and have spent this term immersed in the Tudor Period - managing not to succumb to the Black Death! We have made pottage soup, gingerbread with sugar and many other 'interesting' dishes that made the students very happy that we now live in the 21st Century. We have explored Chaucer's Canterbury Tales and this week made a visit to Canterbury. It was great to see how much everyone remembered. In history we have made a fantastic mote and bailey castle and learned how after 1066 the Normans built castles rapidly to stop invasion - bit hypocritical perhaps?? So as this term closes, I will thank parents for their continued support and hope that next term is equally as engaging, fun and as much learning takes place.

Sarah Brown – Tudor Class Teacher

PHASE 4

Phase 4 have had a great first term and it is lovely seeing all the students new to the phase and those who have transitioned to Milestone@Wilmington settle extremely well in their new environment. The Phase 4 classes on the main site explored Harvest using their senses during a special assembly led by Eynsford Class. Dover Class have begun accessing the local shops to purchase ingredients for making delicious soups and are beginning to learn the life skill of budgeting for their weekly expenditure in school. Canterbury Class have accessed Bore Place this term and have already developed team working and further independence skills. Leeds Class have accessed a varied curriculum including street dance lessons, swimming or Aqualearn and sensory sessions.

At Milestone@Wilmington, Upnor Class have accessed the local community using public transport, which they have learnt is not always reliable. Rochester Class have had a visit to their namesake and enjoyed learning about its history. Hever Class have accessed Dragons Retreat one day a week this term to learn how to prepare a meal, clean bathrooms and make beds which are all such essential life skills for this group.

We also have five Sixth Form students who started a Supported Internship in conjunction with Kent Supported Employment this year, which includes up to three days supported work and at least two days in school. Our students are placed at Poundland, White Oak Leisure Centre and Raw Hairdressers. We would like to thank all these employers for the support they have provided for our students. Feedback from the students is very positive so far, and is also so from the employers.

We wish you all a restful half term.

Janet Tidmas, Liesl Andersson & Richard Allwright - Phase 4 Leadership Team

HARVEST FESTIVAL



MEDIEVAL DAY

Medieval Day in Tudor Class

