

The Star Centre at Milestone Academy



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Dear Families

It has been a busy but wonderful term. I have been so impressed with how the pupils have returned to school after the summer holidays. This term they have demonstrated high levels of enthusiasm for and enjoyment of learning and it has been a real pleasure to get to know your children.

I hope you enjoyed the introduction of the coffee mornings with the Speech and Language Therapist Hattie Wyborn, we hope to make this a termly event.

I hope that you all have a wonderful half term and I am very much looking forward to welcoming the pupils back at the start of Term 2.

Lucie Featherstone
Assistant Principal and Interim Director of the Star Centre

IMPORTANT NEWS

CHANGES TO THE BEGINNING/END OF DAY PROCEDURES

From the beginning of Term 2 there will be a new system in place to facilitate the pupil's transition into and out of school. For health and safety reasons, children will be met at the front doors and brought into school by staff. At the end of the day, the parents and escorts will wait at the front doors while pupils are brought to them by school staff. We hope that this will reduce the congestion at the end of the day and provide pupils with a calmer and safer transition. We will therefore end the school day at a slightly earlier time of 3.10pm, while the new system is being introduced.

Parents will still be able to contact teachers as they currently do via the contact book or leaving a message with the office. There will also be the opportunity to speak to the teacher on a Wednesday at the end of the school day. You would just need to request this via the contact book.

PEGASUS CLASS NEWS

Pegasus class have been reading "The Boy Who Lost his Bumble" this term. The children have really enjoyed this story and have been learning about bees in other curriculum areas such as science and in cookery.

The children have been focusing upon reading, writing and following instructions to develop their literacy skills and have made a variety of honey flavoured snacks in cookery. The children have been using ICT to research information about bees, and/ or find pictures of bees. It has been a very exciting term! The focus text for next term will be Roald Dahl's "The BFG", which will inspire learning in numeracy, literacy, cookery, science and geography. The possibilities are endless. I hope the pupils have a lovely break.

Mrs K Collinson

TERM DATES 2016/2017

Term 1 Tues 6th Sept – Fri 21st Oct
Term 2 Mon 7th Nov – Wed 21st Dec
Term 3 Tues 3rd Jan – Thurs 9th Feb
Term 4 Mon 20th Feb – Fri 31st Mar
Term 5 Tues 18th Apr – Fri 26th May
Term 6 Tues 6th Jun – Fri 21st Jul

Staff Dev Days: 5th Sept, 10th Feb, 5th Jun

Bank Holidays: 2nd Jan, 17th Apr, 1st May

REPORTING PUPIL ABSENCE

Please report pupils absence via Milestone Academy main site on 01474 709420. This is also the number to use if you wish to leave a message for a member of staff or make a general enquiry.

OTHER INFORMATION

Please Note: Pupils will return to school on Monday 7th November

HOLIDAY REQUESTS

Requests for Holiday – these **must** be in writing and addressed to Nigel Jones.

DRACO CLASS NEWS

In Draco class this term we have been learning about different types of writing and their purposes. We have written a letter, a list, a picture caption and a recount. In Maths we have been learning about number and place value as well as shape and money. We have also enjoyed linking our Maths to cooking sessions so that pupils can apply their maths skills functionally and in different contexts. They have made lots of different things including cookies, cornflake cakes, pizzas, cupcakes and shape cookies.

Our Science topic has been based on living things and their habitats and we have enjoyed exploring the school environment to identify and learn about the different habitats here. We have especially enjoyed developing the pond which is now home to 3 fish and a couple of frogs. For Geography we have been learning about the United Kingdom and the different countries within it and their capital cities.

I have been very impressed with the pupils in Draco class and their attitude to learning. I know they will keep up the great work for Term 2.

Miss F Downing

HERCULES CLASS NEWS

The topic for this term has been animals and the pupils have loved learning about Africa. This has involved learning about different tribes such as the Maasai and pupils have engaged well with role-play activities. The pupils were excited to use their imaginations to write a story about an African animal that lives in a cupboard under the stairs, identifying the problems they faced, and used 'wow' language to describe their animals.

In Science, Hercules class investigated the effect of liquids on egg shells and learnt that coca cola causes the most tooth decay. Well done Hercules for settling in so fast into the new year, keep up the good work and I'm looking forward to next term.

Miss C Bled

