

# TERM 3 NEWSLETTER 2016

## Milestone Academy

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### Dear Families

Welcome to our new style newsletter we are seeking to make it briefer but with increased pictures and more "global Milestone news". At the same time we will be looking to include elements of specific individual class or pupil news. Many thanks to Ami for putting this together and any feedback would be welcome.

Can I wish you all a very good Term 3 / 4 break. Whilst we re-commence on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February I cannot unfortunately promise you that we will be out of the winter weather cycle.

### TERM DATES

Term 4 – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March

Term 5 – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May

Term 6 – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

### MORE IMPORTANT NEWS



Cubs have been very busy this term, we have completed our Chefs badge, had a visit from a Guide Dog puppy and learnt some new campfire songs.

We have successfully had our first Cubs evening and look forward to another in March. The Cubs also enjoyed a recent visit from Horizons School.

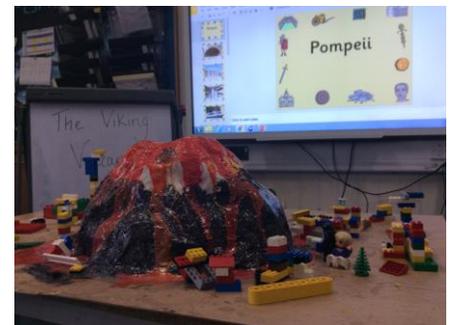
### LEOPARD CLASS NEWS

Leopard class had a lovely time visiting Ash church. Reverend Ruth took the time to show us a round and role played baptising a baby to support our learning from this term. The children were very well behaved and really enjoyed visiting the church.



### SECONDARY CLASS NEWS

As part of the secondary thematic curriculum, Viking class have been studying 'Our World.' In our interactive Geography lessons we have been learning about natural disasters such as Volcanoes and Earthquakes and what causes them. The class enjoyed taking part in an experiment which recreated the flow of lava from a volcano onto a town they created.



### SPORTS NEWS



On Tuesday afternoon some students from our FE Department took part in a football match against Meadowfield from Sittingbourne. This was part of the students ongoing WJEC Healthy Living and Fitness Programme. We lost 3-0 on the day but the students enjoyed participating as part of a team in a fun but competitive environment. The WJEC group have also started accessing skiing lessons and have also recently been improving balance and co-ordination skills on bicycles during weekly sessions at the Cyclopark in Gravesend.

## NATIONAL STORYTELLING WEEK

The first week of February every year is National Storytelling Week, a week dedicated to sharing stories and promoting speaking and listening. Classes across the school have shared favourite story books, jokes and anecdotes to celebrate. We have also invited some very special Guest Storytellers this year, to help our students meet new people and hear some interesting stories. To start the week, we were proud to host Mr Kelvin Holford, DL. Mr Holford is the Deputy Lieutenant for Kent, which means he helps the Lord-Lieutenant for Kent represent the Queen in our area. Mr Holford is also the Kent Scouts Commissioner, so he donned his neckerchief and shared his story with our Phase 2 Cubs group. The students (and the principal) were very engaged in Mr Holford's story, which he called "Our Story - the story of Scouting." Did you know that there are currently 40 million cubs in the world?



On Thursday, we were proud to host Councillor Ian Armit, the Mayor of Dartford, who came to see us dressed in his fantastic Mayoral regalia. Our students were fascinated by his ancient red robes, his formal hat, and his gold chain of office. The Mayor shared the story of Captain Beaky and his Band with Meadow class, before visiting the Phase 3 assembly, and taking a tour of the entire school. He answered many questions, on a variety of topics, and was ably hosted by Alfie, one of our Year 11 students, for the duration of his visit. We were especially lucky to host our Deputy Chief Executive, Neil Willis, who visited Sparta Class and shared his interest in volcanoes, geology and travel to a very curious class. His story matched their learning this term perfectly. Neil was hosted by one of our Year 10s, Charlie, who also helped him out with some problem-solving.

We are excited to host our Chief Executive on Friday. Simon Beamish was a big hit last year when he shared the story of how his family got their pets. Milestone is always happy to welcome visitors. If you or someone you know is great at sharing stories, loves to answer questions, and would like to visit, let us know! Call the main office for more details.



## DANCE NEWS

Over the term some pupils in phase three and four have been looking at 'The Seasons' and choreographed dances about the weather in winter. They used ideas from poems, films and the natural world to inspire their movements while the studio lighting, including the Ultra Violet lights, helped to give added atmosphere to the sequences.



## SAINSBURYS ACTIVE KIDS



We are now collecting the Active Kids Vouchers from Sainsburys. Please send into school with your child. Thanks

## INTERNET SAFETY

The Digital Leaders clubs for phase 3 and 4 are now up and running, pupils have special badges to wear whilst learning about new technologies like micro its and raspberry pi, enjoying games and apps and looking at E-Safety. To know more why not have a look at their blog on the school's website under the 'news' tab.

## AUTISM COFFEE AFTERNOON

On Wednesday 24th February we will be hosting an Autism coffee Afternoon from 1.30 in our TRAC Centre. This session will be lead by Rosaleen Chapman and colleagues from CAMHS (Child and Adolescence Mental Health Service), to inform parents of their service and how they support families and schools with behaviours that challenge. Please come along with any questions or queries you may have. Please note that parent collections and after school pick-ups will begin at the end of the day and car parking spaces need to be cleared for home time (approx 2.45 ish).