

Spring term 1



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# Newsletter

"Together towards our very best"

New Milton Junior School

January 2026

## A Message from Mr Geary

I can't believe we are already three weeks into the Spring Term. We have already had a fantastic TTRockstars day, a visit from an author and a whole host of other exciting events.

I need to thank the teachers for once again running the after schools clubs. Over 200 pupils attend at least one club each week. It is great to see so many children taking part. As always, I will be available on the front playground at the start and end of the day and if you would like to approach me about anything, please do! I am always looking at ways in which we can improve.

## School Library

We are pleased to advise that the school library will be open on the following days/times for the Spring term:

- Monday 8:20 am until 8:45 am
- Wednesday 3:30 pm until 16:00 pm
- Fridays 8:20 am until 8:45 am

Should you wish to choose a reading book with your child, we welcome you to come along.

We look forward to seeing you.



## Announcements

There is a lot of lost property that will eventually be taken to the charity shop. If you wish to, please pop in to go through it. When the weather permits, we will display it in the main playground.

Don't forget we have a good selection of PRELOVED uniform in the office; please come and help yourself to clothing as and when it is helpful.

Y6 parents, there is still time to book your child a place for the Year 6's fun-packed Activity Week, which will take place from Monday, June 22nd to Friday, June 26th.

Year 4 parents, for information about the Year 5 residential trip to Avon Tyrrell in October, please join us on Monday, 26th Jan at 3:30pm in the hall.

# Attendance Celebration!

In September, we shared with you an adapted approach to our Attendance Expectations and Policy:

<https://www.newmiltonjuniorschool.co.uk/attendance>

Thank you so much to everyone; we are extremely pleased to share with you that our most recent government attendance data reflects that we are ranked in the top 25% of all schools. This is a significant improvement on this time last year, when we were placed in the lowest 45%.

Thank you for getting your child in even on those trickier days, and trusting that we will send them home should a need arise. Thank you for getting your child here on time as this also makes a big difference not only to attendance figures, but essentially to your child's progress.

Thank you, also, for making medical appointments, wherever possible, at the beginning or end of the school day ... obviously a far harder one to control!

Having the children in school as close to 100% of the time is our goal; thank you for your support day in day out; it makes a huge difference.

As always, if you have any concerns regarding attendance, please do reach out to your class teacher or Mrs Grinyer at any point and we will do our utmost to support you and your family.

## Reading

I would like to celebrate the energy, commitment and enthusiasm for reading that I see across the school on a daily basis be it in class; paired reading between the upper and lower school children; library sessions; a storyteller joining Year 5; and even in my book club!

Over time, our goal is to foster a sense of curiosity where books and the written word can not only lead us places, but spark a further line of enquiry for each and everyone of us. It has been wonderful to see all of our classes regularly hitting their 'target read' every week, resulting in them having a brand new book of their choosing delivered weekly to their class bookshelf.

Reading events in the hall have been a lot of fun where children have enjoyed reading comics and Mindfulness Activity cards with partners, listening to stories on SORA or even 'reading' a film (subtitles and no sound ... a whole new experience!).

Thank you so much for encouraging your child to read to you at home (particularly when days are so busy) as it really does make a significant difference to the progress that they make.

During this term, we are looking forward to further reading events, World Book Day (5th March .. more information to follow) and even another trip to Waterstones for some children.

Thank you again for your support.

Mrs Grinyer

# Chartwells Catering

New Menus and applications for special diets have now been shared, and the information can be found on the school website.

<https://www.newmiltonjuniorschool.co.uk/page/?title=Chartwells+Catering&pid=98>

Meals can be paid for in exactly the same way, either via SCOPay or cash to the school office. Cost of meals is £2.75 per day (£13.75 for the week). Our debt policy remains, and we ask that meals are paid for as we go or upfront.

Changes to be aware of:

\*Cost £2.75 per day.

\*Your child will no longer be able to purchase tuck in school. Please send your child with a piece of fruit or a bread roll. Please note, we remain a nut-free school.

\*Jacket potatoes/pasta will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> option each day.

Applying for Free School Meals:

If circumstances change, you can apply for free school meals at any point in the school year.

[Apply for free school meals - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)



## New Milton Junior School Curriculum

'Moving together towards our very best' is at the heart of the curriculum at New Milton Junior School. Our pupils are provided with a vibrant, engaging, knowledge-rich curriculum that equips them with the skills and understanding necessary to be active, responsible citizens in an ever-evolving world.

Seven core values drive our broad and balanced curriculum.

To be: respectful, honest, caring, supportive, responsible, kind and to achieve.

We expect success from all of our pupils. Everyone is encouraged to achieve as individuals, in preparation for how they will contribute to society, the economy and the environment.

At New Milton Junior School, learning is at the heart of all that we do: our curriculum is highly inclusive and our teaching is adaptive to meet all needs. Where fitting, activities are driven by the personal interests of the pupils and culture of our community, both local and from around the world. They will develop their knowledge and skills throughout the year and will have opportunities to retrieve their understanding at different points to ensure they do not forget what they have learnt.

To find out more information on the schools and your child's year group curriculum, please follow the link.

<https://www.newmiltonjuniorschool.co.uk/curriculum>

# Upcoming Events

- Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January - Y4 parents' meeting regarding the Y5 residential trip to Avon Tyrrell.
- Friday 6<sup>th</sup> February - 5LA Class assembly 9.00 am - parents are welcome
- Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February - Y3 Egyptian day
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February - INSET day
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February - 20<sup>th</sup> February – Spring half term holiday
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February - 5MI class assembly 9.00 am - parents are welcome
- Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March - Fraser Portraits class photos
- Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March - World Book Day\*
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March - 4RO class assembly 9.00 am - parents are welcome
- Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March - Y4 Roman Day\*
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Red Nose Day\*
- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March - Easter Egg competition\*
- Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> March - Parents' evening\*
- Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March - Parents' evening\*
- Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March – Easter service led by Y5\*
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March - School closes at 3.30 pm
- Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April – Easter holiday
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April – Children back in school

Dates are subject to change

\*More information to follow

## Wraparound Care

### NMJS Breakfast Club / NMIS Twilight Club - New Milton Junior School

The Breakfast Club operates at NMJS from 7:45am to 8:45am, five mornings each week, with a fee of £4 per session. It is essential to pre-book a space for your child. To reserve a place, please complete the booking form which is available for collection at the school office or can be accessed on the school website. Payment is required at the time of booking and may be made via SCOPAY or directly at the office.

### New Milton Infant School Twilight Club

The after school club is called "Twilight Club". This will run from 3:20 pm until 6pm during school days and will be open to children from both New Milton Infant and Junior schools.

There are two available options for sessions:-

- 1) 3:20pm until 5:00pm - £10 fee
- 2) 3:20pm until 6:00pm - £13 fee



We are pleased to inform you that all pupils have access to Sora, a virtual library where they can borrow eBooks, audiobooks, comics and magazines to read and listen to at home or at school.

It is a great resource and provides another way for the children to access books to read. Research has shown that reluctant readers find eBooks an attractive format to use.

This online library is provided by Hampshire School Library Service and can be accessed by any internet enabled device with a web browser or via an app on mobile devices, such as a phone or tablet.

All SLS eBooks, audiobooks, comics and magazines are age restricted into categories to ensure only the appropriate content can be viewed. On the app pupils will only be able to borrow the books appropriate to their age range.

Download the Sora app from the Apple App Store or Google Play. If you are using a browser navigate to [soraapp.com](http://soraapp.com).

Please use your child's Google Classroom login details to access the site.

Why Sora.....

Read when you can, where you can and instantly borrow a book on your phone, tablet, or computer - whenever time allows!

Enjoy your own private story time as a family with age-appropriate AudioBooks.

Help your child develop their literacy skills with 'Read-Aloud' picture books which allow them to follow the story on screen while hearing it out loud at the same time.

