

Dear Parents,

Friday 26th November 2021

### Children in Need

Many thanks for your support for Children in Need. We raised an incredible £690.75! Your donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you!



### Homework Y1-Y6

Homework is set each week via Google Classrooms. The tasks are set to support your child with the learning that they are currently doing at school. This may be practising or over learning a concept, completing some research, finding answers to questions or completing work aimed at embedding knowledge learnt over time. I know many of our children are involved in lots of exciting opportunities outside of school - something which we endorse - however, a short time spent doing the homework set really makes a difference. We very much appreciate your support.

### Governor Awards

The Governor Award forms are available on Google Classrooms and Tapestry - if your child would like to vote, please access the form from here. The question to consider this half term is: **'Who has inspired you to try something new?'** Children are welcome to nominate any member of our school community - adult or child. The closing date is Tuesday 30th November so.....get voting!



### Giles Brook Friends Association

The Friends will be running their **Christmas Shop** again this year. Children will have the opportunity to go to the shop, with their class teachers and peers, to purchase surprise presents for mums and dads or grannies and grandads. Each present can be purchased for £2.00 - with a maximum of 4 presents per child. Our lovely Friends have been busy wrapping presents to ensure we have plenty for the children to choose from. The shop will operate for Foundation Stage through to Y6 on the following days:

**Thursday 9th December** - Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6

**Friday 10th December** - Foundation Stage, Y1 and Y2.

Children should bring the correct change into school on the day of their visit to the shop. Please send this in an envelope/purse clearly marked with their name. They will then manage their purchases - with a little help from the staff in lower years, of course! A bag to store presents will be required.

### Milton Keynes Winter Activities and Food programme?

A range of FREE activities and food for children, young people and their families who are in receipt of benefit related free school meals is being provided by Milton Keynes Council this year. All activities take place between 20th - 24th December at locations across MK. From football to film making, cookery, multi-sports clubs and even ninja clubs, there is something for everyone. To book activities, parents and carers should browse the programme and contact their chosen providers directly. Please click the following link if you are interested and feel you may qualify. <https://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/children-young-people-families/holiday-activities-and-food-programme-haf>

As an example, Ride High Equestrian Centre is running free fun-filled outdoor activities for children and young people from 20th to 23rd December. Children must be: - aged between 5 and 12, live and/or attend school in Milton Keynes and be eligible for benefit related free school meals. For more information and to book please visit: [www.ridehighquestriancentre.co.uk/view/winter-fun-at-ride-high](http://www.ridehighquestriancentre.co.uk/view/winter-fun-at-ride-high)

## Illnesses

Please be aware that we have had some suspected cases of scarlet fever in our Nursery. Although not confirmed, doctors are treating it as such. If your child becomes poorly with a fever and subsequently develops a rash, you should speak to your GP or seek medical advice mentioning that they may have been in contact with a suspected case. NHS guidance states: - *'if scarlet fever is diagnosed, once prescribed and medication is taken for 24 hours, providing there is no longer a fever, a child can return to school'*.

We also have had six reports of chickenpox in Year 3. Clearly this is doing the rounds too!

NHS states: *'Chickenpox starts with red spots. They can appear anywhere on the body and might spread or stay in a small area. The spots fill with fluid and become blisters. The blisters may burst. The spots scab over. New spots might appear while others are becoming blisters or forming a scab'*. Children should stay away from school and only return once all spots are crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots have appeared.

## Book Fair

The children have now browsed the books in our Scholastic Book Fair and completed their wish lists. If you would like to order a book from your child's wish list, please make payment online and return the completed wish list to school **on Monday 29th November**, noting the book/s you have purchased. There has been a little confusion with the price of the books so, to confirm, Book Fair prices are usually full price as we receive 60% of total sales in books for school. When we have a Book Club with no fair in school, our rewards are only 20%. Thank you very much for your support.

I expect many of you may be endeavouring to unpack those Christmas decorations this weekend and put up your Christmas tree - if so, have fun! Our school tree will be going up next Tuesday, ready for the December 1<sup>st</sup> and no doubt there will be a few decorations popping up in classes too!



Best wishes

*Angie*

Angie Bailey  
Deputy Headteacher/Head of School