



Milford News

Friday 19th December 2025

Aim high, achieve!

Head Teacher updates...

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Dear Families,

As we reach the end of a wonderfully busy and joy-filled term, it's the perfect moment to reflect on the many special experiences we've shared as a school community. December is always a magical time in school, and this year has been no exception. Our EYFS and KS1 nativities were absolute highlights—full of sparkle, confidence, and festive cheer. The children performed so beautifully, and it was clear how much effort had gone into every song, line, and costume. I truly hope parents and families enjoyed watching them as much as I did!

The celebrations continued with the KS2 singalong, which really lifted everyone's spirits and brought the whole school together in true Christmas style. Hearing the hall filled with enthusiastic voices, laughter, and familiar festive tunes created a wonderful atmosphere that carried on long after the final song.

Christmas Dinner Day was another memorable moment. The food was delicious, and it was heart-warming to see pupils and staff sitting together, chatting, and enjoying the occasion as music played in the background. These shared experiences remind us of the importance of community and togetherness, especially at this time of year.

As we prepare to close the term, I want to thank all our families for their continued support. We've had a fantastic season of celebrations, and we look forward to even more exciting learning and events in the new year. Wishing you all a peaceful, fun, and restful holiday break.

Enjoy the holidays, and I look forward to seeing you all in 2026!

Mr Turner

Aim high, achieve!



Reminders

- Monday 5th January is an INSET Day - children return to school on **Tuesday 6th January.**
- The office staff would like to say a huge thank you to parents for ensuring payments are coming through for school dinners and trips. There have been a lot of changes in the last few months so thank you for bearing with us.
- Thank you for those parents who are **phoning school on the first day of absence for a child.** This really helps us as we don't have to make as many phone calls and allows us to use our time making the school a better place.
- Please remember **we are a dog-free site.** This is for the safety of all on site, as well as some members of our school community having allergies. **This includes carrying dogs too.**
- **Please do not ride scooters or bikes on site,** we have already had numerous accidents which have resulted in us already shutting the gate on the playground.

Staffing Updates

Miss Barker

Sadly, Miss Barker will be leaving us in January. She has done a fantastic job in developing and organising our SEND provision and will be sorely missed by both staff and pupils. However, we are delighted for her as she takes up an excellent opportunity to lead SEND provision across a group of schools in another county. From January, Miss Salmon will be joining Wellington in Year 1 and will be teaching the class on Mondays and Tuesdays. We will be appointing a new SENDCo in the new year; in the meantime, if you have any concerns or questions, please speak to your child's class teacher or a member of the senior leadership team.

Mrs Koletzki

We also have some exciting news to share: Mrs Koletzki will be going on maternity leave in January (she is planning on being here for the first week of the Spring term) – congratulations, Mrs K! While she will be greatly missed, we are pleased to know that she will be returning to us in the next academic year. During her special time away, her class will be taught by Mrs Lauren. The children have already met Mrs Lauren and worked with her on several occasions as part of an early transition, so this change will feel familiar and reassuring. We know the children will be in very safe hands, and we wish Mrs Koletzki all the very best during this special time.



School Activities

As part of **Year 6's** 'The Battle of Britain' history topic, the children spent the day learning how this major event in British history had a significant impact on the lives of civilians. The children learnt to play a range of war time games, learnt all about propaganda and even made their own wartime ration recipes (much to their tastebud's displeasure!)



With October being a celebration of Black History, the children in Year carried out a case study on Augusta Savage and learnt all about her techniques of sculpting; using clay to create their own 3D facial sculptures.

Year 3 made foil sculptures inspired by the sculptor Alberto Giacometti. The children decided on their own action for the sculpture.

We were also inspired by the artist Dale Chihuly to create sculptures from recycled plastic. This links with our sustainability topic as we're thinking about ways to cause less harm to our environment. We want to create less waste and use our waste creatively!



Year 5 have been visited by the PCSO's for the last 6 weeks. They have been learning about the law in England and what it means to be a good citizen. In the final session they recreated a trial in the magistrates' court with a real magistrate.



They also had a fantastic experience on Viking day. A Viking came into school and shared lots of amazing artefacts like weapons and helmets. The children loved recreating battle tactics and having their own mini battle!



School Activities

Rocksteady!

Rocksteady Assembly was a great time for everyone. The music was fun and full of energy, and the atmosphere was buzzing from start to finish. Children took on lots of different roles, from drumming and playing instruments to singing and performing, and they did an amazing job. It was fantastic to see their confidence and teamwork on display, and the whole school loved cheering them on. A really positive, feel-good assembly that everyone enjoyed! 🎵 🎸



Christmas Card Competition

We were delighted to take part in a Christmas card competition with our local MP, Lilian Greenwood. Aida in Year 3 received a merit award for her festive design, and Rosa in Year 4 won *Best in School* for her wonderful Christmas card. Well done to both pupils on their fantastic achievements! 🎄 ✨





PTA

We are excited to share that we are in the process of creating a PTA here at Milford. A huge thank-you goes to the two parents who have very kindly offered to lead this new venture. A strong PTA can make a real difference to school life: it brings families and staff together, helps to strengthen our community, and supports the school through fundraising, events, and volunteer opportunities. Most importantly, it gives parents a greater voice and creates more enriching experiences for all our children.

If you are interested in joining or finding out more, please speak to Mr Turner or Mrs Butler, who will be happy to point you in the direction of the newly formed PTA. There will be an initial meeting in January to assign roles and formally establish the group. From there, we hope to begin planning our first event soon afterwards.

We're really looking forward to building this new partnership and seeing what we can achieve together!



📣 Recruiting for Our Local Advisory Board

We are pleased to announce that we are now recruiting members for our newly formed **Local Advisory Board**. This group will play an important role in supporting the school and strengthening communication between staff, parents, the community, and our Board of Trustees.

As a stand-alone academy, our governance structure works a little differently from maintained schools. We have a Board of Trustees—which does include parent representation—but the Academies Handbook prohibits staff members from serving on the board. To ensure that teachers still have a clear and meaningful voice, we have chosen to establish a Local Advisory Board. This group will provide a space where staff, parents, and members of the community can work together and feedback directly to the Trustees on key areas of school life.

If you are interested in joining this group or would like to learn more, please speak to Mr Turner or Mr Matthews (who leads the committee). We would love to welcome individuals who care about our school and want to contribute to its continued success.





Attendance Matters





If your child is absent, the school will always contact you to check that everything is okay. This is part of our responsibility to ensure all children are safe. If we are unable to make contact, we may carry out a **home visit** to check on your child's wellbeing. This is a **statutory safeguarding duty** and helps us ensure no child is at risk.





Where attendance becomes an ongoing concern, we will arrange meetings with parents/carers and put **support plans** in place to help improve attendance. Working together is key — good attendance is essential for children to thrive, and we are here to support families to make this happen.

EVERY DAY COUNTS!

How time off school adds up over a year

-  1 day off every month
-  9–10 days missed
-  95% attendance
-  Almost 2 weeks of learning lost

-  1 day off every fortnight
-  19 days missed
-  90% attendance
-  Over 10% of learning lost

-  1 day off every week
-  38 days missed
-  80% attendance
-  Nearly 20% of learning lost

After-school clubs

Please see below the list of after-school clubs that will be on offer after half-term

	Afterschool Club	Location	Staff
Monday	Boys' Football League	FSM Centre	JW & BS
Tuesday	Year 3/4 - Handball	Junior Hall	CR & JW
Wednesday	Year 5/6 - Girls' Football Training	Junior Hall	CR & JW
Thursday	Year 5/6 - Boys' Football Training	Junior Hall	CR & JW
Friday	Year 1 - Multisport	Junior Hall	CR & JW (Sports Leaders)

Start - Mon, 12th January (2nd week back)

Finish – Fri 6th February – NO CLUBS ON THE FINAL WEEK OF THE HALF-TERM

Aim high, achieve!