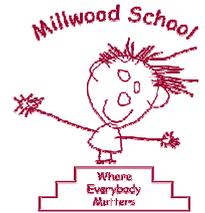


Millwood News



Headteacher: Helen Chadwick, M.A., Dip RSA

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OFSTED

As you may or may not know we are due to be inspected this year. I attach a guide for parents issued by Ofsted which sets out the process.

Torrential rain

We have had the worst rainstorm in 30 years! Although we have kept the pupils indoors because of the severe drenching they would get if they went out to play, there have been times when pupils have got very wet in the rain. I am really sorry about this. Where it applies to walking to and from Radcliffe pool we are looking at ways to transport the children rather than having them walk. So far the quotations we have had for transport have been unreasonably high so we have now cancelled normal mini bus runs to release the mini bus to take pupils to Radcliffe pool.

Full International Schools Award



We are delighted to let you know that we have been awarded full ISA for 'Carnival of the Animals'. Congratulations to Jill

Tierney, Mike Price and many thanks to Linda Marsden.

Attendance information

Last year our pupils managed to attend a fabulous 93.6% of all sessions. This is our best ever attendance rate. As you might expect the majority of absences were due to illness.

We are doing our best to help with this by ensuring we have very high standards of hygiene and working with the health professionals and families to help children back to school as soon as they are well enough. You can help by ensuring you don't send your child into school for 48 hours after any vomiting or diarrhoea. I am pleased to say that last year fewer days were lost through taking holidays during term time, although with 215 half day sessions lost I continue to ask you to take your holidays out of term time whenever possible.

Last year our pupils lost 266 sessions attending medical and dental appointments. In the first three weeks of this term there have already been 26 sessions lost for this reason. I understand that the majority of these appointments are sent to you by consultants and other health professionals and must be attended during school time but please would you try to make routine medical and dental appointments outside school hours wherever possible. We will continue to help with this by working with the health professionals to facilitate medical appointments in school wherever possible.

Thank you,

Caroline Henley,

Deputy Headteacher

Please remember the attendance policy is available on the school website.

Nursery 1 have had a busy and fun filled week. On Tuesday we all enjoyed making our Crocodile masks as part of our Roald Dahl day celebrations. On Wednesday we really liked the Music

Therapy lesson - we especially liked feeling the vibrations of the saxophone. We also had fun banging the big drums and singing songs. We explored 'green' including messy food play, which was good fun.



Nursery 2 What a fun week! Everyone looked so good dressed up for Dahl day and we had lots of fun exploring chocolate we make crispy cakes and ate them all up we listened to songs from Charlie



and the chocolate factory. We have been learning about the number one and our

story this week has been my mum and dad make me laugh.

Whitelow 1 loved dressing up for Roald Dahl day



and joining in with all the fun activities.



Whitelow 2 really enjoyed Roald Dahl day. We experimented with fizzy lemonade and bicarbonate soda as part of the 'Wizzpopper' song from the BGF! We all did beautiful looking and participation! Fizztastic!



Redvales 1 have really enjoyed getting messy this week in art and messy play! We also had great fun on Dahl Day and have had a lovely time reading our sensory story Brown Bear.



Redvales 2

What a busy fun-filled week we have had. Adeel and Ashley have been showing off their mouse skills in ICT. We have all been doing some super counting and number matching. Also, we had lots of fun on 'Dahl Day' dressing up as characters from books and listened and danced to the 'Oompa Loompa' song.



Redvales 3 have been practising our maths skills. We have used Numicon shapes to work on understanding the value of numbers as well as making bonds to 10. We really enjoy the games we get to play, like choosing the right shape from the bag - no peeping!



Redvales 5 'Ahoy there land lovers!' This week we have finally had the time to explore our new pirate



soft play room. We love it - it's great fun! Redvales 5 have also been researching space craft as we are currently making our

very own time machines, so watch this space for news of our journeys through time and space.

Redvales 6 have had a very busy week! On Tuesday, we celebrated Roald Dahl Day. We listened to 'The Enormous Crocodile' sensory story and had



fun dressing up as the different characters. We then made a collage of a crocodile out of lots of different material. In Numeracy, we sang '5 Currant Buns' and then made them in our food technology lesson. Next week we look forward to making more rainbow handprints in art.

Irwell 1 have been doing exciting literary learning connected with the works of Roald Dahl, including making 'Fantastic Fox' spoon pup-



pets. Also, in Science everyone worked incredibly hard to turn cream into butter using an old fashioned butter churn. Well done guys.

Irwell 2 have been learning about 'Peter and the Wolf' by Prokofiev. We have been looking at



and trying the flute, the oboe and the clarinet. Next week we will try and recognise the sound of each instrument.



Irwell 4 have been working hard all week we have been practising writing the days of the week. We have also had lots of fun making chocolate cornflake cakes.



Irwell 5 and 6 have had a fun filled space adventure this week. On Monday we visited the Museum Of Science and Industry in



Manchester to look at the different experiments and working with the staff. On Wednesday we took our rockets into PE and continued our journey into space as we became shooting stars and astronauts 'floating in the most peculiar way'.



STARS OF THE WEEK



FS/KS1

Harrison E for eating his dinner in the hall with his friends

KS 1/KS2

Tom M for improved calm communication and fantastic focus across the curriculum.



Bury FC

Bury FC's squad have chosen Millwood to be their Christmas charity this year. They will be visiting us on Tuesday 18th December.

100 Club winner

The winning number is - 40



Bury FC

Bury FC is a fantastic family club which supports Millwood pupils every day. They are going through a difficult time at the moment so it would be wonderful if more of us could get along to Gigg Lane and support them.

The next home matches are-

Tuesday 2nd October against Carlisle- kick off 19.45

Saturday 6th October against Swindon—kick off 15.00

UTS!

Best wishes
Helen Chadwick
Headteacher



School inspections

A guide for parents¹

This document applies to all maintained schools including special schools and pupil referral units. It also covers academies, city technology colleges, city colleges for the technology of the arts and some non-maintained special schools in England.²

¹ Parents' refers to mothers, fathers and/or carers.

² Academies are state-funded independent schools. The same inspection schedule and associated guidance apply to academies as to other maintained schools. The family of academy schools includes: sponsor-led academies, schools that have converted to academy status under the Academies Act 2010, academy special schools, free schools, university technical colleges, 16-19 academies and studio schools.

Why does Ofsted inspect schools?

We inspect schools to provide information to parents and carers, to promote improvement and to hold schools to account for the public money they receive. School inspections are required by law. We provide an independent assessment of the quality and standards of education in schools, and check whether pupils are achieving as much as they can.

When do inspections happen and how long do they last?

A school that was judged to be outstanding at its last inspection is 'exempt' from routine inspection. We will not normally inspect 'exempt' schools unless we have a concern about their performance. Ofsted will also carry out an annual assessment of an 'exempt' school's performance (from the third year after the school's last inspection) to determine whether an inspection might be necessary. 'Exempt' schools continue to be inspected as part of Ofsted's programme of surveys of curriculum subjects and aspects of the curriculum. Exemption from inspection does not apply to maintained nursery schools, Special Schools or Pupil Referral Units.

A school judged to be 'good' is normally inspected within five school years from the end of the school year in which it was last inspected.

A school judged as 'requires improvement' will receive monitoring visits from inspectors to check its progress and is inspected within a period of two years. If at that inspection it is still judged as 'requires improvement', there will be further monitoring, and another inspection will take place within a further two years. If at this inspection it is still not 'good', it is highly likely that it will be judged 'inadequate' and deemed to require special measures.

A school that was judged to be 'satisfactory' under the previous school inspection framework (before September 2012) may receive a monitoring visit from inspectors and is likely to be inspected by the end of the school year 2013/14.

Most schools receive notice of their inspection on the afternoon of the working day before the inspection begins. However, Ofsted can inspect any school without notice where this is judged to be appropriate. The inspection usually lasts for two days and the number of inspectors on the inspection team will vary according to the size and nature of the school.

Who inspects schools?

Her Majesty's Inspectors and additional inspectors carry out the inspections. All inspectors have been trained to, and assessed against, Ofsted's standards.

What happens during an inspection?

Inspectors look at the school's self-evaluation and analyse the pupils' progress and attainment. They talk to the headteacher, governors, staff, and pupils, and consider your views as a parent. They spend most of their time observing a wide range of lessons and

looking at the quality of teaching in the school, and its impact on learning and progress. They also look at the behaviour and safety of pupils at the school, the promotion of spiritual, moral, social and cultural development; and how well the school is led and managed.

How can I make my views known?

If you are the registered parent of a child at the school, the school will send you a letter notifying you of the dates of the inspection. This letter provides you with details and options for providing your views. Our survey site, Parent View, is the main source of gathering parents' views about a school. Inspectors will use the views expressed on Parent View when inspecting your child's school.

Can I speak to the inspectors?

You may have the chance to speak to the inspectors during the inspection, for example at the start of the school day. The inspection administrators will be happy to pass on messages to the inspectors and may be able to arrange telephone conversations if you are unable to speak to them in person. Their contact details will be in the letter that tells you about the inspection. Please remember that inspectors cannot deal with complaints concerning individual pupils or settle disputes between you and the school.

What happens after the inspection?

We give schools an overall grade from 1 to 4:

- grade 1 (outstanding)
- grade 2 (good)
- grade 3 (requires improvement)
- grade 4 (inadequate).

The lead inspector reports her or his judgement to the headteacher and governors. The inspectors' findings are published in a report for the school, parents and the wider community. Inspection reports provide information about the effectiveness of the school's work and contain recommendations about what the school should do to improve further. The school must take all reasonable steps to make sure you receive a copy of the report. Reports are also published on our website: www.ofsted.gov.uk/reports.

What happens if Ofsted judges a school to be 'inadequate'?

If inspectors judge a school to be inadequate it will be placed in one of the following two categories.

Special measures

This means the school is failing to provide its pupils with an acceptable standard of education, and is not showing the capacity to make the improvements needed. Inspectors

will visit the school regularly to check its progress, until it can be removed from the category. We will inspect it again after about two years.

Serious weaknesses

This means that one or more of the key areas of the school's performance require significant improvement, but the leaders and managers have demonstrated the capacity to improve. Inspectors will visit the school regularly to check its progress, until it can be removed from the category. It will be inspected again within 18 months of its last inspection.

Schools that were judged to be 'inadequate' and made subject to a notice to improve under the previous school inspection framework (before September 2012) may receive a monitoring visit from inspectors and will normally be inspected within 18 months of their last inspection.

Where can further details be found about school inspections?

The 'Framework for school inspection' sets out the statutory basis for inspections. It summarises the main features of school inspections and describes how the general principles and processes of inspection are applied. The 'School inspection handbook' sets out what inspectors must do and what schools can expect, and provides guidance for inspectors on making their judgements. Both documents are available on Ofsted's website www.ofsted.gov.uk.

What happens if I have concerns about the inspection?

Complaints are rare, but we treat them very seriously. You can find out more on our website at www.ofsted.gov.uk, or by calling our helpline on 0300 123 4666.

If you need any more information about our work, please visit our website or call our helpline.

What happens if I have concerns about my child's school?

If you are concerned about your child's school, you should start by talking directly to the teachers or headteacher or, if necessary, the governing body or the local authority. If you are not satisfied with the responses you receive Ofsted may be able to help.

You can find out more on our website or by calling our helpline.

Helpline: 0300 123 4666
www.ofsted.gov.uk



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