

Millfields Governors Summer Term Newsletter

A short-ish newsletter this term. I hope everyone is enjoying all the trips, visits, shows and concerts that make this term so busy and provide a bit of relief after the SATS. Have a great summer break and I hope to see many of you in September.

Nick White – Chair

After School Club – Jan Richardson

I am delighted to be able to report that our new space for the Breakfast and After School Clubs is now in place and complete. The After School Club opened for business after half-term in the very capable hands of Despina Cousins, ably assisted by Sarah Phillips. Grateful thanks are due to Martin Meltzer for all his hard work in steering us through the maze of Planning and Building Regulations. Thanks and congratulations also to Mark Andras for his excellent work on the conversion of the Library and for keeping to budget and the agreed timetable.

Bookings for places from September onwards are already very brisk so if you are thinking of using the new facility for your child, please get in touch with Anita in the office sooner rather than later.

Courtyard – Martin Melzer

The courtyard / outside classroom project is nearing completion.



With Friends of Millfield's financial assistance, the project has become a reality. At the feasibility stage, staff and governors considered various options, but in the end it was decided to fully utilise the space we already have. The courtyard can be seen from most parts within the school and what a joy it is to see what the class groups and the garden club are cultivating!!

The “outside classroom” space will accommodate the children for lessons at any time of the year with its tables, astro-decking and recycled tractor tyre “chippings” surrounding the raised beds. A greenhouse and tool shed has been built to aid the growing themes that the

groups will take on during the year. Parents are welcome to visit the project and admire what a great space it has become. The school has now been invited to enter into the Wivenhoe Allotment Show later in the year and there is also talk about going for Wivenhoe Open Gardens.

A lot of effort, hard work and dedication from Aaron Battersby, Kate Miles, Katy Plant, Allan (Amir and Salma's Grandad) and a few parents has enabled this to happen. We have also received some sponsorship from Thompson and Morgan, Burgon and Ball, RHS Hyde Hall, The Woodland Trust and Kew Garden's Grow Wild Initiative.

Sharing Assemblies – Jenny Davies

At our recent Curriculum and Pupil meeting we discussed the possibility of parents attending sharing assemblies which normally take place on Friday afternoons. This is a time for children to share their recent achievements both in and out of school. Due to lack of space in the hall it is impossible for parents to attend assemblies with all of the children present, so there will be some additional assemblies (held for all year classes) in the future. Each class will have their own assembly on a rota basis where parents can attend to celebrate all of the children's successes. It will be a great opportunity for parents to chat with your child's teacher whilst viewing the fantastic displays in their class.

Parent Governor Vacancies

We will probably have 2 vacancies for Parent Governors from December 2015. We have recently considerably reduced the number of governors in line with the latest guidance so we will be looking for keen parents who really are willing to come and contribute to meetings, as well as visiting the school and taking part in all the other governor roles. If you are interested, please have an informal chat with one of the existing parent governors: Leigh-Ann, Martin and Jenny, and we'd love you to come to our next Governors meeting on 1st October and see what goes on. Election forms (if we get more than 2 candidates) will go out later next term.

Thanks

As you all know Miss Plant and Miss Turner are moving on this year. They've both made fantastic contributions to the school and we are very sad to see them go. The governors would like to thank them and wish them a brilliant future with their teaching careers.