

Milton St. John's CE Primary School

Newsletter

Wednesday 10 January 2024

Remember to subscribe to the newsletter on our website to receive an electronic copy.

MANAGING NUT AND OTHER ALLERGY POLICY REMINDER

Please may we remind you about our Managing Nut and Other Allergy Policy which can be viewed on our website. We do have children in our school with severe nut allergies, therefore, it is really important that parents are familiar with our policy. As you may be aware, ANAPHYLAXIS is a severe allergic reaction at the extreme end of the allergic spectrum, affecting the entire body and can occur within minutes of exposure. The main causes are attributed to nuts, seeds and seafood.

The Anaphylaxis Campaign highlights a number of problems with saying that we are a 'Nut Free School' as follows:

- It would be impossible to provide an absolute guarantee that the School is nut free, given that pupils regularly bring in food from home and food items bought on the way to School
- There would be a risk that children with allergies might be led into a false sense of security
- The nut ban would be seen as a precedent for demands to ban other potentially 'risky' foods.

However, whilst we are not proposing that we are a 'Nut Free School' Governors have made the decision to not allow nuts into school to help minimise airborne allergic reactions to nuts. Therefore, nuts such as peanuts, cashew nuts, monkey nuts, almonds, pistachio etc. (nuts in their natural form) are not allowed in school and will be sensitively taken off children if they are seen and handed back to the parents at the end of the school day. Nuts that are contained within products are still permitted e.g., cereal bars etc.

We do have children in school who have severe peanut allergies and we would appreciate your support with this matter when you are preparing packed lunches and snacks etc.

CLASS ASSEMBLY DATES

Parents are welcome to attend the following assembly dates for the class assemblies. We anticipate they will last approximately 20 – 30 minutes. Year 6 will be performing in another show later on in the year rather than a class assembly. We will inform you of dates nearer the time. All assemblies will start at 9.05am.

Year 5	24.1.24
Year 4	7.2.24
Year 3	20.3.24
Year 2	26.6.24
Year 1	8.5.24
Reception	3.7.24

FAMILY HUB ROADSHOW INFORMATION

Tameside Family Hub Roadshow: the Helping Hand (<https://www.tameside.gov.uk/helpinghand>) campaign is running a series of sessions over the next week to provide support, information and advice to residents being affected by the cost-of-living. Please see sessions below:

Friday 12 January, 10am – 12pm at South Family Hub, Old Road, Hyde, SK14 4SQ

Tuesday 16 January, 1pm – 3pm at North Family Hub, Trafalgar Square, Ashton, OL7 0LL

Wednesday 17 January, 10am – 12pm, West Family Hub, Greenside Lane, Droylsden, M34 7RA.

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Penalty Notices for Non-School Attendance

Information Letter

Section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996 empowers the local authority to issue Penalty Notices in cases of unauthorised absence from school. This means that when a pupil has unauthorised absence of 10 sessions (5 days) or more, in a 12 week period (where no acceptable reason has been given for the absence) or if their child persistently arrives late for school after the close of registration, their parents may receive a Penalty Notice of £120, which is reduced to £60 if paid within 21 days. The Penalty Notice will need to be paid in full before 28 days of the Notice being served. Failure to pay a Penalty Notice may result in prosecution (a separate Penalty Notice may be issued to each parent for each child).

In law, an offence is committed if a parent fails to secure a child's regular attendance at school. Tameside Education Welfare Service, in conjunction with schools and, where appropriate, Greater Manchester Police, will use these powers as an early deterrent to prevent patterns of unauthorised absence developing.

Parents may also receive a Penalty Notice without a warning letter for the offence of failing to secure regular school attendance under the following circumstances:

- Their child is stopped on a truancy sweep
- Where the absence is recorded as an unauthorised leave of absence for a minimum of 10 sessions (5 school days) in a 12 week period

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 also makes it an offence if a parent fails to ensure that their child is not in a public place during the first 5 days of a fixed term or permanent exclusion. Penalty Notices may be issued for such an offence.

The issuing of a Penalty Notice is an alternative to issuing proceedings at court. As a proportionate response, the Local Authority is likely to give parents the opportunity to discharge their liability to criminal proceedings by way of a Penalty Notice on the first occasion.

Once a parent has discharged liability by paying a Penalty Notice on at least one occasion and where there are further unauthorised absences, they may not be given the option of paying a further Penalty Notice, but may instead be summoned to appear before Tameside Magistrate's Court to answer an offence under Section 444 of the Education Act 1996: failure to ensure regular attendance. Conviction of an offence under section 444(1) may result in a fine of £1000. Under section 444(1A), convictions may result in a fine of £2,500, a community order, electronic tagging or a custodial sentence and a criminal conviction recorded.

Parents and carers of pupils registered at this school are reminded that they hold legal responsibility for ensuring that their child attends school regularly and punctually.

We **S**how respect. We are **H**onest. We **I**nclude others. We **N**ever give up. We seek **E**xcellence in all we do.

Milton St John's School shares the Local Authority's and Government's determination to raise levels of pupil attendance and achievement in order to ensure the best possible start in life for our children.

Support and guidance on attendance is always available from our school and if you have any specific queries in relation to this letter, please contact the school office.

SPORTS AMBASSADORS CHALLENGE FOR JANUARY

Our Sports Ambassadors are challenging everyone to see how many miles you can walk in January!

January is a perfect time to get out and be active and enjoy our beautiful surroundings with your family!

To log your miles with school send a photo on class dojo and let us know how many miles you've walked!

The challenge starts on 1st of January and ends on the 31st!



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP THEME

Our collective worship theme for this half term is PERSEVERANCE. Please find some ideas about how the whole family can have fun and explore this Christian Value at the end of this newsletter.

2024 RECEPTION APPLICATIONS DEADLINE 15 JANUARY

The online portal is now open for applications for Reception September 2024. The closing date for submitting a Reception 2024 school application is 15 January 2024. (Applications submitted after this date will be processed as a 'late' application)

Please visit <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/admissions> for more information.

DIARY DATES

Mon 15 Jan 2024	Deadline for Primary School applications
Thurs 28 March 2024	Year 5 trip to Lowry Theatre and Imperial War Museum
Fri 14 June – Mon 17 June 2024	Year 6 Kingswood Residential trip
Fri 19 July 2024	Year 6 Leavers' Party

PERSEVERANCE

HOME SCHOOL VALUES

This term we will be focussing in school on the value PERSEVERANCE. We hope your family will find these ideas helpful as you explore the value and have fun together.

TALK TOGETHER about Perseverance

Teachers often say that **perseverance** is something that many children find difficult.

Very little that is really worthwhile in life can be achieved without **perseverance**. An athlete may train for years before they are ready to compete at the highest level. A musician must practice every day, sometimes for hours at a time, if they are to really master their instrument.

- How would each family member rate themselves on a scale of 1 - 10 at **perseverance**?
- Can you give an example of something you have achieved by determined **perseverance**?
- Is there a skill that you think you could improve with **perseverance**?



READ TOGETHER...

The Widow Who Never Gave Up

There was once a judge living in a town just like this one, said Jesus to the crowd of people who were listening to him and hanging on his every word.

This judge did not care much about God or justice. The crowd muttered to one another and smiled knowingly, they all knew judges like him! A poor widow, called Sarah, lived in the same town. She was being treated badly by her neighbour who was making her life very difficult indeed.

Sarah went to the judge to ask him to hear her case and give her justice.

At first the judge tried to ignore her. Silly old woman he thought. Why won't she leave me alone. Doesn't she realise that I have more important things to deal with?

But Sarah **persevered**. You are my only hope she told the judge. You must help me. Day after day she went to see him.

In the end, the judge was so exasperated that he thought to himself I will never get a minutes peace unless I help this old woman.

Finally he let her explain to him the problems that she was facing and agreed that Sarah's neighbour was indeed behaving very badly and must be made to stop at once. Sarah's **perseverance** paid off and eventually she got the justice she deserved.

So keep **persevering** and keep praying said Jesus to the crowd.

Bible Story based on Luke 18:1-8



QUIZ Wordsearch

PERSEVERANCE
DAY
HELP
HOPE
IGNORE
JUDGE
JUSTICE
KEEP
NEIGHBOUR
PROBLEMS
SARAH
WIDOW

R	X	W	U	E	E	G	D	U	J	K	O
O	S	M	E	L	B	O	R	P	N	F	F
C	N	E	I	G	H	B	O	U	R	R	W
F	E	C	I	T	S	U	J	K	R	A	B
P	N	C	Q	Y	N	V	P	H	E	T	S
P	E	R	S	E	V	E	R	A	N	C	E
B	H	O	P	E	S	P	A	P	Z	C	F
L	W	Y	A	D	S	A	E	T	L	H	V
L	M	R	U	S	U	F	R	E	I	E	H
B	G	A	W	T	Q	A	D	A	K	I	H
J	W	O	D	I	W	X	N	V	H	S	R
P	I	G	N	O	R	E	L	A	F	E	J

THINK TOGETHER Words of Wisdom

"If at first you don't succeed try, try and try again."

W.E. Hickson



FAMILY FOCUS

The Perseverance Challenge

Ask each member of the family to write (on identical pieces of paper) a challenge that will require **perseverance** to complete. Fold the paper 4 times and place it in a bag with the others. Invite each person to place their hand into the bag (whilst looking the other way) and pick out a challenge which they have one week to complete. (Think carefully about the challenge you set and if possible make it a worthwhile and useful thing to do).



HOME-SCHOOL CHALLENGE



Mosaics are one of the oldest ways to make art. People have been arranging tiny coloured pieces of glass or pottery for thousands of years to create beautiful designs. But the process is time consuming and needs lots of **perseverance**. This term's Home-School Challenge is to make a mosaic picture (no bigger than A3 – 29x42cm) using small pieces of coloured paper. The subject of your mosaic is up to you. It could be a pattern or a picture.

All the pictures submitted will be displayed in our school Challenge Gallery.



HALL OF FAME

Prince George

Prince George, later to become King George VI, had always been shy and had developed a stammer, which meant he could not speak for very long without struggling to say the words he wanted to say.

His elder brother, Edward, was very different. He was confident, loved to be the centre of attention and was destined to become King of England.

But soon after the coronation, King Edward announced that he was going to abdicate – to give up being king. His younger brother would now become king in his place. George was horrified! He felt sick with fright. Now he would be expected to deliver speeches and give radio broadcasts to millions! How would he be able to do this with his dreadful stammer? But George knew that it was his duty to serve his country.



He knew that he must overcome his fears and do his very best. He employed an Australian speech therapist to help him and with **perseverance** and great courage George was able to face the challenges ahead. When war was declared in 1939 King George gave a famous speech. He comforted and encouraged his people and won everyone's respect because they knew how brave he was being.



FASCINATING FACTS

Perseverance in the Natural World

Many birds show remarkable **perseverance** as they build their nests, piece by piece often in cold, wet and windy weather and at risk from predators.

The long-tailed tit is just one example. Weighing just 9g, this little bird takes 3 weeks or more to build a nest. The oval shaped nest is made from moss, cobwebs and hair, covered on the outside with lichen and lined with up to 2000 tiny feathers!

