



**MILTON KEYNES**  
**PREPARATORY SCHOOL**

## **MKPS School Newsletter**

### **Autumn Term 2018**

In addition to the news sheet already sent/emailed to you, informing you about our wonderful new Farm building and upgraded networking systems throughout school, this newsletter gives details of events happening in school this term.

### **Parents' Meetings**

#### **1. Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 5pm**

##### **Class 4 Parents and Parents who are new to the school in Class 5: Curriculum Meeting**

You are invited to an important meeting about the curriculum and in particular, the teaching of Reading and Mathematics.

Children do not attend this meeting, which will end by 6pm.

#### **2. Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October 4pm – 6pm**

**Class 8 Parents** are invited to make an on-line appointment with their form tutor to discuss how their children are settling into the prep routine.

#### **3. Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 5pm – 6pm**

##### **Class 9 Parents and Parents new to the school in Class 10: Senior School Workshop**

You are invited to attend this workshop to learn about the work the children will be undertaking to prepare for senior school entry.

### **Staff News**

We welcome several new members of staff this term:

Dr Jarrett, Head of Music  
Ms Fernandes, IT teacher  
Mrs Homer, class 8 form tutor  
Miss Vaux, class 5 teacher  
Mrs Foulger, academic achievement manager and teacher  
We welcome our new members of Nursery staff

## **Theme for the Term**

Our theme for this term is Resilience. The children will be encouraged to persevere, to overcome difficulties and to learn from mistakes.

## **Term Dates 2018 to 2019**

Term dates can be downloaded from the school website, or you can collect a copy from the rack outside the reception office.

## **Parent Zone of the Website**

View the term's diary dates on the Google calendar within the school's website.  
Log into the Parent Zone on the website to see news per department, letters, menus etc.  
View staff email addresses.  
See the Sports department news in the Sports Zone.

## **Parent App**

Keep in touch with what's going on at school by using the school's app.

If you search **myprep** in the app store you will find it or come to the office for information.

We recommend that you create a PIN which is private. You can use this if you wish to submit a child's absence notification via the app.

## **Sports Department News**

We offer a wide range of sports clubs, team training and activities before and after school, in addition to timetabled Games and PE lessons.

### **Out-of School Achievements**

Let the sports staff know of any achievements for your child out of school – provide a photograph and a piece of text, for our Achievement board.

### **Sports Tour to Madrid, Monday 15<sup>th</sup> to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October**

Our first teams in football and girls' hockey are visiting Madrid for a week, where they will train with professional coaches, play matches and be taken sightseeing.

## **Music Department News**

This is always busy term for the Music Department, leading up to Christmas.

There are many opportunities for prep department pupils to get involved in music groups and choirs after school or at lunchtimes – please see the Music noticeboard and the Prep Clubs Leaflet for details.

## **Christmas Productions for Parents to attend**

- Classes 8 and 9 production in the sports hall on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm.
- Classes 10 and 11 production in the sports hall on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm.
- Classes 4, 5, 6 and 7 will perform their Christmas plays in their year groups in the sports hall, during the afternoon of Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December.
- Class 3 children will perform at 9.15am on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

## **Fund-Raising for Medical Detection Dogs, 2018 to 2019**

This year we are supporting the national charity, Medical Detection Dogs. Puppies are trained by sniffing, to detect certain medical conditions like diabetes and then “tell” their owner what they have found.

We hope to raise enough (£4000) to enable the charity to purchase a puppy, buy its initial equipment and pay for all the associated costs for a year.

## **Fund-Raising for the Children’s Ward at Milton Keynes Hospital**

Thank you to everyone who contributed in any way to our fund-raising last year. Money raised in school and by the Parents’ Association has amounted to £4500, thanks to your generosity.

We are arranging to invite a representative from the children’s ward to an assembly to receive our cheque and tell the children how our donation will be spent.

## **Residential Trips for Preparatory Department Pupils**

We have 3 residential trips for our preparatory department pupils this academic year:

### **1. October 2018                      Madrid Sports Tour**

Our first teams in football and girls’ hockey will visit Madrid from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> to Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October, where they will train with professional coaches, play matches and go sightseeing.

### **2. March 2018                      Ski Trip to France**

Our ski trip for classes 9 to 11 takes place from Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2019.

### **3. May 2018                      Junior Prep Trip**

A party of class 8 and 9 pupils are going to an activity centre in Weymouth from 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> May 2019, to enjoy 3 days of physical challenges and activities, away from home.

## **Christmas Fair Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 3pm – 5.30pm**

We will be holding a Christmas Fair in the sports hall, with stalls, games, Father Christmas's Grotto and much more – something for the whole family to enjoy. Please come along to join in the fun and also please do offer some help if you can!

Our Parents' Association will be arranging the details of this and lists will appear for you to sign against an activity that you could offer a little time to run or organise.

If you would like to get in touch, please contact members of the association by email at [mkpsparents@yahoo.com](mailto:mkpsparents@yahoo.com)

All profits will be donated to Medical Detection Dogs, our charity.

## **This Term's Events**

### **a) First half of term (in chronological order)**

#### **Curriculum Meeting - Class 4 Parents and Parents who are new to the school in Class 5**

**Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 5pm**

You are invited to an important meeting about the teaching of Reading and Mathematics. Your children do not accompany you. It will finish by 6pm.

#### **Harvest Festival**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October**

Today the older children will celebrate Harvest Festival in assembly. We are collecting dried and tinned foods for the Milton Keynes Food Bank. Donations are welcome from everyone in school and should be brought in on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup>.

#### **Class 8 Parents: Meet Your Child's Form Tutor**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October between 4pm and 6pm**

Class 8 parents are invited to make an appointment on line to meet their child's form tutor between 4pm and 6pm, to see how he/she is settling into the preparatory department.

#### **Classes 9 and 10 Parents' Workshop**

**Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October at 5pm**

We are running a workshop for classes 9 and 10 parents focusing on the preparation for senior school entry. This is solely for parents, not children.

## **Open Mornings for Prospective Families**

This term we have 3 Open Mornings for prospective families, all of which run between 10am and 11.30am:

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October, Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> October, Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November**

If you have friends or colleagues who may be interested in the school, please give them these dates or ask them to telephone for further information.

## **Parents' Association Charity Cake Sale**

**Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October** Children may bring 50p to school to buy a cake

Our cake sales are always very popular and demonstrate our parents' great "Bake-Off" skills!

We rely on your generosity to make some individual cakes, tray bakes, biscuits, to sell. These will be sold as individual items to the children in the morning.

No Nuts or nut products please.

Further details will be sent out by our Parents' Association closer to the time.  
All profits will be donated to our charity, Medical Detection Dogs.

## **b) Second half of term (in chronological order)**

### **Revision Week, Classes 10 and 11**

Week beginning Monday 29<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Open Morning for Parents in Classes 4 and 5**

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November from 9.15am – 10am.

This is for any parents in classes 4 and 5 who would like to see the older classes at work.  
Appointments are not necessary.

### **Exams and Results Cards, Classes 10 and 11**

Exams: Week beginning Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November  
Results cards will be sent home on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Classes 8 and 9 Assessment Cards**

Assessment cards will be sent home on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November.

## **Parent Consultations Class 8**

### **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> November**

Consultations with form tutors

Appointments will be made via our on-line booking system, 8 - 8.30am and from 4pm.

## **Parent Consultations Class 9**

### **Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November**

Consultations with form tutors

Appointments will be made via our on-line booking system, 8 – 8.30am and from 4pm

## **Parent Consultations Class 10**

### **Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November**

Consultations with subject teachers

Appointments will be made via our on-line booking system, 8 – 8.30am and from 4pm

## **Parent Consultations Class 11**

### **Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November**

Consultations with subject staff

Appointments will be made via our on-line booking system, 8 – 8.30am and from 4pm

## **Parent Consultations - Classes 3 to 7**

### **Monday 19<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> and Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> November.**

The dates per actual class will be given after half term, in the class newsletters.

Appointments will be made via our on-line booking system.

## **Pre-Prep Christmas Productions**

We would like to invite you to our concerts on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December:

**Class 3** 9.15am

**Class 4** 1.15pm

**Class 5** 2pm

**Class 6** 2.45pm

**Class 7** 3.30pm

## **Prep Christmas Production, classes 8 and 9**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm in the sports hall. Everyone welcome!

## **Prep Christmas Production, classes 10 and 11**

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 5pm in the sports hall. Everyone welcome!

## **Christmas Fair 3pm – 5.30pm Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December**

Please see page 4 for information and please let us know if you would like to get involved.

## **Class Parties Nursery and Pre-Prep Departments**

### **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December**

Nursery and Pre-Prep classes 3 to 7 will have parties in the morning, with a party lunch.

Children may come to school in party clothes that day, but please remember that shoes should be suitable for school and outdoor jackets will be required.

Part-time children, who do not attend on Thursday mornings, are invited to come in for the party and to be collected by 1pm.

## **Stevenson's' Uniform Selling Event**

**Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December, 8am – 11.30am** in the sports hall

## **Final Assembly on the Last Day of Term**

Final assembly on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December is primarily an occasion for the children and staff but we invite parents to join us from 3pm.

## **Christmas Holiday and Closure Dates**

Term ends: Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December. The building will be open until 6.30pm.

Playscheme: Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December, for those who have booked.

**Please note that Nursery closes and playscheme finishes for the Christmas break on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 4pm.**

**Building Closed: from 4pm on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December to 7.30am on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2019 inclusive.**

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2019: Nursery reopens  
Playscheme until Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019: Spring Term begins for Prep and Pre-Prep

# **Reminders**

## **Matron's Reminders**

Any medication must be brought into the building by parents. Children should not bring in their own medicine and please never leave any in your child's bag.

**Parents in classes 3 to 11:** please come to the reception office and sign the relevant book, leaving the medicine there and collecting it from there when your child goes home.

**Nursery department parents:** please see a senior member of staff to sign the book and hand over your medicine.

## **Sickness and Diarrhoea**

If your child has diarrhoea or vomiting, he/she must stay out of school for **48** hours after the last bout, before returning, in order to protect our whole school.

## **Fire Drill Procedure**

- Should the fire alarm ring when you are in the building, please leave immediately by the nearest exit.
- Proceed to the assembly point in the front car park and await further instructions about the action which is to be taken.
- Do not go into the building to collect your child.
- Staff will follow our procedure to evacuate the children safely.

## **Car Parking**

Please be mindful of other vehicles and children using the car park, particularly later this term as the evenings and mornings become darker.

If you park in Tattenhoe Lane, do ensure that your child gets into and out of the car on the path side and never on the busy road.



## DATES SHEET AUTUMN TERM 2018

### SEPTEMBER

Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Senior School Meeting Class 9 parents	5pm
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Class 10 boys to Bedford School for the morning	8am – 12.30pm
	Class 10 girls to Bedford Girls' School	ditto
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Curriculum Meeting class 4 parents	5pm
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup>	Winter Uniform to be worn from today, classes 3-11	
	6S and ½ 6M to Thrift Farm	9.30am – 12 noon
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Class 7 to Wicksteed Park	9.30am – 3pm
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Class 4 to Woburn Safari Park	9.30am – 3pm

### OCTOBER

Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Harvest Festival Assembly	
	6I and ½ 6M to Thrift Farm	9.30am – 12 noon
	Class 8 parent appointments with form tutors	4pm – 6pm
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Last day to book for half term playscheme	
	Senior Prep boys to Northampton Saints	
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Class 8 to The Safety Centre	9.15am – 12 noon
	Classes 9 & 10 Parents' Senior School Workshop	5pm – 6pm
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Class 8 to MK Safety Centre	1.15 – 3.45pm
	Madrid Sports Tour Meeting	5pm
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Parents' Association Charity Cake Sale	morning
Saturday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning, prospective parents	10am – 11.30am
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Sports Tour leaves for Madrid	
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning, prospective parents	10am – 11.30am
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Class 5 Autumn Walk	9.30am – 11.30am
	Class 9 to Verulamium	9am – 4pm
	Sports Tour returns from Madrid	
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Half term week /Playscheme	
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Prep revision week	

### NOVEMBER

Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Exam week senior prep	
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	School photos	All day
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>	School photos	All day
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Open Morning	10am – 11.30am
	Open Morning 4's & 5's parents	9.15am – 10am
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Classes 8 & 9 Effort Cards home	
	Classes 10 and 11 Assessment Cards home	
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Consultations:	
	Pre-Prep classes 3-7	from 3pm
	Class 8 with form tutors	8 - 8.30am and from 4pm

Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Consultations: Pre-prep classes 3-7	from 3pm
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Class 9 with form tutors Parent Consultations: Classes 3 – 7	8 - 8.30am and from 4pm from 3pm
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Class 10 with subject staff Parent Consultations: Classes 3 – 7	8 - 8.30am and from 4pm from 3pm
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Class 11 with subject staff Prep Christmas Decorations, Day One, Prep	8 - 8.30am and from 4pm
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Christmas Decorations Day, Prep and Pre-Prep	

## DECEMBER

Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Pre-Prep dress rehearsals	morning
	Prep dress rehearsal	afternoon
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Pre-Prep Concerts	class 3 at 9.15, others after lunch
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Prep Production (junior prep parents)	5pm
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Prep Production (senior prep parents)	5pm
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Flu Vaccinations classes 5-10	9am
	Christmas Fair	3pm – 5.30pm
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Class 8 to pantomime, Aylesbury	10.30am
	Theatre production for pre-prep	9.15am
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Pre-Prep and Nursery parties	morning plus lunch
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	End of term Christmas lunch, all departments Final Assembly	
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Playscheme and Nursery close at 4pm <b>The building closes at 4pm</b>	

**Building closed from 4pm on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December to 7.30am on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2019 inclusive.**

Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2019:	Nursery reopens Playscheme up to and including Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2019
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2019:	Spring Term begins for Prep and Pre-Prep