



Newsletter: 31.1.20

## Behaviour

Children who demonstrate expected behaviour are recognised in class. This week 182 children have been ready, respectful, safe and kind at all times.

Nursery	Reception	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4	Class 5
30/30	27/29	23/24	20/20	32/34	30/32	20/20

**WELL DONE!**

## Attendance and Lates

This week 96.8% and 7 late.  
Our attendance target for the year is 97%  
Year to date: 96.9%

Nursery  
89.6% 0 late

Reception  
95.8% 1 late

Class 1  
97.7% 2 late

Class 2  
97.8% 2 late

Class 3  
99% 2 late

Class 4  
95.2% 0 late

Class 5  
93.4% 0 late

## Hot Choc Friday!

Children who show 'over and above' excellent behaviour can have hot chocolate on Fridays. [Follow us on twitter #HotChocFri.](#)

**This week's #HotChocFri winners are:**

K M, J B H, L M and E M.

Will it be you next time?

## Stars of the week

Nursery: M W

Reception: A L

Class 1: I R

Class 2: E J

Class 3: A B

Class 4: G M and R O

Class 5: G W

**Well Done!**

## Up and Coming Key Dates

6 Feb 20	KS2 Magna visit
7 Feb 20	Parent voice 2.30pm
13 Feb 20	Valentine's disco 3-4 for EYFS and KS1, 4.30-6 for KS2
14 Feb 20	Break up for half term
24 Feb 20	Return to school after half term
24 Feb 20	Reward Assemblies 9am EYFS and KS1 2.30pm KS2
Week beg. 16 March 20	Book Fayre
17 March	Author visit (Maz Evans) and world book day celebrations
18, 19 March 20	Parents' evening
26 March 20	Non uniform day for Easter fayre
2 April 20	Easter fayre
3 April 20	Parent voice 9am, break up for Easter
22 May 20, 1 June 20, 20 July 20	<b>INSET DAYS – Please use these for holidays</b>

**Leadership Signposting:** If you have any concerns or questions about your child's learning or the work of the school please speak to their class teacher or a member of the Leadership Team before or after school. If your question is more in depth please make an appointment to see the class teacher. Mrs Thompson, Mrs Stevenson, Ms Samuels and Mr West are happy to meet with any parents who would like to speak to us. If we are free we will see you immediately but if not please make an appointment with the office and we will meet with you as soon as possible.



Follow us on twitter at the class pages above and our whole school, website linked account  
[@MillDamSchool](#)



## Nursery @MD\_EYFS

This week we have been thinking about rhyming words in many different ways. We have used rhyming in our phonics then practised in our reading area. We have been digging for rhyming words and pictures in the sand. We have been singing and identifying rhymes.

Using music, we listened to how the music made us feel and then moved in an appropriate way.

In maths we have been counting modes of transport in our maths books and in our writing books we have been 'driving' our pencils along a road to form letters.

## Reception @MD\_Reception

"When Duffy was ready to start, he saw an old lady running down the platform. "I'll help you," he said. But he forgot to put the brake on and the little red train set off down the track ..." The Runaway Train by Benedict Blathwayt has been one of our favourite stories this week. The children have been learning how a steam train moves and we have been looking at old and new trains discussing their similarities and differences. This week

we have sent home a letter about our school trip to York Railway Museum. We are eager to learn as much as we can before this exciting trip. In maths, we have been learning about number eight. We have been learning which number sentences make eight as well as counting in various ways to see if we say the number eight. In phonics we have been learning, sh, ch, th as well as ir, air, and ou.

## Class 1 @MD\_Class1

'So how does a boat stay afloat, when it's made of metal, but a car sinks?' enquired one of our children; a perfect time to carry out an experiment and just see what a boat needs to stay afloat. We worked with four different materials and the children realised that, not only does the material have to be waterproof, but the shape plays an important part in their creations. The favourite material, from the four chosen, was clay. After working with the materials, the children worked out that spreading the weight over a larger area, and the fact that it contained air, allowed it to float. 'So what would happen if the clay was sausage shaped?' came a voice..... Well, I'll leave that one for you to try at home. It would be great if you bring in your conclusions and we'll share them with the rest of the class.

## Class 2 @MD\_Class2

In literacy, this week, we have looked at the different types of sentences, identifying statements, questions, commands and exclamation sentences. We then increased our questioning skills by developing questions for Brigg, the character in the book, 'The Flower.' We focused on his feelings and emotions in different parts of the book and, in role, sat in the 'Hot Seat' to answer some of those questions. In maths we have been subtracting two digit numbers from two digit numbers and are beginning to exchange a ten for ten ones to help us find an answer to a calculation. In science we have been trying to find ways to make absorbent materials waterproof. We then tested the materials with water to see which was the most effective process. We are now going to use some waterproof materials to make boats, so if you have materials suitable for making boats, we would be grateful if you could send them into school. Thank you.

## Class 3 @MD\_Class3

Another week of fantastic learning for Team 3 with some amazing new experiences: Year 4 have had their first Forest Schools session and these will become a regular feature of our learning, we have prototyped our ideas for bridges, started a new text in English, funky new moves in PE, some Italian in our music sessions and new methods for division in Maths.

Some of our team members don't appear to be practicing their times tables or spellings, every learner is given a sheet of times tables to practice on a Friday and has been given a spelling list. These are tested on a Friday so they do need to spend time at home practicing.

Thursday is our KS2 trip to Magna, learners need to be in their school uniforms but with a warm coat as it gets cold at Magna, need to remember to bring any medication with them, a packed lunch and water bottle and may bring up to £5 spending money.

Sunday is also the first week of this year's Schools Parkrun competition, we are the current champions and all we need to do to smash it again is turn up for each other on Sunday morning. Adults don't even need to run as there are marshals all the way along the course and Mr W will be running with them.

## Class 4 @MD\_Class4

This has been another eventful week with Y4 experiencing Forest Schools where they developed their cooperation skills through trust games before making clay sculptures and leaves. In preparation for our hot write the class have been working hard to develop their sentence structures and have been successful and I'm looking forward to reading this work. We have been working on division in maths and any extra practice you can do with your child will be very beneficial. As part of our topic work the children have thought about and designed a means of transporting five people as well as goods from one mountainside to another. They are now being to build their transport, making changes as they do. Our Cloakroom is showing a great improvement which I hope will continue. Thank you for your support with this it has really made a difference. A reminder about bringing in P.E kit on Monday please. Also that I have asked the children to record on our '4 is the magic number' sheet books they read at home to earn a certificate every month. At the end of the year they will get a large certificate that celebrates their reading.

## Class 5 @MD\_Class5

We have had a really pleasing SATs practice week this week. The children have worked really hard and shown determination and resilience throughout and certainly couldn't have tried any harder! All of the class are showing improvement in many areas since the last tests in December. I have sent the tests papers home with the children - this will enable you to see how well they are doing and also which areas require more practice. It would be great if you could help your children find the weak areas in their revision books and have a look at those areas together over the coming weeks. Other than that the class have worked hard in PE (Korfball and gymnastics) Science (investigating circuits) and D & T (starting to make model volcanoes). Please note that there is no after school booster next week. The next one will be a reading booster Tuesday 11th February.

## Mrs Thompson @MD\_MrsThompson

Another fantastic week draws to a close and February looms; hopefully we will make it through the rest of the winter without snow but please remember to check texts, twitter, facebook and local radio stations if we do have any flakes as we will send messages about whether school is open through these channels. You may have noticed from the dates box that the Waterton music concert has been postponed. This will be rescheduled during the summer term. The first parent voice for this term is scheduled for next Friday and this had been missed on earlier newsletters. Please accept our apologies for the late notice for this. Parking has generally improved again outside school but we have still had one resident whose driveway has been blocked. A further concern here is that some parents are letting their children straight out of car doors into the road. A member of staff witnessed this with an EYFS child this week. Fortunately the staff member was driving slowly and carefully and so was able to stop with space to spare but other road users drive at greater speed around school. Careless parking which limits drivers' view and allowing children out onto the road are very dangerous. PLEASE help us to stop this and keep our children safe.

