

Friday 16th October 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

I have a heart-warming story for you about one of our pupils who can only be described as a Hero - I hope you'll all agree.

In mum's words:

Alex and I were sat in the van waiting for dad in B&Q. Alex alerted me that a man had hurt himself. Alex sounded very panicked. When I looked a woman had collapsed in the car park behind our van. She was in actual fact very poorly (diabetic hypo) so I rushed to help. Alex then came out of the van with his mask on his face, carrying his dad's first aid kit. I had no idea where the mask or first aid kit were kept and was amazed that Alex knew what to do. I was very proud and praised him for being so helpful.

What makes us more proud of Alex is his voice can be very quiet, so to share such important information audibly is fantastic. Really well done, Alex, from everybody at Mill Water.

Coffee Morning

Thank you to those parents that joined us for our first online coffee morning. Although we were few in number, a lot of information was shared and it was very useful to hear from parents about what it was like at home during the initial stages of lockdown. Thank you to those who joined and for being so open in our discussions.

I plan to hold virtual coffee mornings each half term to ensure we stay connected as a school community and will let you know the focus for each one in due course. Any suggestions you have, please let us know via your teacher or school admin.

School Photos

ACTION REQUIRED

A letter has gone home about Tempest school photos. Please ensure you complete the form giving permission. **We will not take your child's school photo without permission** due to the very strange circumstances we are in. No siblings from other schools please.

Readers of the Week!

Jessica - for reading really well with parents at home.

Mackenzy - for showing great improvement since returning to school and regaining his phonic knowledge.

Communicator of the Week!

Jack - he used his AAC talker to independently write a complete sentence to ask for help at home

Artist of the Week!

Jaxx - he drew the most amazing picture of Mr Bean using an art program on the laptop during a digital art lesson this week

Apple Week 2020 once again proved a highlight in our annual calendar. Pupils loved the hands-on experience of picking, chopping, and pressing the apples harvested from our orchard, and then tasting the gallons of fresh juice.

All classes and pupils got involved throughout the week; classroom activities included apple baking, painting, poems and more.

We are so lucky to have an amazing orchard here at school, which provides an abundance of opportunities for outdoor learning throughout the year - from blossom in the spring through to leaf drop and dormancy in deepest winter! Here are just a few photos of all the fun...

























Anglo-Saxon Day in Class 8









Class 8 pupils were transported back in time to learn about what it was like living in Anglo-Saxon times. A 'visiting' warrior dressed in chainmail demonstrated his shield and spear and explained how Anglo-Saxons were great craftsmen, making their own iron tools, knives and swords.

Theatre Visit

On Tuesday, we welcomed a visit from M&M Theatre with their semi-virtual production of The Wizard of Oz. There were three performances, which allowed all pupils to watch a performance in their bubbles. The children loved the music and songs and their concentration throughout the hour-long show was amazing. Theatre, drama and music are so important to our pupils and it has been wonderful to be able to give them this experience during the current restrictions. We look forward to welcoming M&M Theatre back to Mill Water in 2021.







Signposting

We've added a very useful resource to the website about online safety and young people. https://www.millwater.devon.sch.uk/web/online_safety_help_for_parents

Dates for your diary			
What	When	Time	Where
Last day of Term	Friday 23 rd October	2.15pm	
First day of Autumn Term 2	Monday 2 nd November	9am	
Halloween Dress up (OPTIONAL)	Monday 2 nd November	All day	Mill Water
Virtual Coffee morning	Tuesday 17 th November	10.00am	Online
Occasional day	Friday 27 th November	All day	
Occasional day	Monday 30 th November	All day	
Break for Christmas	Friday 18 th December	2.15pm	

Raffle

Don't forget to sell your raffle tickets to family and friends! We sent the books home in your child's bag last week. There's a chance to win £1,000 and the Otter Valley Rotary Club are kindly donating 90% of all tickets sold to Mill Water. So far we have sold £126 worth of tickets. If you would like more tickets to sell, please email Georgia at gwhite@millwater.devon.sch.uk

Thank you and good luck!

