



# Mill Water School

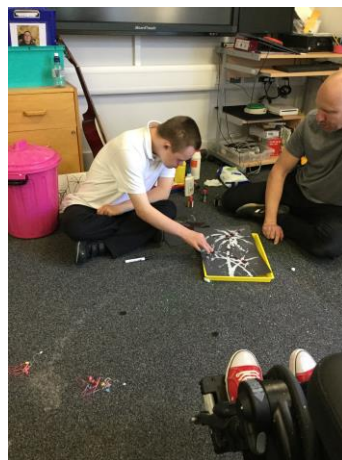
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13<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

## Sixth Form Activities

There's been a hive of activity in Sixth Form this week, including an outing to explore our local communities and a trip to Budleigh beach (whilst observing Covid distancing). Alfie has been extra helpful in class, running a bucket session and being really kind to his peers. And there's been some fantastic rebound/physio sessions, with both Isabella and Josh particularly enjoying the trampoline. The smiles say it all!





## Topical baking and art in Class 2



Tiggy has been a super star this week and was a super cook, making our rocky road cake for Children in Need; while Kingslea made a wonderful Diwali picture. We shall share a full round up of all the fun Children in Need activities on Monday!



## Remembrance Day



The whole school joined forces in marking Remembrance Day. Pupils watched live remembrance services on the news, observed the 2 minute silence and laid dozens of wreaths, poppies and crosses that they had made in advance in class to mark the anniversary. They even created their own Covid-friendly 'cenotaph' in their school apple orchard. Class 12 pupils did themselves particularly proud in representing the school at East Budleigh's memorial. Here Callum and Charlie laid a wreath made in class and they were joined (at a social

distance) by Mill Water school governor Andrew Canning, who is also a former Royal Marine. It was important that we paid our respects at the epitaph of our local community and remembered those that sacrificed their lives for future generations. In these challenging times, it is as crucial now as it was then that our communities pull together.





## School Christmas lunch

Don't forget to put your order request in for our festive Christmas lunch, to be held in school on Wednesday December 16<sup>th</sup>. Cost: £2.50 (standard school dinner cost). No cost applies to pupils on free school meals. Letters have been sent home. Please return orders (using slip provided) by Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

## Wheely good fundraising and communications news

We're delighted to be the recipient of another round of funding, this time from British Cycling's 'Places to Ride' scheme. They are donating **£9,000** to enable us to update our suite of specialist bikes and trikes.

The funding is in response to a recognised lack of disabled cycling opportunities for young people in our region. Cycling is hugely popular at Mill Water and you will always see pupils whizzing around at break time. It provides not just exercise, but also social skills and supports mental health. It helps children release energy so that they can settle and focus better when in class. So this money will be a game changer for facilitating more cycling activities.



REMEMBER: follow us on our Facebook page [@MillWaterSchoolDevon](https://www.facebook.com/MillWaterSchoolDevon) for loads of useful information and news about what's happening at school.

## Letter from Vicky Ford MP

We have published a letter on our website from **Vicky Ford MP** (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families), who has written to say all children and young people unless directed by a medical professional should be in school.

*..." Education settings have implemented a range of protective measures to make them as safe as possible and the latest medical advice from senior clinicians is that school is the best place for children and young people to be."*

*"During the course of the pandemic, further evidence has emerged which shows that the risk of children becoming very unwell from COVID-19 is very low – including those who have existing health conditions. Parents whose children were originally identified as being clinically extremely vulnerable should speak to their child's specialist clinician or GP, if they have not done so already, to understand whether their child should continue to be classed as clinically extremely vulnerable and what the appropriate advice is. Those aged 18 or over who have been identified as clinically extremely vulnerable will receive a letter informing them of the new guidance they are advised to follow. They do not need to contact their clinician"*

I certainly want all our pupils to be in school and am happy to have conversations with those parents who are as yet unsure about returning to hopefully alleviate any individual concerns.

## SIGNPOSTING...

Check out Devon's youth support at Space. It runs online sessions for young SEN people, plus has loads of digital resources for this current time

<https://spacepsm.org>



Equine facilitated learning allows you to interact in a world where you are not judged by your behaviour, emotions or characteristics. See Anna's horse therapy website

<https://hoofandheart.com>

## Dates for your diary

What	When	Time	Where
Occasional Day	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	All day	
Occasional Day	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> November 2020	All day	
Virtual coffee morning for new parents	Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	10.00am	Online
Christmas lunch	Wednesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Lunchtime	School
Last day of term	Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2020	2.15 pm	