Oxfordshire County Council

**Mill Lane Community Primary School**

**The Windmill Community Nursery**

**Mill Lane Chinnor Oxfordshire OX39 4RF**

**Head Teacher Miss Tineke van der Ploeg**

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Tuesday 6th June 2023

Dear Parents,

I hope you have enjoyed the extended half term break and the good weather that we have had. This is a very busy term and we have lots of exciting events planned to end the year on a high note. All important dates can be found at the end of this newsletter.

**Staffing & Transition**

Mrs Redrup continues to be on maternity leave for the first part of next year so Miss Curry, who has successfully completed her teacher training with us will be joining us as a fully qualified teacher. Mrs Kershaw will go back to teaching for 4 days with Mr Thompson covering the other day. Mr Thompson will also have time out of class to work alongside the class teachers to develop their skills and the curriculum. Mrs Godfrey will be changing her role from a teaching assistant to a trainee teacher as the school supports her in her bid to become a qualified teacher. She will be working alongside Mrs Palmer in Class 1.

Below is a list of which teachers will be in which class from September:

**Nursery**: Mrs Amanda Payne

**Reception Class**: Mrs Suzie Pocock

**Class 1:** Mrs Nicky Palmer & Mrs Godfrey

**Class 2:** Miss Curry

**Class 3:** Mrs Polly Evans

**Class 4:** Mrs Ali Kershaw & Mr Sam Thompson

**Class 5:** Miss Imogen Rea

**Class 6:** Miss Amanda Moseley

The children will have time in their new classes on Friday 7th July.

**Arts Week:**

The very first Mill Lane Arts Week will be taking place during the week of Monday 19th June. To start the week off there will be an assembly from a Swing Band and there will be Samba drumming workshops on Thursday 22nd June. Mrs Payne is busy working with parents who have volunteered to introduce children to a range of arts, crafts and music activities.

**Science Week:**

During the week of Monday 26th June, we will be holding a science week full of mini challenges and workshops. The week will start with a whole school assembly on Monday as we look at famous scientists and inventions and demonstrate a few experiments that can be done using everyday items. The ‘Spirit of the Wild’ company will be in again bringing in some animals for the children to meet again on Friday 30th June. On Wednesday 28th there will be the ‘Silly Science’ workshop to wow the children with whacky science experiments. Finally, the children will be able to visit the planetarium on Tuesday 27th June, which will be set up in the main hall. Like last year, this should be a very memorable week for the children.

**Sports Week:**

We are really looking forward to being able to run our usual sports day and BBQ this year. Put Friday 14th July in your diaries to come and watch the children take part in individual races and then a carousel of activities. As usual sports day will be rounded off with a BBQ and picnic. More information will follow. Sports day will mark the end of a week where children will have had the opportunity to try a range of new activities. On Monday 10th July there will be an activity wall to test the children’s climbing skills, Tuesday11th July is a Capoeira workshop and on Wednesday 12th July the children will try Kurling. Finally, there will be caving and archery on Thursday 13th July.

**Parent Consultations:**

We are intending to send out an annual pupil report to highlight where the children are currently. This report will go out on Monday 10th July. You will have the opportunity to discuss your child’s report on Wednesday 12th July when we will be holding parent consultations at 3.15pm – 8pm. More information about this will follow nearer the time.

**Holiday Clubs**

We wanted to give you an early heads up about forthcoming holiday clubs for the summer. There will be holiday clubs on offer for most of the summer holiday either provided by Mill Lane or by a local company called Shields & Dragons. Mill Lane will be providing a club from Monday 24th July to Friday 28th July and will then run one from Tuesday 29th August to Friday 1st September. Bookings can be made via the School Gateway portal. Shields and Dragons will be also be providing activities during the holidays and we will let you know the dates when we have them.

**Last Day of Term:**

The last day of term will be on Friday 21st July. School will finish at 1.30pm and there will be no after school club on this day.

**Events for your Diary**

Wednesday 7th June – Friday 9th June: Year 4 Camp Out

Monday 12th – Friday 16th June: Phonics Screening Test

Wednesday 14th June: Reception Class visit Hogg Show Farm

Wednesday 14th June: 2pm Choir leave for Dorchester Abbey

Thursday 15th June: KS2 Thame Partnership Sports event

Monday 19th June: Swing Band assembly

Thursday 22nd June: Samba Drumming workshops

Tuesday 27th June: Planetarium visit

Wednesday 28th June: Silly Science workshops

Friday 30th June: Spirit of the Wild workshops

Saturday 1st July: MLSA summer fete

Monday 3rd July: Year 1 & 2 seaside trip

Tuesday 4th July: KS2 dress rehearsal

Wednesday 5th July: 2pm & 7pm KS2 performance

Thursday 6th July: First Aid workshops

Friday 7th July: Class swap day

Monday 10th July: Reports go out

Monday 10th July: Activity Wall sessions

Tuesday 11th July: Capoeira workshops

Wednesday 12th July: Kurling

Wednesday 12th July: 3.15pm – 8pm Parents Evening

Thursday 13th July: Archery and Caving

Friday 14th July: 9.30am Sports Day and BBQ

Friday 21st July Last day of term (school closes 1.30pm)

**Term Dates 2023 – 2024**

**Term 1:** Tuesday 5th September 2023 to Friday 20th October 2023

INSET Day Friday 1st September, Monday 4th September & Friday 6th October

**Term 2:** Monday 30th October 2023 to Wednesday 20th December 2023 (1.30pm finish)

**Term 3:**  Tuesday 9th January to Friday 9th February 2024

INSET Day Monday 8th January 2024

**Term 4:** Monday 19th February 2024 to Thursday 28th March 2024 (1.30pm finish)

**Term 5:** Monday 15th April 2024 to Friday 24th May

Bank Holiday 6th May 2024

**Term 6:** Tuesday 4th June 2024 to Wednesday 24th July 2024 (1.30pm finish)

INSET Day Monday 3rd June

Yours sincerely,

Tineke van der Ploeg