



# Newsletter

Issue 2  
October 2023

## Parent -Teacher Interviews

Parent teacher interviews will be taking place from 23rd-27th October. During the interview week, pupils will finish at 1:30pm (N-P3) and 1:40pm (P4-7) to allow for interviews to take place. After school care will run as normal.

If the time of the interview slot given to you is unsuitable you can contact the office and an alternative time slot will be provided.

These appointments can take place either in person within the classroom or via phone call if that is a more convenient option.



If you will recall the beautiful pieces of Christmas Artwork your children produced last year, which were printed onto cards, tea-towels, mugs etc. Your generous purchases made the project a great success and the funds raised helped to buy items for your children to use in school.

At the first meeting of FMPS / PTA in September, we decided to run this fundraising project again. In addition to the products available last year, the Class Fundraising Company is offering Limited Edition Teddy Bears, Reindeers, Jigsaws and Cushion covers.

More details on how you can order products showing your child's artwork, will be sent home within the next few weeks.

## Staff Retirements

We would like to bring to your attention the details of two recent retirements from our school staff. Firstly, Mrs Fredagh Harris.

Mrs Harris joined our school back in 2007 and within a short time became part of our Nursery Unit team, just 4 years after the construction of our current nursery building. Mrs Harris will be very familiar to many of our past pupils given her role in supporting the first steps into education of so many children from the village. In more recent times, Mrs Harris worked alongside Mrs Gillespie and Mrs MacCormack in implementing our highly successful 'Curiosity Approach' to early years education. Mrs Harris leaves with the well wishes of all our pupils, parents and staff.

We also bring the news of the retirement of Mr John McCready. Mr McCready took over as Building Supervisor following the retirement of Mr Tom McMinn in 2017. Mr McCready will be fondly remembered by our pupils for his visits on behalf of Santa Claus, delivering FMPS Christmas gifts around the school. We were unable to bring you this news in June with the details of both staff members' retirements being finalised over the summer.

We wish both Mrs Harris and Mr McCready a long and happy retirement and thank them for their service to our school. Neither of our former staff members are overly fond of a fuss and as such have both been presented privately with a leaving gift on behalf of our pupils, parents and staff.



## Fire Drill

Our first Fire Drill was scheduled to take place on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September, but was cancelled on 2 consecutive weeks due to inclement weather. We managed to conduct a very successful drill on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September.

## FMPS Halloween Disco

Our Halloween Disco will take place on **26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023!**

The **P4-P7 disco** will begin at **6:30pm** with entrance via the main reception (P4 and P5) and the blue gate (P6 and P7) from 6:25pm. Pupils should be picked up from the main reception doors at 7:45pm. **No pupil is permitted to walk home without an adult.**

There will be an entrance fee of **£1.50** (*payable via School Money*) as well as a tuck shop on the night. All money raised by the FMPS will be used to purchase additional educational resources for our pupils.

The Nursery-P3 disco will happen during the school day on **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October**. There will be **no admission fee** for pupils and no tuck shop in operation. However, the day will be a **non-uniform day for all pupils** with our younger pupils invited to dress up in costume should they wish to. Mrs Hawthorne will be DJ for our younger pupils and school council members will be joining our younger pupils to act as 'buddies' during their disco.

**Please note, we are requesting that pupils do not dress up as characters from over 18 horror films. We have absolutely no desire to spoil anyone's fun but feel that such costumes are inappropriate for a school event.**



## School Calendar

### October to December 2023

October 2nd	School dinners commence for Nursery and P1
October 10th	Flu vaccinations for pupils
October 23 – 27	Parent / Teacher meetings School closing at 1.30 / 1.45 pm all week)
October 27	Pupils finish for half-term
November 6	Pupils return after half -term
November 11	SEAG Transfer Test 1
November 25	SEAG Transfer Test 2
December 1	After School Clubs finish for Term 1 as teachers begin Nativity preparations
December 6 <sup>th</sup>	Last swimming session for P6
December 21 <sup>st</sup>	School closes for Christmas Holidays Pupils finish at 12.15 / 12.30
January 4 <sup>th</sup> 2024	School recommences after Christmas Holidays

## Contact Us



### CONTACT & SOCIAL MEDIA

Email: [info@millisleps.newtownards.ni.sch.uk](mailto:info@millisleps.newtownards.ni.sch.uk)

Website: [www.millisleprimary.co.uk](http://www.millisleprimary.co.uk)

Class Teachers: **Class Dojo** (*during school hours*)

Twitter: **Millisle Primary @Millisle PS**

Facebook.com/millisleps