

Milverton Community Primary and Pre-School

Milverton

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We Care. We Aspire. We Belong

Dear Parents and Carers,

17th January, 2020

Happy New Year! We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and we are pleased that the children have settled back into school well and are eager to learn and enthusiastic about our new quest 'Times Gone By'. Through this Quest, we will be exploring how we have changed and grown and thinking about our own family history and our family traditions and cultures. But before we start thinking about ourselves, we have a mission to solve! Over the Christmas Holidays a nest has been built in our classroom and some mysterious eggs have been discovered! We will be using all of our senses to become investigators and find out more about these eggs, exploring different forms of information to see if we can find out where they have come from and what might be about to hatch! We will keep you updated as we find out more.

(Please see the overview attached for more information on what we will be learning this term).

A big thank you for supporting your child with their reading at home. The progress they have all been making has been fantastic. We cannot emphasize enough the importance of sharing stories with your child every day, even if this is only a few pages of their book. Children's early reading skills develop through talking about books, listening carefully to sounds in words and blending these sounds together. Please try to hear your child read at least a few pages everyday as this increases their confidence and regular practise helps to build on their blending skills as well as their fluency. On occasion you will find a bookmark of tricky words or words containing specific phonic sounds - please help your child practise to read and spell these words.

We are very lucky to have some parents and grandparents who visit us every week to hear the children read. We would always welcome some extra helpers – afternoons are best. If you can spare just a small amount of time, please let us know.

The children love receiving WOW cards and they are a real insight into the children's lives outside of school and their skills and development. Please can we encourage you to continue to share these with us as much as possible (WOW cards will be available on the display board just outside of the classroom).

'Special Star Person' continues! The children who have already been Special Star Person have been fantastic and have loved sharing their special things as much as we have enjoyed finding out all about them. Do not worry - everyone will get the chance to shine! 'Special Star Person' is an opportunity for your child to gain self –confidence and expand their communication and language skills by talking to the class about their interests, hobbies and personal experiences. The special star person date for your child will be given to you a week before their special day. On this date, your child will have the opportunity to bring in a selection of items, for example family photos,



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Milverton School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our pupils and expects all staff and parents to share this commitment.

objects related to your child's hobbies (e.g. ballet shoes), special toys or books and anything that is of interest to your child that they would like to share with the class. Your child will need to bring in their Special Star Person things on a Monday and they will be displayed in the classroom for the rest of the week. We look forward to finding out about the rest of the children's interests.

If you would like more information, please feel free to approach any member of the team (after school is probably best!) Thank you for your help and support.

**We make use of the outdoor area every day so please ensure that your child has full waterproofs and wellies in school every day.
Thank You.**

Mrs Lewis and Mrs Smith