Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you enjoyed reading last half term’s Milford Junior School News. It is lovely to see the children in their non-uniform today in order to raise money for Children In Need and JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation). I will update you in the next newsletter with the amount of money we have managed to raise. We have a lot happening in school during the rest of this half term, so please make sure you note down the key dates from the Dates for your Diary section.

Your Child’s Belongings and Clothing

Please, please, please can you make sure that all your child’s clothing and other items are named; this includes Welly boots, shoes and trainers. We have a huge pile of lost property which is not named and so we are unable to return it to its owner. If your child has lost any of their items (including lunchboxes and water bottles), please come and look in the boxes which are located outside of Mrs Laverty’s office.

Pick and Mix Homework

It has been lovely to see the children’s Pick and Mix homework. There is a lovely variety of tasks that the children have covered and they seem to have really enjoyed completing them. The adults are in the process of displaying the work and then the children will get the opportunity to look at what other children have been up to! In the next couple of weeks, there will be another set of choices for the children to complete on their current topic.

OPAL Play

We have been evaluating how OPAL play has been going since it was introduced in September. The feedback from children and staff has been really positive. Both adults and children have commented that they have seen an improvement in the behaviour and children have also said that it has made playtimes more exciting. We are gradually going to be adding opportunities throughout the year.

One change we are going to make is that children in year 6 will have the option of wearing trainers on the field instead of Welly boots (unless it is really wet). These trainers cannot be their PE trainers so they will need to bring in another pair which can be stored in the Welly sheds.
Christmas Activities
Although, it isn’t December yet, I wanted to let you know about our Christmas celebrations this year.

Choir Performances
Our Choir members have started working towards their Christmas show. This year, they will be performing ‘The Little Match Girl’ on the evenings of Wednesday 11th and Thursday 12th December. If you would like to come and see either of these performances, there will be further details in the next newsletter.

Christmas Assemblies
- Tuesday 17th December: 9.15am Year 3 Christmas Assembly, 2.30pm Year 4 Christmas Assembly
- Thursday 19th December: 9.15am Year 5 Christmas Assembly, 2.30pm Year 6 Christmas Assembly

Each year group is going to put on a Christmas Assembly for parents and carers to attend. The assemblies will take place in the hall which you will access via the school playground. It will be lovely to see lots of you there.

Christmas Lunch
We will be having our School Christmas lunch on Wednesday 18th December. If your child would like to have this, you will need to complete the booking on ParentPay by midnight on Tuesday 10th December 2019. The Christmas menu is:
- Roast Turkey with a chipolata sausage, roast potatoes, carrots, broccoli and stuffing
- or
- Quorn roast with a Quorn sausage, roast potatoes, carrots, broccoli and stuffing
- Pudding is a Christmas Muffin Tray Bake

Parking
We have been made aware that people are not always parking considerately when they are dropping off and collecting children. Please make sure you don’t block residents’ driveways and that you are not parking or waiting on the yellow zigzag lines by the school gates. The best course of action to take if you are affected by this, is to make a note of the registration number and phone 111 in order to report it. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

ParentPay
We have had a number of queries from parents with regards to payments and bookings they have made. Through the ParentPay site, you are able to access details of payments you have made, including meals you have selected, Morning Club sessions and trips you have consented to. To find this information you need follow this path on the website:
- Home Page → Transaction History → Click on the Name of your child → Select the event from the list → click search.

You will then see a list of bookings for the previous month. You can also enter which month you would like to look at from this page.

Dates for your Diary
November & December 2019
- Tuesday 19th November: Visiting Poet – workshops for all children (Letter already posted on the website)
- Friday 6th December: Christmas Fayre
- Wednesday 11th December and Thursday 12th December 7pm: Choir’s Christmas Productions
- Friday 13th December 2019: Christmas Jumper Day
- Tuesday 17th December: 9.15am Year 3 Christmas Assembly, 2.30pm Year 4 Christmas Assembly
- Wednesday 18th December: Christmas Lunch
- Thursday 19th December: 9.15am Year 5 Christmas Assembly, 2.30pm Year 6 Christmas Assembly
- Friday 20th December: Last day of term
- Tuesday 7th January 2020: First day of Spring Term

You will receive further details about some of the above nearer the time.

National Online Safety
National Online Safety is a great resource to support you in managing your child’s online safety. Please sign up using the following website address:
https://lms.nationalonlinesafety.com/school/Milfordjunior
For further information, please see Newsletter 2.