

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

Please have a read through our latest news and the exciting things happening at The Mill.

Staff Goodbyes

At the end of this term, we are saying a fond and sad goodbye to two long standing members of our Mill family. Mrs Clark has been working at the Mill since 2012 and will be working as a teaching assistant at another primary school in Crawley. Miss Parkinson has been with us since 2017 and will be teaching at a primary school in Horsham in the new year. The relationships they have built with you all as families over their time with us, teaching our youngest children has meant they both have known every child in our school for a long time. For some of you, Miss Parkinson and Mrs Clark have worked with all of your children, which is just incredible. We thank both of them for all they have done for The Mill and wish them all the best on their new adventures. Their new schools are truly lucky to have you Miss Parkinson and Mrs Clark, please don't forget us!

PTA Christmas Fayre

The PTA will be hosting the annual Christmas Fayre on Thursday 14th December from 3.00 to 5.00pm in the School Hall. Please see [this poster](#) for details. We look forward to seeing you there!

The PTA will be selling raffle tickets from Monday after school and each day leading up to the fayre. Prizes include various vouchers for restaurants, salons and retail, a Christmas hamper, a photography session, a family ticket to Godstone farm, a dog grooming session and many, many more.

PTA Breakfast with Santa

The children had a wonderful time during the 'Breakfast with Santa' sessions this week. Over 200 children took part and we would like to say a big thank you to the PTA for the absolutely brilliant organisation of this event.



After School Sports Clubs

Polite reminder that all after school sports clubs finished this week and children need to be collected as normal next week. A new overview sheet for clubs starting in January will be sent to all families on Friday 15th December at 6pm. New to The Mill will be a Karate club for children in Years 1 to 6.

Chelsea FC Foundation December Soccer School

Chelsea FC Foundation will be running a soccer school for children aged 5 to 12 during the Christmas break at Thomas Bennett Community College. Further information and details how to book can be found [here](#).

Important - School Dinner Bookings

Unfortunately, the system to book school dinners will not be available between 16th December and 5th January due to planned maintenance. Please pre-book school dinners for the week commencing 2nd January 2024 by Friday 15th December. Many thanks and apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

Christmas Class Hampers

Our PTA had the amazing idea to gift each class with a hamper full of fun things, sweets and treats for the children to enjoy during the festive period. Everyone was very excited to receive the hampers after this week's Forever Proud assembly, thank you so much!



Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day

Our Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day will be on Thursday 14th December. The Christmas lunch is now available to book via the SchoolGateway app and you can choose from the following options:

- Roast Turkey, Chipolata, Stuffing & Gravy
 - Feta, Spinach & Cranberry Puff Pastry Roll, Roast Potatoes (v)
- Sides: Carrot & Pea Medley, Cranberry Bread
Dessert: Chocolate Frosted Christmas Cake or Satsuma

Room 13 Christmas Café and Christmas Fayre Stall

Room 13 will be hosting a Christmas Café during the school day on Thursday 14th December, children can purchase gingerbread cookies (50p each) and hot chocolates (£1 each) or take part in free activities. They will also be having their own stall at the Christmas Fayre in the afternoon, on sale will be products made by the children. Further information about the Christmas Café and fayre stall can be found in [this flyer](#).

HAF Holiday Club at Totz2TeenZ

As part of the West Sussex HAF program, Totz2TeenZ are offering Holiday Club sessions during the Christmas break for children in receipt of Pupil Premium. Further details, dates and how to book can be found in [this flyer](#).

Please note that you will now need to register an [online account](#) with West Sussex County Council, using your child's existing HAF code to register. HAF codes can be obtained from the school office or by emailing viahaf@westsussex.gov.uk.

The Mill & Little Stars Foodbank – Supporting You

As part of the support we offer to families in our school community, The Mill and Little Stars run a small food bank together. If you are in need of support, please ask to speak with either Jane Crockford, Jenny Lakeman or Gemma Hayward.

Kind Regards



Sophie Gosden
Headteacher



Makaton in Early Years

Every week, we will now share our Makaton signing with you.

This week's signing is: [Please](#)

We are signing the song: [We Wish You A Merry Christmas](#)

You can revisit previous signing on our [website](#).

Forever Proud

On Fridays, each class nominates their 'Forever Proud' award winner who is announced in our whole school assembly and will receive their badge and certificate to take home. This week's winners are:

Year 1 Hepworth	Riley C
Year 1 Monet	Aun M
Year 1 Hockney	River S
Year 2 Goldsworthy	Olivia F
Year 2 Lichtenstein	Aiza M
Year 2 O'Keeffe	Skylar R
Year 3 Hokusai	Olivia B
Year 3 Cezanne	Grace E
Year 3 Mondrian	Steven C
Year 4 Kahlo	Abdullah Z
Year 4 Moore	Asma F
Year 4 Miro	Archie M
Year 5 Rousseau	Ryan V
Year 5 Egonu	Maisie K
Year 5 van Gogh	Sooryansh T
Year 6 da Vinci	Harper M
Year 6 Riley	Rob G

Learning Without Walls Archie R & Phoebe R

Reading - Book Winners Luwayna M, Emily C, Isaac E, Archie R, Aathanaa T and Max R – and O'Keeffe and da Vinci class won a new book for their reading corner.



Attendance Cup Winners

Congratulations to this week's winners, our Year 3 classes had the highest attendance. Well done everyone!



Diary Dates

Remaining Christmas Performances and Nativities

EYFS Matisse – Tuesday 12th December, 9.15-9.30am

EYFS Kandinsky – Wednesday 13th December, 9.15-9.30am

EYFS Picasso – Wednesday 13th December, 2.15-2.45pm

Year 6 – Monday 11th December, 9.00-9.30am

Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day

Thursday 14th December 2023

PTA Christmas Fayre

Thursday 14th December 2023, 3.00-5.00pm, School Hall

Christmas Break

Monday 18th to Friday 29th December 2023

Back to school on Wednesday 3rd January 2024.

INSET DAY (Important – this has changed)

Tuesday 2nd January 2024

(This replaces Monday 22nd January 2024.)

PTA Valentine's Disco

Thursday 8th February 2024

(Information to follow closer to the date.)

