



# Weekly Bulletin

Friday 24th November

Dear Parents/Carers

## Mayor's Christmas Card Competition

All the children at the Willows designed a Christmas card that was entered into the Mayor's Christmas Card Competition. We are proud to say that one of our pupils won third place! Congratulations Maya!



## Children In Need

Thank You for all your donations to Children in Need, with your help we raised £141.96! We also had a lot of fun in our pyjamas!



## Reading with your child.

Your children will come home each week with their reading books and library books. It is important that you set aside some time at home to read with your child regularly. Top Ten Tips:

- 1 Make books part of your family life** – Always have books around so that you and your children are ready to read whenever there's a chance.
- 2 Join your local library** – Get your child a library card. You'll find the latest, blu-rays and DVDs, plus tons and tons of fantastic books. Allow them to pick their own books, encouraging their own interests.
- 3 Match their interests** – Help them find the right book - it doesn't matter if it's fiction, poetry, comic books or non-fiction.
- 4 All reading is good** – Don't discount non-fiction, comics, graphic novels, magazines and leaflets. Reading is reading and it is all good.
- 5 Get comfortable!** – Snuggle up somewhere warm and cosy with your child, either in bed, on a beanbag or on the sofa, or make sure they have somewhere comfy when reading alone.
- 6 Ask questions** – To keep them interested in the story, ask your child questions as you read such as, 'What do you think will happen next?' or 'Where did we get to last night? Can you remember what had happened already?'
- 7 Read whenever you get the chance** – Bring along a book or magazine for any time your child has to wait, such as at a doctor's surgery.
- 8 Read again and again** – Encourage your child to re-read favourite books and poems. Re-reading helps to build up fluency and confidence.
- 9 Bedtime stories** – Regularly read with your child or children at bedtime. It's a great way to end the day and to spend valuable time with your child.
- 10 Rhyme and repetition** – Books and poems which include rhyme and repetition are great for encouraging your child or children to join in and remember the words.

# Christmas Craft Club

We are running 3 Christmas Craft Clubs in December for children in Reception and KS1.

Tuesday 5th December - Tea Light holder making

Tuesday 12th December - Christmas bottle decorating

Tuesday 19th December - Christmas baking activity

Time: 3:15pm - 4:15pm


Price: £5.00 each session

You can book one or all sessions for your child, however places are limited.

Places can be booked on school spider from Monday 27th November at 8:30am.

All items made they will be able to bring home.

## Attendance

W/C 13 <sup>th</sup> November		
Year	Class Name	% Attendance
Rec.	Hedgehogs	96.5%
KS1	Squirrels	93.3%
KS1	Rabbits	96.8% 
KS1	Owls	92.6%
Rec/KS1	Foxes	74.5%
<b>Total attendance</b>		<b>93.0%</b>

We have had an overwhelming amount of children arriving late this week!

It is essential that pupils form good habits of punctual attendance at school from the earliest age.

Children who arrive late at school often:

- Miss vital parts of the lesson
- Disrupt the class when the lesson is underway
- Find it embarrassing entering a class once the lesson has started.

Well done **Rabbits** with an attendance of **96.8%** for the week beginning **13<sup>th</sup> November**

The whole school attendance for the week of **13<sup>th</sup> November** was **93.0%**.

Good attendance at school is important for your child's development & progress. Please ensure your child attends every day and not take holidays in term time.

We want every child to be a H.E.R.O every day.

**H**ere.

**E**very day.

**R**eady to learn.

**O**n time.

If a pupil arrives at school after the registers have been taken at 8:45am, we have to record this as a late mark.

Please ensure that your child understands it is important to be on time every day.

## Diary Dates

Every Tuesday & Friday	8:35am – 8:45am	Morning Task with parents/carers (Rabbits, Owls, Squirrels and Hedgehog Class)
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> November (For 5 weeks)	3:15pm – 4:15pm	DANCE CLUB (RECEPTION & KS1) Places to be booked on School Spider
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> November (For 5 weeks)	3:15pm – 4:15pm	BOXERCISE (RECEPTION & KS1) Places to be booked on School Spider
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	3:15pm – 4:15pm	Christmas Craft Club Places to be booked on School Spider
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	3:15pm – 4:15pm	Christmas Craft Club Places to be booked on School Spider
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30am	EYFS Christmas Nativity More details to follow
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	11:15am	Spiders Sing-a-long More details to follow
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	3:15pm – 4:15pm	Christmas Craft Club Places to be booked on School Spider
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	11:00am	Nursery Sing-a-long More details to follow
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	2:00pm	KS1 Christingle More details to follow
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> December	ALL DAY	XMAS LUNCH and PARTY DAY Children can come in their own clothes
<b>CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS – FRIDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> DECEMBER – FRIDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY</b>		
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January	ALL DAY	BACK TO SCHOOL

parent/ carer virtual training

**FREE**

# Autism Workshop

## AUTUMN 2023

23/11/23 Autism & Sensory Processing 10am-1pm  
28/11/23 Autism & Demand Avoidance 10am-1pm

## SPRING 2024

11/1/24 Autism & Behaviour 10am-1pm  
16/1/24 Autism & Demand Avoidance 10am-1pm  
16/2/24 Autism, Women & Girls 6pm-9pm  
27/2/24 Autism & Eating Disorders 10am-1pm  
14/3/24 Autism & Mental Health 6pm-9pm

## SUMMER 2024

18/4/24 Autism & Sensory Processing 10am-1pm  
26/4/24 Autism & Behaviour 6pm-9pm  
1/5/24 Autism, Women & Girls 10am-1pm  
7/5/24 Autism & Eating Disorders 6pm-9pm  
6/6/24 Autism & Mental Health 10am-1pm

See Autism  
Bedfordshire's  
website for more  
details on course  
content

For families  
living in  
Milton  
Keynes and  
Bedfordshire



TO BOOK PLEASE CONTACT ENQUIRIES:

📞 01234 214871

✉️ enquiries@autismbeds.org

parent/ carer workshops

**FREE**

# 5 Week Course

A virtual course for pre-diagnosed  
and newly diagnosed families

When: Wednesdays, 11am - 2pm

Dates: 28th Feb, 6th March, 13th March 2024  
20th March & 17th March 2024

Venue: TBC (Milton Keynes)

Course topics: Week 1: Diagnosis journey  
Week 2: What is Autism?  
Week 3: Sensory Needs  
Week 4: Communication  
Week 5: Behaviour & local support

For families  
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# LET'S TALK!

FREE

## The First Steps to Supporting an Autistic Individual, and those Pursuing a Diagnosis

For families living in Milton Keynes, Bedfordshire and Luton

Join us for a relaxed session on autism for parents and carers of undiagnosed or newly diagnosed children. Learn some practical tips, meet other parents, and find out about local support.



Thursday 12th October 2023  
6:30pm - 8:30pm  
Virtually via Zoom



Thursday 14th December 2023  
4:45pm - 6:45pm  
Face-to-Face

The Willow School & Early Years Centre  
Fishermead Blvd, Fishermead, Milton Keynes MK6 2LP  
(Woodland room)



Monday 12th February 2024  
10:30am - 12:30pm  
Face-to-Face

Kingston Gymnastics Centre  
15 Winchester Cir, Kingston, Milton Keynes MK10 0BA  
(dance studio)



Wednesday 17th April 2024  
11:30am - 1:30pm  
Virtually via Zoom



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## LOCAL INFO

- YOUR LOCAL OFFER - SEN SERVICE DIRECTORY: <https://www.mksendlocaloffer.co.uk/>
- YOUR LOCAL PARENT/ CARER FORUM: <https://pacamk.org/>
- YOUR LOCAL SENDIASS: <https://mksendias.org.uk/>
- CARERS MK: <https://carersmiltonkeynes.org/information-for-carers/adult-parent-carers/information-carers-children/children-disabilities-team/>

## STAY UP TO DATE!

- AUTISM MILTON KEYNES NEWSLETTER SIGN-UP: <https://forms.office.com/e/jdxq6ywcgS>
- A-MK ADULT SERVICES: <https://www.autismbedfordshire.net/support-for-adults-in-milton-keynes/>
- A-MK CHILDREN'S SERVICES: <https://www.autismbedfordshire.net/support-for-children-and-young-people-in-milton-keynes/>
- FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61552657287655>
- INSTAGRAM: [https://www.instagram.com/autism\\_mk/](https://www.instagram.com/autism_mk/)
- PADLET – MK SERVICES, NEWS & EVENTS: <https://padlet.com/amygavinbirch/local-services-in-milton-keynes-fw4snudp29gzvx3>
- ★ENQUIRIES EMAIL: [enquiries@autism-mk.org](mailto:enquiries@autism-mk.org)