



# Weekly Bulletin

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2020



## Starting School For The First Time or Moving up to Year 3 in September 2021?

**Children who are in nursery** and celebrated their 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday before 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020 or are in **Year 2** must apply for a School place now, ready for September 2021. Although the deadline for applications is Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January, don't delay – apply online by the end of November, then you can relax and forget about it.

In England every parent must apply for a place for their child at a school, even if it's linked to their child's current nursery. Maximise your chance of getting a preferred Reception or Year 3 place by doing the following:

### Apply on time

- The closing date is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021
- Any applications received after this will be processed after national offer day
- A late application means you are less likely to get any of your preferences
- Notifications of the places offered will be made on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021 (unless your application is late)

### Apply online

- You can only apply online at [www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/schooladmissions) between 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 and 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021
- You will be able to view, update and submit your application through the portal
- Communication with you will be quicker and your application will be secure
- You will be able to log on from midnight on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2021 to view the school that has been allocated

### Use all four preferences

- You can apply for up to four schools. The schools will not know in which order you have placed the preferences
- Each preference is considered in its own right, so please ensure that you give yourself four separate chances
- If more than one school is able to offer your child a place then the order of preferences is important, so ensure you list the schools in the order that you want them considered

### Choose Wisely

- Ensure you are aware of the oversubscription criteria for your preference schools. This is how all the applications will be ranked
- Don't assume you will be allocated a place at your catchment school if you don't state it as one of your preferences
- For Year 3 applications, give consideration to your secondary school liaison group – is your preferred school linked to the secondary school within the area?
- Don't assume your child will get priority just because they attend a nursery class attached to your preferred school
- Consider how easy it is for you to get your child to and from school.

## Scholastic Online Book Fair

Because of Covid, we cannot run our usual Book Fair along side our Parent Consultations. So we have set up an online Book Club. Our **Scholastic Book Club is up and running!** Go to <https://schools.scholastic.co.uk/the-willows-mk6/digital-book-club> to browse the latest books and order online. For **every £1 you spend** on this month's Book Club, **our school will earn 20p** in Scholastic Rewards. Please place your **order online by Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020.**

## Attendance

We are pleased to say that attendance across the school has greatly improved since the start of term, with many classes achieving 100%! Please keep up the excellent work by continuing to arrive and collect your child on time at their allocated door or gate.



## M&M Theatre Production



M&M Theatre Productions will be putting on a performance of The Wizard of Oz for children in Year 1 & Year 2 on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November. Social distancing measures have been taken into consideration and shows will be staggered throughout the day to ensure that all children get to enjoy the fun in their class bubbles!

## Lost Watch

A child's watch was found on the school playground last week. If you think your child may have lost their watch, please feel free to pop into the office for further information.

## Diary Dates

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October - Film Club is now full.**

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October – Online ordering through the Scholastic Book Club closes**

**Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October – Half Term**

**Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November – School re-opens at 8.45am**

**Week Beginning Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November – Parent Consultations**

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November – Film Club \_ priority will be given to children who were not successful getting a place on the October Film Club.**

**Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December – Flu Immunisation for school aged children**