



MILBY PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Dear parents and carers

It has been a busy and wonderfully creative year for art at Milby so far.

The children's imagination and creativity continue to shine through in their artwork, particularly within their individual sketchbooks. These sketchbooks are at the heart of our art curriculum, providing a space for children to experiment, explore ideas and express themselves freely. It has been fantastic to see how confidently the children are using them to develop their artistic skills.

In January, we were delighted to see the return of the Creative Arts competition. We received a wide range of fantastic entries, including detailed drawings, expressive paintings and impressive 3D sculptures. A selection of this work is now proudly displayed outside West Hall, where it is enjoyed by children and visitors each day.

This year, key stage two children also took part in an art club, where they designed and created canvases to be entered into the Nuneaton Festival of Arts. Their hard work and enthusiasm were celebrated with a special visit to the gallery at Riversley Park, where they had the opportunity to see their artwork on display.

We hope you enjoy reading the rest of the newsletter, where you will find more information and photographs showcasing the children's achievements.

Best wishes,



Miss Cox

Art subject leader

Featuring:

1. Welcome
2. Art
3. Festival of Arts
4. Attendance
5. Dates for your diaries



Sketchbooks are at the heart of our art curriculum and play a vital role in every child's creative journey. They act as personal creative journals where children can explore, experiment and develop their ideas in a safe and supportive space. Across the school, children use their sketchbooks to record their thoughts, practise new techniques and express their individuality through art. These books are not about perfection, but about the process—encouraging children to take risks, reflect on their work and grow in confidence as young artists.

ART



PUPIL VOICE

Children at Milby really value their art lessons and look forward to this creative time each week. They enjoy learning about a range of artists, exploring new styles and techniques, and using this inspiration to express their own ideas. Art gives them the opportunity to be imaginative, take creative risks and produce work that they feel proud of.

What do you think is the best thing about art at school, and why?

I like how when you do art at school it lets you express your self in lots of different ways because when I see the page in front of my face it's like something is telling me to be creative. Also when you look at someone's book and then see how different it is to yours it tells you so much more about that person and how they were feeling.



christina 5L

What do you enjoy most in art lessons, and what new skills or activities would you like to try next?

The thing I love the most about art is when we use water colours and the new skill I have learned this year is how to monoprint all and all I absolutely love art lessons!

Reuben 5L

What do you think is the best thing about art at school, and why?

getting to express your feelings in different ways. Sometimes you could be going ~~through~~ through all of it. It's just a good way to express your self.

What do you like doing in art, and what would you like to try next?

I love that I can paint different pictures on the easel. I want to make people out of paper.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS!

Creative Arts House Competition 2026



Aveyah, Yellow House
Art Winner

Quinton, Blue House
Music Winner

Arya, Red House
Dance Winner

Mrs Rowstron and I launched our annual Creative Arts House Competition back in January, and we've been amazed by the fantastic art entries submitted by children from Reception all the way up to year 6! It has been wonderful to see so many children share their creative talents, and their work is now proudly displayed outside of West Hall, where it is enjoyed by the children every day.



Children in key stage 2 have enjoyed taking part in our art club, where they designed and created their own unique pieces to be submitted to the Nuneaton Festival of Art. We are incredibly proud of the hard work and creativity shown by all of the children involved.

A special congratulations goes to William, who was awarded 2nd place, and to Lucy, who received a certificate of achievement - both fantastic accomplishments. They were presented with their awards at the Salvation Army by the adjudicator, Andrew Sutton, alongside MP Jodie Gosling. To celebrate their success, the key stage 2 art club also visited the gallery in Riversley Park, where they had the opportunity to see their artwork proudly exhibited. Well done to all involved!



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NUNEATON Festival of Arts



ATHENIAN TIMES

3000BC

By Kiera.B

PERFECT PERSEPHONE MISSING!

Yesterday, at noon, tragedy struck when Persephone (the everloved daughter went of Demeter) went missing. She mysteriously disappeared. witnesses claim that before the disappearance, the earth trembled and shook violently as if pressured from below.

Reports suggest that shortly after the tremor, twisted into a gaping gash ~~near~~ revealing the under-world, some may claim to of caught a glimpse of a dark shadowy figure-maybe Hades though we can't be sure for it became dark and misty, so it could of been the works of hallucination. As the police are at the scene investigating, until they confirm it was Hades (lots claim that it was him) many queries will stay unanswered.

Demeter (the devastated, angry and heart-broken mother of Persephone) has issued a statement. She accuses the Gods of 'thieving' her precious daughter vowing, "I am Demeter if you ruin me that is against the highest

order, if my daughter isn't returned by next Tuesday, I won't give the crops any blessings until I receive Persephone. You will all have no plant blessings because of my sunshine's kidnapping. Every-body or anybody who ginedes her will get the most lushus plants ever.

If you find her, bring her to the summit of Mount Olympus, come soon so we don't face a long harsh winter!



This is Persephone

Year 5

BREAKING NEWS

Last week, Year 5 were shocked to discover that Persephone - daughter of Demeter - had mysteriously gone missing!

To report on this dramatic event, the children became journalists, writing their own newspaper reports in English and including key features such as eye-catching headlines and detailed accounts of what happened. We're so proud of their fantastic writing and creativity—please enjoy a selection of their brilliant work!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Bank holiday (school closed) **Monday 4th May 2026**

Polling day (school closed to pupils) **Thursday 7th May 2026**

Key stage 2 SATs week **Monday 11th May- Friday 15th May 2026**

May half term **Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May 2026**

Class group & leavers photo's **Thursday 4th June 2026**

Friends of Milby movie afternoon **Friday 5th June 2026**

Sports day **Wednesday 17th June 2026**

Fathers Day gift room **Thursday 18th June 2026**

Year 6 residential **Wednesday 24th June - Friday 26th June 2026**

Summer fair **Friday 3rd July 2026**

County induction day **Wednesday 8th July 2026**

Training day (school closed to pupils) **Monday 20th July 2026**

Please refer to our website for the most up to date calendar.

HOW TO CONTACT MILBY

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LEAVE OF ABSENCE

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME — UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time (*Platt v Isle of Wright* 2017). The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

The law states a leave of absence may only be granted by a school if an application is made in advance and if it considers there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application.

Schools must judge each application individually considering the specific facts and circumstances and relevant background context behind each request.

A leave of absence is granted entirely at the school's discretion. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance.

Where a leave of absence is granted, the school will determine the number of days a pupil can be absent from school.

When making an application for Leave of Absence parents are advised to give sufficient information and time to allow the Headteacher the opportunity to consider all the exceptional circumstances and to notify parents of their decision. The school may also request further information on the application and supporting documentation where appropriate.

It is advised that if the resident parent has not received notification or a response regarding the leave of absence application, it is the parents' responsibility to ascertain if the leave is authorised prior to the start of the leave.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent i.e. the parent with whom the child normally resides.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child is expected to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence. Where a leave of absence is requested, but additional days taken either prior to or after the request may be considered as part of the leave of absence.

Leave of Absences which are not made in advance cannot be authorised in line with legislation. This will result in the absence being recorded as 'unauthorised'.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME — UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The law relating to Penalty Notices changed with effect from 19 August 2024. Therefore, Penalty Notices issued for Leave of Absence taken from September 2024 will be issued in accordance with the updated legislation.

- Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices – 4 in total).

- o First Leave of Absence offence: The Penalty Notice amount of £160 to be paid within 28 days, this is reduced to £80 each child if paid within 21 days.

- o Second Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): The amount of £160 paid within 28 days. No reduced amount.

- Payment plans will not be offered and/or payments received outside of the 28 day period will not be accepted. Where a penalty notice expires unpaid the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider criminal prosecution.

- Third Leave of Absence offence within a 3 year period (from the date of issue of the first penalty notice): A penalty notices will be not be issued and the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal prosecution proceedings under S444 of Education Act 1996.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority.