

15TH SEPTEMBER 2026 | ISSUE 1

MILBY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Inspire - Learn - Succeed



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WELCOME TO OUR SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Dear parents and carers

A very warm welcome back to the start of a new academic year.

I hope that you all had a wonderful summer break and that the holiday provided you with some quality time together with family and friends, as well as an opportunity to relax, recharge and enjoy some precious time away from the usual routines, ready for the year ahead.

It has been absolutely fantastic to see the children return to school. There has been a real sense of excitement as they have reunited with friends, settled into their new classes and embraced the many new learning opportunities that await them. I have already had the pleasure of visiting each class and it has been wonderful to see how well the children are settling in. They have been quick to remember and demonstrate our school rules in action: Ready, Respectful and Safe.

A particularly special welcome goes to all of our children who have started with us in reception. They have made such a fantastic start and it has been lovely to see them settling into school life so confidently. We are delighted to welcome all of our new reception families into our Milby family, and look forward to getting to know you and sharing many happy moments together over the years ahead.

Our training days at the start of the new year provided all staff with a valuable opportunity to undertake safeguarding training and further strengthen our knowledge and practice. It was a chance to reflect on and refine the ways in which we keep our children safe at Milby. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, and it is this shared commitment across our whole school community that helps us maintain such a strong culture of vigilance and ensures that the wellbeing and safety of our children remains at the heart of everything we do. The next training day for staff will be on Monday 4th January 2027 at the beginning of the spring term.

I would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to our wonderful Friends of Milby for all of their hard work and dedication throughout last year. The time, energy and enthusiasm they give to our school makes such a difference to our children and our wider school community. We are particularly delighted to celebrate the fantastic £2,171.99 raised through the summer fair and raffle at the end of last year. What an incredible achievement! Thank you to everyone who supported, organised, donated and took part – your generosity is hugely appreciated.

Looking ahead, we will be sending out our school newsletter fortnightly. These newsletters will provide you with a window into the breadth and richness of our curriculum. They are also an important way of keeping you fully informed about everything that is happening at Milby, including upcoming events, important reminders, celebrations and opportunities for our children and families.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

We are incredibly excited about the year ahead and all that we will achieve together as a school community.

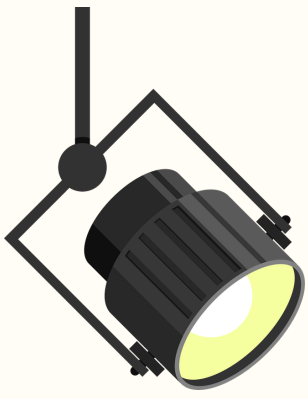
Here's to a happy, successful and exciting new academic year!



Mr M Archer



If you would like to get involved with the Friends of Milby, you are warmly invited to attend their next planning meeting on Monday 21st September 2026 at 7:30pm at The Coniston Tavern. Everyone is welcome, whether you are already involved or are simply interested in finding out more. We would love to see you there.

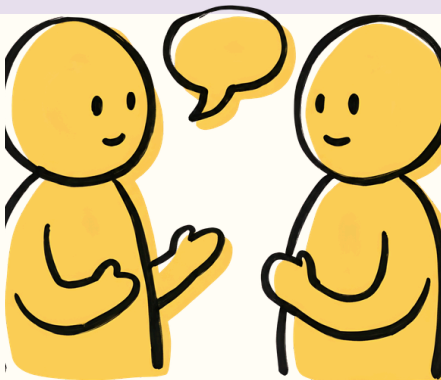


SAFEGUARDING SPOTLIGHT

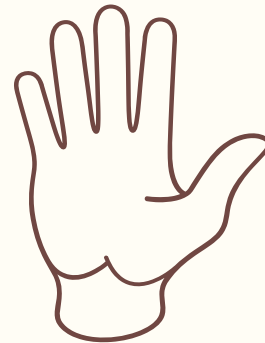
We can talk with someone about anything, even if it feels awful or small.

How you can support at home:

- 1) Remind children that they will never be in trouble for telling a trusted adult that they are worried, confused or upset.
- 2) Listen to them and reassure them that you will always take them seriously and do whatever you can to keep them safe.
- 3) Ask your child to talk about who is on their personal network.



Sometimes things happen that make us feel worried, confused, upset or uncomfortable. Children should know that they can always talk to a trusted adult. This could be a parent or carer, teacher, teaching assistant, family member or another adult they feel safe with.



This week in school children have identified who are on their personal network. This is a group of people who the children have identified themselves.

Children are asked to think of at least five people that they can talk to if they are worried or feel unsafe.

MEET THE SAFEGUARDING TEAM



MR ARCHER
DESIGNATED
SAFEGUARDING
LEAD



MRS COATES
DEPUTY DESIGNATED
SAFEGUARDING LEAD



MRS WITTS
DEPUTY DESIGNATED
SAFEGUARDING LEAD



MRS WOODS
DEPUTY DESIGNATED
SAFEGUARDING LEAD



MRS HORSFALL
DEPUTY DESIGNATED
SAFEGUARDING LEAD



Unsafe and illegal parking outside Milby is one of the biggest concerns for our school, parents and local residents. Dangerous and inconsiderate parking, particularly at drop off and collection times is an ongoing issue.

Some of the most common concerns we are contacted about include:

- Parking on the yellow zig-zag markings
- Parking on a junction
- Blocking pavements and driveways
- Parking in the staff car park

All of these concerns apply to parking on both Milby Drive and Higham Lane, with particular concerns for cars being parked inconsiderately on Higham Lane as this is a much faster and busier road.

We would like to encourage parents and other adults – such as grandparents and carers – to think about how and where they park outside school and to take responsibility for helping to keep both their children safe and the residents that are inconvenienced that live close to the school.

Please park away from the school gates without causing an obstruction to junctions or blocking the driveways of our residents. Please avoid parking on the grass verges as we have received complaints about cars churning the verges up in the wet weather. We would also like to politely remind parents and carers that parking in our staff car park is not allowed unless you have a permit.

If you are concerned about any unsafe parking, obstructions or dangerous driving please report to Warwickshire Police by calling 01926 415000 or 101.

UNIFORM REMINDERS



Our policy states that our school uniform is:

- a white polo shirt (with or without our school logo) or a plain white shirt/blouse with a collar;
- a purple sweatshirt or cardigan (with or without our school logo);
- black or grey trousers, knee-length skirt or pinafore dress;
- yellow and white or purple and white check dress during the summer, if preferred;
- black school shoes (not trainers) which children should wear at all times except for PE; and
- plain grey tights or plain white socks are to be worn with skirts; plain white socks are to be worn with summer dresses; plain grey or plain black socks are to be worn with trousers.

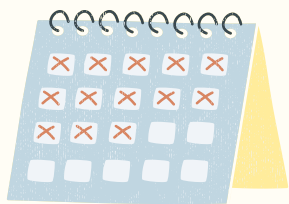
Our PE kit is:

- plain black shorts or plain black jogging bottoms or leggings;
- a plain black jumper or hoodie;
- a coloured t-shirt in the team house colour; and
- a pair of trainers.

PE kit must be plain without any slogans or emblems. We understand that there can be occasional issues with obtaining uniform items, but we kindly ask that you communicate with us if this occurs so we can offer any necessary support. We also have a plentiful stock of second hand uniform items – for both daily uniform and PE kit – which can be purchased during pupil progress evenings or by contacting the school office directly.

The only permitted jewellery that may be worn in school is one pair of stud earrings and a wrist watch (no smart watches). All jewellery must be removed before coming to school on your child's nominated PE day and staff are unable to remove this in school. Please ensure that your child does not come to school wearing any rings, bracelets or necklaces.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS



Every Day Counts

Every day at school can make a difference,
A chance to learn, to grow, to shine.
Each lesson builds a little more,
A step towards a future bright and fine.
But days lost can leave gaps behind,
Missing knowledge, friendships too.
One day may seem so small and brief,
But over time, those days can grow.
So turn up, take part, and make each day count,
For every lesson helps you succeed.
Attendance opens doors to dreams,
And every day is one more seed.

Whole school

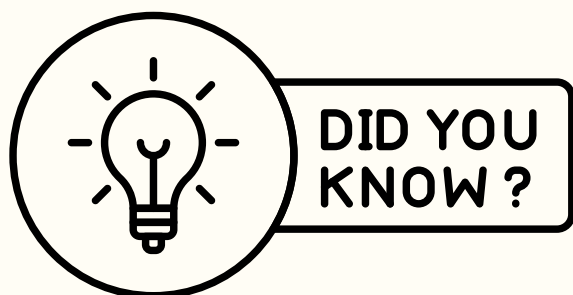


97%

Our whole school attendance target. Currently at Milby Primary School, our whole school attendance is **98.2%**.



99.5%



You can find further information on school attendance by visiting the Warwickshire County Council website? Please click on the link below to view the school attendance guidance for parents and carers:

[WCC School attendance guidance for parents and carers](#)



99%

100%

391 children

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 Wight 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'.

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).

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.

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.



CONTACT US

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UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS

School photographs Thursday 24th September 2026

Year 4 trip to Lunt Roman Fort Friday 2nd October 2026

Pupil progress evening Wednesday 4th November 2026

Pupil progress evening Tuesday 10th November 2026

October half term Monday 26th October - Friday 30th October 2026

Christmas holiday Monday 21st December 2026 - Friday 1st January 2027

Teacher training day Monday 4th January 2027

Year 5 residential Thursday 11th February - Friday 12th February 2027

February half term Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February 2027

Teacher training day Thursday 25th March 2027

Good Friday Friday 26th March 2027

Easter holiday Monday 29th March - Friday 9th April 2027

Bank Holiday Monday 3rd May 2027

Teacher training day Friday 28th May 2027

May half term Monday 31st May - Friday 4th June 2027

Year 6 residential Wednesday 23rd June - Friday 25th June 2027

County induction day Wednesday 7th July 2027

Summer holiday begins on Thursday 22nd July 2027



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

[School website - news and events](#)

