

Milford Mail



Everyone to grow, learn, believe, achieve

16 October 2026

www.milford.surrey.sch.uk

What a fantastic first half term it has been at Milford! The school has been buzzing with enthusiasm, curiosity and achievement, and I could not be prouder of all that our children have accomplished. From our newest Reception children taking their first steps into school life, to our confident Year 2 pupils embracing new challenges and responsibilities, it has been a joy to see learning come alive across the school.

Our Reception children have settled beautifully into school, making friends, exploring their new environment and developing confidence each day. In Year 1, children have impressed us with their growing independence, storytelling, mathematical thinking and exciting learning both indoors and outdoors. Meanwhile, Year 2 have thrown themselves into their pirate-themed adventures, developing their skills across the curriculum whilst also showing great kindness as buddies to our Reception children. Across the school, Woodland School sessions, active learning opportunities and creative projects have inspired curiosity, resilience and a real love of learning.

We are also delighted to share that Milford will formally join the LEO Academy Trust on 1st November. This is an exciting new chapter for our school and opens up wonderful opportunities for collaboration, staff development and continued improvement. Parents can be reassured that it will very much be business as usual, with the same dedicated staff, nurturing ethos and commitment to providing the very best education for our lovely children.

A huge thank you must go to Astrid, Annabel and Olivia, whose enthusiasm, energy and commitment to our PTA (FRIENDS) have helped make this half term so much fun. From pumpkin decorating and cake sales to other fundraising activities, they have worked tirelessly to bring our community together and raise valuable funds for the school. We are incredibly grateful for everything they do.

Finally, thank you to all our families for your ongoing support, kindness and encouragement. Milford is a special place because of the strong partnership we share. I wish you all a restful and enjoyable half term break, and I look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting term of learning, laughter and success.

Much love, Miss Cox



Year R news



What an amazing first half term the children have had in Reception! We are so incredibly proud of them and all the hard work they have put in. The children have settled into school life beautifully, and it has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they have become more familiar with their new surroundings.

The children have really enjoyed exploring their new school, getting to know the different areas and discovering what makes Milford so special. They have been learning all about our routines and have worked so hard to remember where to go, what to do and how we do things at school. They have done such a wonderful job of settling in, and we are so proud of how happily and confidently they have embraced their new school life.

The children have also had lots of fun making new friends, building relationships and getting to know one another. They have enjoyed playing together, sharing ideas, laughing and learning how to be kind and caring friends. It has been lovely to see our Reception family beginning to grow.

In Maths, the children have been busy exploring lots of different mathematical ideas. They have been counting to 5, recognising and representing numbers, exploring patterns, comparing objects and learning about mass. They have enjoyed getting hands-on, sorting objects into different groups and investigating which things are heavier and lighter. We have loved seeing their curiosity and confidence grow as they talk about their mathematical ideas.

In PE, the children have been exploring lots of different ways to move their bodies, including hopping, skipping, running and jumping. They have been developing their balance, coordination and confidence while having lots of fun!

Our phonics learning has been busy too! The children have been learning lots of new sounds and practising their letter formation. They are becoming fantastic little sound detectives and have enjoyed spotting the sounds they have learnt in the world around them.

The children have also been busy learning all about themselves, their bodies and their families. They have shared lots of lovely ideas about the people who are important to them and have enjoyed talking about where they live and what makes each of them special and unique.



It has been such an exciting start to their Reception journey, and we couldn't be prouder of how wonderfully the children have settled in. They have worked incredibly hard, made new friends, learnt so much and, most importantly, had lots of fun along the way!



A huge thank you to all of our wonderful families for your support and encouragement during this very special first half term. Starting school is such a big milestone, and we have loved watching the children take those first steps into their Milford journey. We hope you all have a restful break and we can't wait to welcome the children back for even more learning, laughter and adventures!

Well done, Reception — you have been amazing!





Year 1 news



Year 1 have been busy getting used to being one class and making new friends. We are enjoying our Year 1 learning and our new responsibilities in our new classroom.

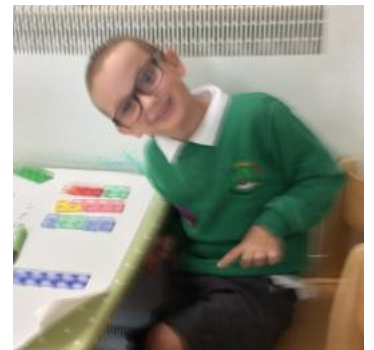
Writing

We have been retelling familiar traditional tales, The Three Little Pigs and The Enormous Turnip and writing parts of story. We loved acting out the stories on our outdoor stage and selling the little pigs new houses in our Estate Agents role-play area.



Maths

We have been learning about place value and how teen numbers are made of a ten and ones. We have been adding with Numicon and tens and ones and learning how to use a number line to solve addition problems.



Making natural patterns



Science

We have had great fun exploring our five senses; using our sight to look closely, using hearing on sound walks and games, guessing the smells, using our sense of touch to describe what's in the feely tubs and investigating our sense of taste.

Geography

Marvellous Milford! We have been learning about features of our locality, and how to find some of these on maps.

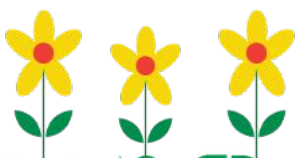
Music

We've been learning to maintain the beat and play rhythms along to our favourite music.



PE

Balancing walking in lines on benches and beams and balancing on one leg have been the focus of our PE. We are developing strong core muscles to help us balance.



Art

We've had fun sketching and painting self-portraits and enormous turnips.



Woodland School

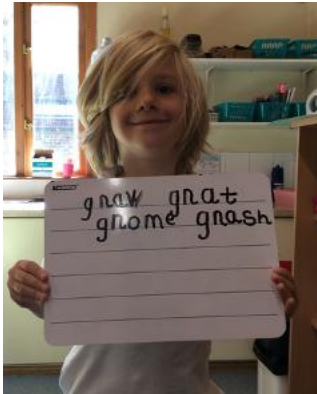
We had fantastic fun at woodland school. Building dens, pond dipping, natural art and bug hunting as well as a lovely long walk.



Year 2 news



Year 2 have had lots of fun learning together this term. Our topic of Pirates linked lots of different learning and culminated in a fun filled, swashbuckling Pirate School Day! We have also enjoyed looking after our reception class buddies and helped them to settle into the Milford family.



Maths

This term we have enjoyed our learning inside and out. We have been using our knowledge of place value to compare and partition numbers. We used number lines to compare numbers.



English

We've been writing stories and poems inspired by the Magic Paintbrush and The Sound Collector. We learnt about nouns and adjectives and used them in our writing. Our class book corners have been so popular, to share a story with a friend or just snuggle up for a good read.



Science

In science we learned about the basic needs for survival. We explored what a shipwrecked pirate might need to keep safe until rescue.

PE

The PE focus this term has been balance and we have learned to hold a variety of balances, as well as move with balance and control across the floor and higher apparatus.



Art and Design & Technology



We enjoyed learning to blend paint and used different media to create rolling seas with sketched pirate ships. Our textile seascapes show our plaiting and weaving skills. In woodwork we learning the skills of sanding, sawing and gluing to construct our pirate ships.



Geography

Our pirate topic has helped us learn lots of new skills; from map reading and making to following compass directions. We have also started our learning about Florence Nightingale. Can you see us using our acting skills to role-play what she did for the soldiers at Scutari Hospital?



Woodland School

We loved our time exploring and learning together in the woods. We got crafty with clay and carved drumsticks!





The Friends of Milford School

And just like that, our first half-term is over! A huge thank you to all our wonderful volunteers who have supported our various projects this half-term. We couldn't have done it without you.

Christmas arrived early with our Christmas card designs which raised an amazing **£160 so far**. Year 2 also held a fantastic cake sale, raising **£191 for their classrooms**. Thank you to everyone who donated and came along to support it — it was a brilliant turnout.



We rounded off the half-term with our spooktacular pumpkin decorating competition. What a fantastic turnout! All the pumpkins looked amazing, and we raised a brilliant £83. Thank you to everyone who took part.

Thank you so much to those who have signed up to have a board. We currently have 28 families signed up. We are aiming to have 50! **This means we have hit £280 of our £500 target**. If you are able to, please follow this link to sign up <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/DYJ47uASr9> Every board is worth £10 for our school.

Things to look out for

- **Christmas tea towels:** Just in time for Christmas, our festive tea towels featuring our fabulous staff and children will be available to purchase next half-term.
- **Thursday 26th November – Non-uniform day:** Please bring in a bottle for the Christmas Fair tombola and/or donate a Christmas jumper.
- **Christmas poster competition:** Keep an eye out for the templates coming home in book bags for our Christmas poster competition.
- **Save the date – Friday 11th December 4–6pm:** Our **Christmas School Fair** is coming up. We'll be looking for volunteers to help run our stalls, santas grotto, bar and BBQ. If you'd like to get involved, please email friendschair@milford.surrey.sch.uk. We'd love to hear from you!





Dress – Swap – Repeat!

This year, we're looking at ways to make our events more sustainable. At the Christmas Fair, we'll be hosting a **Christmas jumper swap shop**, just in time for Christmas Jumper Day. You'll be able to swap a jumper or simply take one for free — helping give pre-loved jumpers a new lease of life! Please help us get our swap shop off to a great start by donating any unwanted Christmas jumpers on our non-uniform day (Thursday 26th November).

Looking ahead to the new year, we'll also be collecting **World Book Day costumes** so we can host another swap event. More details to follow



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