



Dear Parents/Carers

### Staffing Changes

#### Joint Headship for the school from September 2011 to August 2012

On a personal level I am pleased to be able to inform you, that following careful consideration, the Governing Body have agreed to my request to reduce my commitment to 60% (3 days week) during my final year of headship (2011/12). Deputy Head, Mrs Lycett, who has considerable experience in all areas of leadership and management will job share the role for the remaining 40 % (2 days). This request was made knowing that at Milton we are fortunate in having a very strong leadership team with complementary skills. We view this as a unique opportunity to trial different ways of working whilst ensuring continuity of the leadership of the school. Joint headship is a model that is receiving a lot of national attention as an effective model adopted by successful schools. A number of Cambridgeshire schools already operate this model of headship.

The governors and I will keep you fully informed as the details of the joint headship are finalised.

#### Teachers

Mrs Cutts will be starting her maternity leave after the May half term holiday; Miss Amy Kitson will be returning to Milton to cover her absence. I am also pleased to be able to share the news that Mrs Thompson is also expecting a baby in September. Last Thursday we appointed Mrs Helen Hurworth who will cover this maternity leave during the next academic year. These are both very strong appointments with much to offer our team of staff.

#### Dates for the Academic Year 2011/12

##### 2011

<b>Training Day</b>	<b>Monday 5 September</b>
Autumn Term Opens	Tuesday 6 September
<b>Training Day</b>	<b>Monday 10 October</b>
<b>Half Term</b>	<b>24 - 28 October</b>
Autumn Term Closes	Friday 16 December

##### 2012

<b>Training Day</b>	<b>Tuesday 3 January</b>
Spring Term Opens	Wednesday 4 January
<b>Half Term</b>	<b>13 - 17 February</b>
Spring Term Closes	Friday 30 March

<b>Training Day</b>	<b>Monday 16 April</b>
Summer Term Opens	Tuesday 17 April
<b>May Day</b>	<b>Monday 7 May</b>
<b>Half Term</b>	<b>4 - 8 June (The Queens's Diamond Jubilee – 5<sup>th</sup> June - bank holiday)</b>
Summer Term Closes	Friday 20 July
<b>Training Day</b>	<b>Monday 23 July</b>

#### The Red Nose Day

The whole school, including adults had great fun dressing up on Friday for Red Nose Day. The morning started with a whole school assembly, led by Class 12. We found out about how the money raised by Comic Relief is spent to help others around the world. After school we had a cake and red sale organised by The School Council and a fantastic £240 was raised. This was in addition to the £235 donated for dressing up. We would like to say thank you very much to everyone who donated and/or helped with the cake and red stalls. **School Council**

**Family Holidays** As some of you will be making plans for family holidays I thought it advisable to remind you of the current regulations.

*Pupils of school age must, by law, attend school regularly. Leave of absence for a family holiday should be avoided if possible as it can seriously disrupt a child's continuity of learning. If you are unable to avoid taking your holiday during school time you will need to complete a holiday form. Please try to:*

- *avoid asking for absence when your child is preparing for, or taking, end of key stage tests. **KS2 SATs will take place in the week beginning May 9<sup>th</sup> so school will not authorize absence for Y6 children from April 26<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> May.***
- *avoid the beginning of new terms. **School will not authorize absence at the beginning of the academic year in September when classroom routines and new groupings are established;***
- *give at least two weeks' notice that your child is going to be away.*

*School cannot legally authorise more than ten days school absence in a school year unless there are exceptional circumstances. Where a pupil is absent without prior authorisation or without verbal or written explanation on return, the absence will be treated as unauthorised. Absences relating to individual children are recorded on the parental report in July. When absences are high, for whatever reason, the school welfare office will become involved.*

### **Japan Tsunami Appeal**

A big thank you to Al and Sarina (Foundation Stage) who are busy drawing and **selling pictures to relatives** in order to raise money for this appeal. We have a British Red Cross collection box in the office for those who may wish to make a donation.

### **Headlice**

Parents have informed school that we have cases of headlice in school. Please can I remind you of the importance of checking your child's hair on a weekly basis. We have a few leaflets at the office if you would like further information.

### **Uniform**

*Just arrived!* - a sample of the new sweatshirt cardigan (£10.00). Please feel free to view at the office. The more interest, the sooner we can order. If you want to place an order please collect a form from the office. (Sizing is the same as the sweatshirts.)

Please note that we have had to increase the price of the sweatshirts from £9.00 to £10.00 due to a price increase from the supplier.

There is a large range of summer dresses available as well as other 2<sup>nd</sup> hand uniform (from 50p an item). **MSA**

### **Shingles**

A case has been reported in KS1.

Yours sincerely

*S J Dorrington*

Head Teacher

**Cygnets Milton Pre-School Easter Fayre** – Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2011 – 3pm to 5pm. Come along with the whole family and join in the Fun. Lots of prizes to be won, lots of fabulous stalls, Fun Activities for the kids, and yummy treats, including Delicious Home-made cakes.

**Milton Colts Girls Football Club Open Day** - Girls in years 3,4,5 & 6 – Would you like to play football? Come along to the open day on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2011 - 2pm to 4pm at The Community Centre, Coles road, Milton. Contact A. Collen on 01223 503741 or 07966 346273.