



Dear Parents,

A huge thank you to everyone who made our Christmas Fair so successful. The children had a wonderful time thanks to all your donations. The secret shopping was very popular and many of you can look forward to some lovely gifts, chosen by the children and wrapped with love and care! Last week Clive Potter (St Johns) came to talk to the children in assembly about Advent and on Tuesday David Marson (Milford Baptist Church) came to make Christingles with Year 2. Elm and Lime classes will be visiting Dower House and Clockhouse to sing carols and next week we will be performing 'Christmas with the Aliens' which I am sure you will all enjoy.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas.

Yours sincerely

K J Leggett

DIARY DATES

Mon 14.12.15 Christmas Performance for younger siblings 9.30am
 Tue 15.12.15 Christmas Performance (1) 9.15am (Surnames beginning A-K)
 Wed 16.12.15 Christmas Performance (2) 9.15am (Surnames beginning L-Z)
 Thurs 17.12.15 Parent Helpers Coffee 9.00am
 Christmas Lunch
 Class Christmas Parties 2-3pm
 Fri 18.12.15 Carols around the Tree 9.00-9.30am
 Fri 18.12.15 Last Day of term school closes **1.00pm**
 Mon 21.12.15 **Christmas Holiday**

Tues 05.01.16 School resumes at 8.55am
 Wed 03.02.16 Film Night 3.30-5.00pm for children
 Mon 08.02.16 Parents Evening 4.30 - 7.00pm
 Tues 09.02.16 Parents Evening 3.30 - 6.00pm
 Thurs 11.02.16 Cake Sale - Doughnuts after school
 Fri 12.02.16 Inset Day - School closed for staff training
 Mon 15.02.16-
 Fri 19.02.16 **Half-term**
 Mon 22.02.16 School resumes at 8.55am
 Wed 09.03.16 Godalming Festival Singing Together
 Year 2 Choir 6.30pm Rodborough School
 Wed 23.03.16 Easter Assembly 9.00 - 9.30am
 Wed 23.03.16 Easter Fair - after school
 Thurs 24.03.16 Last Day of term school closes 1.00pm

Last Day of Term

Please note that school will finish at **1.00pm** on Friday 18th December and will re-open on Tuesday 5th January 2015.

Primary School Admission for 2016-2017

If your child is born between 1 September 2011 and 31 August 2012 you will need to apply on-line for a place for him/her at primary school. Please come to the office if you require a leaflet on how to apply for a place for your child. Please note the application deadline is **Friday 15th January 2016**.

Year 2 Junior School Transfer 2016-2017

All Year 2 parents should have received a leaflet explaining how to apply for a place at Junior School. The application deadline is **Friday 15th January 2016**.

Christmas Tree

Thank you to Squires for donating the Christmas Tree which is now decorated in the Hall.



Stars of the Week

Certificates were awarded to:

Elm: Owen F
 Chelsea-Mae Mc
 Lime: Charlie S
 Alfie L
 Beech: Joel B
 Robin M
 Cherry: Oli S
 Izzy M
 Oak: Georgina N
 Reuben Mc
 Willow: Amelia N-S
 James Cal



Lost Property Basket

The lost property basket will be outside the main school entrance most days for you to check for lost items. Please be aware that at the end of each term we will either, add unclaimed items to the second hand uniform stock or recycle them.

Clubs Start Dates

- Breakfast Club - Tuesday 5th January.
- Football - Tuesday 12th January
- Club Energy - Wednesday 13th January
- Tennis - Monday 18th January.



School's Policy on Videoing/Photography of School Events

Governors have agreed that parents and carers can take photos and videos at the school entertainment afternoons. Please note the School's policy below:

- Parents and carers can use photographs and videos taken at a school event for their **own personal use** only. Such photos and videos **cannot be sold and must not be put on the web/internet** due to Data Protection legislation, which in such circumstance is likely to be contravened.
- Recording or/photographing other than for private use would require the consent of all the other parents whose children may be included in the images.
- Parents and carers must follow guidance from staff as to when photography and videoing is permitted and where to stand in order to minimise disruption to the activity.
- Parents and carers must not photograph or video children changing for performances or events.
- If you are accompanied or represented by people that school staff do not recognise, they may need to check out who they are if they are using a camera or video recorder.

However, we live in an age in which technology has vastly increased the use, and potential misuse, of photographs. In the recent past there has been concern about the possibility of a child being identified by a photograph in the Press, or in the filming of a school event, in case they are put at risk of being targeted for abuse. Having taken advice from Surrey Police, Surrey County Council (the Local Education Authority) and other organisations, we believe that the risk of a child being identified by a stranger is so small that, provided reasonable steps are in place to limit the publication of their names and addresses, photography of children at the school should continue, in line with the policy set out above.

Christmas Performance



Please **ensure you bring your tickets to the performance and do not bring any extra people as we will have to turn them away.**

We are required, by law, to monitor the number of people we have in the School hall for these performances. Parents with younger siblings have been invited to attend our special performance on Monday 14th December at 9.30am. Please ensure you contact the School Office to put your name on the list as we need to know how many people will be attending. We regret we will be unable to accommodate babies and siblings at the Tuesday and Wednesday performances. Please note there will be a collection after the Christmas Entertainment, that will be donated to the charity 'Pets As Therapy'. Any donations will be gratefully received. There will also be programmes available at a cost of £1 each.



Postbox

The red postbox, which is used for letters for the Office can also be used for children to post Christmas cards to their friends.

St John's Milford - Christmas Services

Sunday December 20th at 6pm- Carols followed by refreshments
Christmas Eve at 4pm - Crib Service



The Friends - Thank You

Thank you to everyone who supported the Milford Christmas Fair. We were able to raise a huge amount of money that will be spent on experiences and resources to benefit all our children. A special thank you to all those of you who gave items and time, we couldn't have done it without you. Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Farewell - Miss Skinner

We would like to say a big 'thank you' to Miss Skinner for all her hard work during her time at Milford School. She will be leaving us at the end of this term due to family circumstances.

The Chandler Junior School

Please find below link to The Chandler C of E Junior School HMI Inspection Report.

<http://www.thechandlercofejuniorschool.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/12/Chandler-Junior-School-HMI-2015-11.pdf>

Governors Update to Parents

On Wednesday 25th November, a full Governing Body meeting was held in the Hub. Once apologies and minutes had been approved, and an update was given by the Headteacher, the meeting moved on to a long and in depth discussion of the financial position of the school, including the proposed budget for 2016/2017, and our projected financial position for the next 3 academic years.

This is a key element of the successful running of the school, and, due to lower funding from the Government, the Governing Body and Teaching Staff must balance the need to provide the correct resources to provide our children the education they require and deserve, but also to ensure the long term stability of the school.

We believe we met this remit, and have a full, robust budget that maintains the level of education, but also has a range of actions and options available to us to pursue future income streams for the School.

The meeting then moved on to approving School Policies, and then closed, slightly overrunning, but giving sufficient time to get home for the Apprentice!

NEXT WEEK'S DELICIOUS MENU

Mediterranean pasta bake with garlic bread and vegetable medley

Quorn korma with wholegrain rice and sweetcorn **V**
Glazed marmalade cake **V**

Cumberland pork sausages with BBQ sauce, mashed potato and broccoli florets

Boston bean filled jacket potato with sliced carrots **V**
Autumn fruit crumble and custard **V**

Roast British chicken with stuffing, roast potatoes, carrot and swede and gravy

Country bake with roast potatoes and cabbage **V**
Fresh fruit salad with vanilla crème fraiche **V**

Christmas Lunch

Roast Turkey, roast potatoes, stuffing and seasonal vegetables

Festive Parcel (stuffing and cranberry sauce in puff pastry) **V**

Chocolate Gateaux

Crispy coated pollock with oven chips and beans
Quorn lattice slice with oven chips and garden peas **V**

Chocolate sponge with chocolate sauce **V**



(Menus are sometimes subject to change)



Milford school Parent Survey: Summary

In June 2015 the Governors conducted their annual survey of children and parents to understand how they feel about the school. We asked 10 questions about how parents believed their children felt about school and 10 questions about how the parents interact with school. Approximately 30% of parents responded, largely by Survey Monkey. It is the Governors aim to increase this to over 50% in 2015/16.

The Child focussed survey revealed that 100% of parents believe the children are happy, making good progress and are well prepared for the next steps of their schooling. 100% of parents felt their child/children are taught well and that the school expects the best from them whilst treating them with respect and encouraging a healthy life style (Superb teachers, always positive, energetic, enthusiastic but also real - thank you).

100% of parents are happy with their child's time at the school, comments included 'a wonderful, caring school. Staff and Mrs Leggett know each child very well and make a point of encouraging parents to be as involved as much as possible with their child's education' and 'Mrs Szczepanski has been amazing. She is such a credit to the school.'

The Parent focused Survey was on the whole very positive with the majority of parents feeling welcome, that the school is well managed and that they would recommend the school to others. Comments include 'proud to be part of the school' and 'it's a lovely, safe village school. Children are happy and the staff are very dedicated'.

Some respondents did comment that communications could be further improved between the school and the home carer, particularly in relation to the progress of their child. Whilst the feedback from the teachers is considered to be good, parents would like more information in greater detail and more often. A few parents requested more advanced notice for events from cake sales to trip payments, and clearer information if dates have been rearranged or if class times change. One parent highlighted difficulties in accessing teachers and learning seminars as a working mother.

(A hard copy of the all the responses and comments from the survey is kept in the office.)

This term the school has taken steps to address the issues raised by the survey.

The web site has been relaunched and updated and contains much of the information parents requested. A curriculum breakdown in the form of topic webs has been added to the site, which can help the parents to understand what their children are learning and how they can help at home. There are links to end of term expectations for each year group in reading, writing and maths. Other links include presentations on how to 'Help your child succeed in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2'. The workshops continue to be well received, and for parents unable to attend the notes/slides are also put on the website (hard copies provided if preferred).

The fortnightly newsletters have also been updated with diary dates being a key feature and where unexpected changes do occur at the last minute every effort is made to email parents and/or send a letter home with the children as soon as possible.

Thank you for your feedback, parents are always welcome at the school and your views on how to make your child's and your experience at the school better is very much appreciated.

Milford School Governing Body