

Spring Term 1 Newsletter

Friday 14th February

Monday 24 th February	School reopens for Spring 2
Tuesday 4 th March	Parents Evening
Friday 4 th April	School closes for Easter half term

My Future SEND Careers Event

On Friday 24th January, Mill Green hosted an event giving students an opportunity to look at and explore future career and job prospects. The afternoon was open to year 10 students as well as the rest of our Key Stage 4 and 5 pupils.

Valerie Parker, our Learning Manager for Work Experience and Independent Travel, said: "This was the first time we have held a future career event in collaboration with Lansbury Bridge School, Willow Bank School and Wargrave house. The event was to give students an opportunity to meet with representatives from local colleges, independent colleges and social care providers." St. Helens Council were also invited to talk about supported internships and Inovus Medical who are looking to develop an extended work experience programme. Val continued, "We also invited apprenticeship providers but unfortunately they were unable to attend. The event seemed to go really well and student were excited about the information they received." It is hoped that this will become an annual event with all 4 schools involved.

Parents Evening

Please book you parents evening appointment via the school office on 01744678760 or via class dojo, directly with your young person's form teacher.

Parents evening will run from 3.45 - 6.30 on **Tuesday 4th March**.



On 27th January Annette's Core group participated in the Holocaust Memorial event at St Helens Town Hall.

The group were invited to attend with other schools from St Helens. The event was really interesting, hearing from guest speakers, and watching the other schools dance and sing.

We were extremely proud of Alfie Greenall who did a beautiful reading for the congregation during the event. Well done Alfie, you made us all feel very proud!

Welcome to Aidan!

Aidan says hello and tells us more about himself as he joins the Mill Green team this half term.

I have been in education for over 15 years, starting off as a cover supervisor and working my way onto a Schools Direct course to become a Physical Education teacher.

Alongside my teaching role for many years, I coached a variety of age ranges in both Gaelic football and Soccer.

During this time, I also qualified as a Duke Of Edinburgh leader aiding young people in their journey to secure a DofE bronze, silver and gold.

In order to further my teaching credentials and give young people new experiences I qualified as a Forest School practitioner and began fostering young people's love for nature and the outdoors both inside and outside school.

I have been overwhelmed by the kindness and support shown so far by all the pupils and staff at Mill Green and aim to be part of community for many years to come.





Maths lead Chloe gives us the scoop on what's been happening this half term.

In Maths this half term, all the classes have been learning about different topics involving number.

All the things we have learnt, we have applied to our functional lessons and made them as practical as possible. We encourage the use of Maths in this way to promote independence and to show how it is important to have a good understanding of number.

We have seen groups go on shopping trips, follow and adapt recipes, collect data to help with school rewards and create budgets to plan activities.

All pupils have really enjoyed the more practical aspects of the lessons and it embedded their numerical knowledge.

Some pupils used their addition and subtraction skills to create a budget and work out the money they needed to go on a shopping trip to Lidl. With the ingredients they bought, they made pizzas.

Students used their mathematical knowledge to work out the imperial and metric weights of ingredients to make brownies and cheesecakes. They looked yummy and the pupils enjoyed them as a treat after all their hard work.





Alison informs us of what her Enterprise group have been rustling up this year.

At the beginning of the school year, a group of enthusiastic students embarked on a new business mission: to prepare and serve tasty and nutritious lunches for the school staff every week. The students goal was to enhance their culinary skills, whilst maintaining high standards of health and hygiene and promote healthy eating and earn a profit to celebrate their hard work at the end of the term. Each week, the students would choose the dish that they think staff would enjoy, offering a wide variety of options to cater for all tastes, ranging from homemade soups and sandwiches to warm hearty meals, such as Chilli Con Carne and Spaghetti Bolognese. The students have gained many skills over the weeks and have hands on experience of chopping, sauteing, baking and seasoning dishes. They were able to prepare salads whilst maintaining the correct portion control and they took great pride in the presentation, all whilst adhering to food safety guidelines.

The students also had to budget carefully and charge prices for the meals that staff were happy to pay whilst also making a profit. We discussed the best places to source ingredients from and we undertook market research to boost our sales.

By the end of each term, the group received excellent feedback and they earned enough money to be able to fund a treat for them all, choosing to cook themselves a full English breakfast.



Monroe and Bowie have been up to lots this half term, let's hear from them.

Monroe class enjoyed a trip to Walton Gardens for Leisure and Wellbeing.

They enjoyed a walk around the gardens, they used the park equipment and loved walking around the mini-zoo, seeing all the farm animals. We topped it off with hot chocolate! The students loved accessing the community and were brilliant ambassadors for Mill Green.

Bowie have enjoyed a trip to the Young Scientist Centre on the 31st January. The Young Scientist Centre is a partnership between the University and the Royal Institution. They are the first national branch outside of London area. They aim to be a beacon for science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) in Lancashire.





Cafe

Our students are responsible for running a cafe in Sutton Children's Centre, now known as the Family Hub, on Ellamsbridge Road.

The cafe is open on Tuesday from 10am- 2pm and on a Wednesday from 9.30am - 11.45am. The students work incredibly hard, and they are committed to providing great food and customer service. The cafe offers our students the opportunity to work in a real life situation and it is amazing to see how they flourish and grow in confidence.

The cafe is open to anyone who uses the Hub and also to parent's/carers/ friends who would like to call in and sample our delicious menu at very reasonable prices.

Reading on, you can take a look at the menu and perhaps visit yourself when you have time to support our students.





Thick Toast 30p

Mega Thick Toast 40p

Toasted Teacake 60p

Scotch Pancake with Syrup 50p

All Items £1.50

Beans on Toast

Cheese on Toast

2 eggs on toast

Bacon Barm/Toast £1.50

Bacon& Egg on Barm/Toast £2

Sausage on Barm/Toast £1.80

Sausage and Egg on Barm/Toast £2.20

Sausage and Bacon on Barm/Toast
£2.70

Sausage, Bacon and Egg on Barm/Toast
£3

Drinks

Coffee 50p

Pot of tea 40p

Cappuccino 75p

Hot chocolate £1

Hot Chocolate
with cream £1.20

Can of pop 80p

Children's Menu £1

Beans on toast

Cheese on toast

Egg on toast

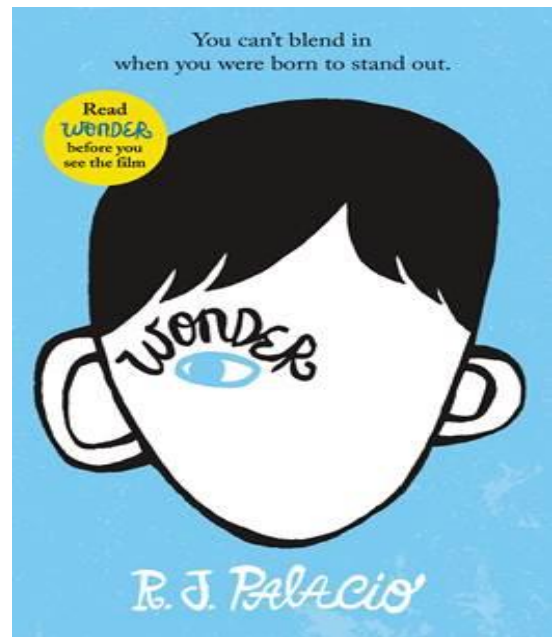
Book of the Week

Literacy lead Rob will share with you our 'book of the week' that are great reads for young people. These will include classics, favourites and new novels that we think you'll love.

This week's book is... Wonder by R.J Palacio

Like most ten-year olds, August ('Auggie') Pullman just wants to be accepted at his new school, especially as he's been previously home-schooled. However, Auggie can't help but stand out - he was born with a severe facial deformity. Most people react with horror to his appearance and don't take the time to meet the smart, funny, Star Wars-loving boy underneath.

Written in the first person, *Wonder* follows Auggie as he experiences more than the usual ups-and-downs of friendships, family and school. The story is also told from the perspective of other characters, providing glimpses into their own behaviour and exploring the impact our actions can have on others. Thought-provoking, engaging and uplifting, this is a wonderful read with a powerful message - we can all choose to be kind.



Author facts

R.J. began her writing career as an illustrator, designing book covers for Paul Auster, Thomas Pynchon, and others. During the course of her career she designed many hundreds of book covers, covering both fiction and non-fiction books. She also illustrated several children's books that she wrote herself. For the first two decades of her career, she wrote books at night after her day job as a designer. She illustrated her early books which were board books for children, published under the name Raquel Jaramillo.

Art Exhibition



For our end point this half term in art we held a mini exhibition in the hall for the whole school. Work was celebrated from a range of art classes around school but we also showcased art that has been created in PD during our Buddhism topic.

Displaying and exhibiting artwork in our school is incredibly important as it provides students with a sense of pride and accomplishment in their creative efforts. Showcasing their work not only celebrates their talent and hard work but also boosts their confidence and encourages them to continue exploring their artistic abilities. It creates a vibrant and inspiring environment that reflects the diversity and creativity of our students, fostering a sense of community and appreciation for the arts. We are incredibly proud of our students' achievements, and by displaying their artwork, we honor their dedication while inspiring others to express themselves artistically.



**CREATIVITY IS
CONTAGIOUS,
PASS IT ON.**

-ALBERT EINSTEIN

Mill Green Merits

This half term we introduced a new merit system! Much like the old merit system our young people have the opportunity to earn merits for their behaviour, lesson engagement and attitude. However now students can cash in merits for an end of half term reward. Reward trips are suggested by students and a range of rewards are on offer. Students can also keep their merits and roll over to the next half term enabling them to choose a bigger reward. This half term reward trips have included, a campfire breakfast, makeovers, bowling trip, McDonalds lunch and extra time in the hub!



Mill Green Merits		
	Highest Hitters	House Running totals
Newton	Ella G	2156
Parr	Jack VdH	2049
Sutton	Hollie G	1875
Windle	Maya L	1872

attendance

At Mill Green we are aspirational for attendance and expect every young person to be in school, every day unless there are exceptional reasons for absence. Please remember to follow NHS guidance sent home last week; if a young person has vomiting and/or diarrhoea then they must stay off school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for 2 days (48 hours).




Please also remember that there is very little lee-way for young people to be granted leave of absences during term-time. Please do not be offended when requests for termtime holidays are not approved.

95%	-	47 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 8 days in total or 1 week and 3 days
90%	-	95 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 16 days in total or 3 weeks and 1 day
85%	-	142 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 24 days in total or 4 weeks and 4 days
80%	-	190 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 32 days in total or 6 weeks and 2 days

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

**WHAT DO YOUR
ATTENDANCE
FIGURES
ACTUALLY MEAN?**

We work in partnership with St Helens LA to achieve the 3 obsessions:

	All learners, of all ages have the right to the best quality of education.
	We promote inclusion to reduce inequality. We actively work together to champion the needs of disadvantaged children and challenge every organisation and profession across the borough to do the same.
	We focus on the needs of children and young people, rather than the needs of institutions or groups.

	Weekly Attendance	Year to Date Attendance
KS4	94.37%	92.18%
KS5	89.19%	89.83%