

## November 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope that you all had a wonderful half-term break.

I was very pleased to see that the overwhelming majority of children were wearing the correct school uniform in assembly. It is very important that the children take pride in their appearance. Please make sure that they have a red tie, the school jumper or cardigan and black school shoes. No one should be wearing the summer dress now because it is winter uniform time.

Thank you for the support that you have given with all the charities we have been helping. We are currently selling poppies in support of the Royal British Legion and I will be taking a group of children to see the Field of Remembrance outside Westminster Abbey next Friday afternoon. We will be holding a special Remembrance assembly on the morning of Monday 12 November and parents are welcome to attend. We also have a non-uniform day on Friday 16 November in order to support Children in Need.

The run-up to Christmas is a very busy time in schools with lots of events going on. Please do check the diary dates at the end of this newsletter so that you know what is going on.

As always, please feel free to come up to me in the playground if you have any questions or queries.

With very best wishes,

**Dr Matthew Laban**  
Headteacher

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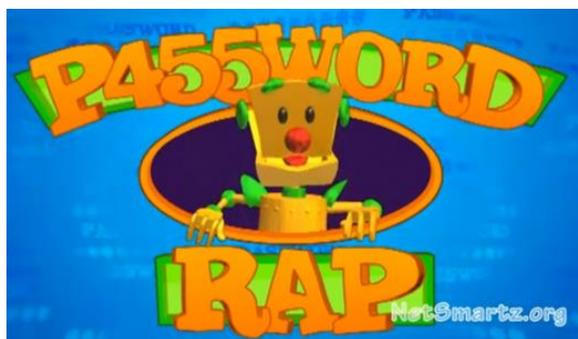
## E-safety tip of the month- How secure is your password?

As part of our online safety work, children learn about the importance of passwords. This includes why we keep them private and how to ensure they are 'strong'. Have you considered how strong your passwords are?

Have a look at the tips below.

- use letters and numbers
- use a minimum of 8 characters
- don't contain any personal information
- use characters like brackets, &, or %
- use a mixture of upper and lower case letters
- use a sentence or a line from a song instead of just one word
- will be easy for me to remember but hard for others to guess
- have different passwords for different accounts
- change my password regularly

We also watch a rap to help us remember all of this! Search for 'netsmartz password rap' or go to <https://www.netsmartz.org/netsmartzkids/passwordrap>



## Commando Joe



# COMMANDO JOE'S<sup>®</sup>

Realising your potential

After a long break, the pupils started back at school and into the Commando Joe's mission brilliantly.

The bear continues to go out to deserving students who show admirable qualities not just during CoJo sessions, but also throughout the week by being nominated by their peers. We recently had an overwhelming number of votes for Mrs Klibi! So for the first time, a member of staff looked after the bear.

I continue to work with the cricket team and will occasionally miss my normal CoJo 1<sup>st</sup> session, as we have managed to secure some cricket nets nearby to practice in. The future of Millbank cricket is looking very good!

Kind regards,

*Commando Joe*

<https://commandojoes.co.uk/>

## **PRAEMIUM LITTERARUM**

We are very proud to announce the winners for September and October. Their work will be displayed in the Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 buildings, and they will be presented with our first Praemium Litterarum enamel badges during Celebration Assembly.

### **Key Stage 1 Awards:**

**Mariam** retold the well-known story of *The Three Little Pigs*. We were impressed with her use of adverbials, conjunctions and the past tense. Here is an extract from her retell:

*Once there were three little pigs and their mother told them to go and build a house. In the woods, they saw a man carrying straw, so one pig went to build a house made out of straw. The second pig made a house out of sticks. The third pig made a house out of bricks, but then something bad happened. The big, bad wolf knocked on the door. He puffed and he blew the house down. All the trees bent as did the grass.*

**Dev** retold a story about a lighthouse keeper. He was chosen to receive the award because his handwriting was very neat and he was able to join his letters. Have a look at his work as soon as it goes on display. This is what he wrote:

*Once there was a lighthouse keeper called Mr Grinling. At night-time, he lived in a small, white cottage perched high on the cliffs. In the daytime, he rowed out to his lighthouse on the rocks to clean and polish the light. Mr Grinling was a most industrious lighthouse keeper. Come rain... or shine, he tended his light.*

### **Key Stage 2 Awards:**

**Aiza** wrote a manifesto. We were impressed with how she was able to select words and phrases that expressed her desire to become a school councillor, and her ability to use a comma after fronted subordination. Here is an extract:

*Fellow Students,*

*I stand before you today to tell you that I wish to be a member of Millbank Academy's School Council.*

*...My attendance is outstanding every year and this shows how much I love to come to school. I love Millbank Academy and I believe in all of you to help make a difference to our school.*

*If you vote for me, I promise to work incredibly hard to represent Year 3 and play an important part in making Millbank Academy the best it can be.*

*Please vote for me.*

**Agatha** wrote a poem entitled, *100 Years of Peace*. She was chosen to receive the award because she has used personification effectively along with other poetic devices. Her poem does not have a regular rhythm and so we are drawn to focus on the sentiment of each line.

Please read the beginning of her poem:

*The light of the ghostly moon and the cruel wind in the trees,  
The harsh sounds of fear, sadness and loss of hope.  
A screech as a bullet fires and the soul beside you falls gasping.  
This is war, war has come, an unwelcome guest smashing through the door,  
Eating away at love and replacing it with sorrow and hate.  
War is blood mingling with tears,  
War is when the sky rains salt water,  
Each drop holds a memory of those who were there yesterday...*

**We are now looking for our November winners.** Submit your entries to Mrs Klibi or your form tutor. Make sure that you have used neat handwriting, and that you have checked very carefully for spelling and punctuation errors. Finally, ensure that you have written your name and class on your entry. **Enjoy writing!**

## **What is your Parent's and Teacher's Association (PTA) up to?**

We would like to start with a very warm WELCOME BACK to school on this very chilly day! Thank you to all who have been enquiring about the PTA this year. We thought we would take this opportunity to update you.

Last year, we had a successful introduction to bake sales that proved very popular. Thank you for your support. We would like to continue these and are discussing how we can do this with less sugar! We hope to update you shortly. In the meantime, we have been busy looking at how the PTA operates and we have some exciting improvements that we would like to share.

### **We are introducing PTA year group representatives!**

The idea is each year group will have their own PTA representatives who can better support the classes in that year group, giving parents and teachers an easy way to reach out for PTA support. We are looking for 2 representatives per year group, so could you volunteer and be a PTA representative for your child's year? Do you have a friend or another parent that would partner with you? Would you like to do fun things to raise money for your child's class? If you are interested in volunteering or if you are simply curious about what is involved, please feel free to contact us. We would be more than happy to give you more information.

### **A new PTA newsletter!**

Look out for a new PTA newsletter that will give you more details of PTA activity, how we support our school, fundraising updates and up and coming events.

### **Fun things to raise money for our school**

#### **Why do we continue to fundraise?**

Significant funding cuts to education have been widely reported in recent years. Many schools in London are now feeling the squeeze. By supporting our school in this way, we can all help to ensure our children do not feel the effects of these cuts. We also have a great deal of fun working together as a team in all the activities we do!

#### **How are the funds being used?**

All funds raised by the PTA are used to pay for school trips, programs or activities that support our children's learning. So far this year PTA's support includes:

- Maths with Parents program for KS1 £599
- Contribution to new colourful playground signage (Numeracy boards) £1,000

#### **How can I contact the PTA committee?**

- You can email [millbankacdmypta@gmail.com](mailto:millbankacdmypta@gmail.com)
- You can attend PTA organised events or meetings - we will put details in letters and on the notice board near the school gate.
- Lastly, you may choose to leave a note addressed to 'The PTA' in the school office. Please make sure you leave a phone number/email address so we can get in touch with you.
- Or, simply have an informal chat in the playground, we are always happy to meet new friends!

## Lower sugar drinks for kids

There's a surprising amount of sugar in popular kids' drinks, so if you want to cut back on sugar, they're a great place to start.

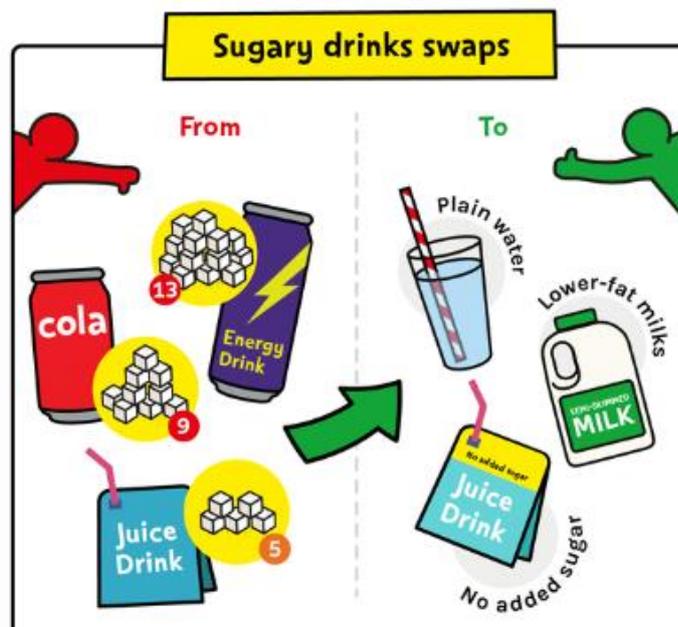


### What drinks should I give my kids?

Water and lower-fat milks are always the best choices when it comes to drinks for your kids. Water is a no-sugar thirst quencher. Milk has calcium, which helps keep your child's body strong and forms part of a healthy, balanced diet.

## Make some smart swaps

The good news is there are plenty of healthier options out there, so just take a look at these swap ideas to help you choose something less sugary.



### How sugar affects our kids

Too much sugar can lead to the build up of harmful fat on the inside that we can't see. This fat around organs can cause weight gain and serious diseases in the future like **heart disease, type 2 diabetes and some cancers**. Having too much sugar can also cause **tooth decay**.

### How much is too much?

The maximum daily amounts of added sugar are:

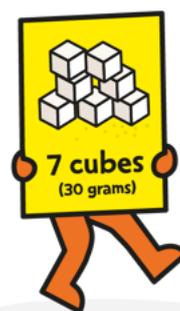
4-6 years



7-10 years



11+ years



\* 1 cube = 4g sugar

### Added Sugar

When we talk about added sugar, we mean sugar that has been added to food and drink to sweeten it. It could be added by the food manufacturer, by a cook or chef, or by you at home. It doesn't just mean the sugar added to tea or coffee- it also includes honey, syrups and fruit juice nectars.

### Juice and smoothies

Fruit juice and smoothies are sugary. They still count towards your 5 A DAY, but remember to limit the amount to no more than 150ml a day- and keep to mealtimes as they can cause tooth decay.



## Parent guide to Pupil Premium

If your child is eligible for free school meals, they may also be entitled to a sum of money paid to their school to boost their learning.

### What is the pupil premium?

Introduced in 2011, the pupil premium is a sum of money given to schools each year by the Government to improve the attainment of disadvantaged children.

### Why is the Government providing the Pupil Premium?

Poverty or low income is the single most important factor in predicting a child's future life chances, with many pupils having low attainment by the time they leave school at age 16. The Government believes that the Pupil Premium is the best way to address these underlying inequalities between children eligible for free school meals (FSM) and their peers by ensuring that funding to tackle disadvantage reaches the pupils who need it most.

### Is your child eligible?

Schools are given a pupil premium for:

- Children who have qualified for free school meals at any point in the past six years. The school receives £1320 for each of these children.
- Children who are or have been looked after under local authority care for more than one day. These children are awarded a premium of £2300.
- Children from service families who receive a child pension from the Ministry of Defence. They are awarded £300.

Children qualified for free school meals – and accordingly pupil premium – if you received any of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400.
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190, as assessed by HMRC.
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax

Since September 2014, all children in Reception and Years 1 and 2 have qualified for free school meals, regardless of their family income, but only the children who would qualify for free meals under the above income-based criteria will receive the pupil premium.

### How do I apply?

If you think you might be eligible for pupil premium and free school meals, submit a claim to Westminster Local Authority. The school office will have a form, otherwise you can get the form from the Council's website: <https://www.westminster.gov.uk/free-school-meals>

The information you provide will be used to check if you are in receipt of a qualifying benefit, and if you are on Universal Credit, that your earnings do not exceed the threshold.

If you are eligible, you will receive a letter and school will be notified.

### Student and Pupil Support Service Free School Meals

PO Box 649 Weston Super Mare BS23 9NR

Direct line: (020) 7641 3412

Fax No: (020) 7641 1830

Email: [fsm@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:fsm@westminster.gov.uk)

## Autumn Parent Progress Meetings

At the end of this term you will have the opportunity to meet with your child's classroom teacher and/or some subject specialist teachers to discuss your child's progress and attainment. You will additionally receive an accompanying Autumn Academic Report. Parent progress meetings will need to be booked in advanced via sign-up sheets, which will be displayed, from the **beginning of December**.

Class	Dates/Times	Location
Nursery	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> 3:40-5:40pm	Nursery classroom
Reception Red	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> 3:40-5:40pm	RR classroom
Reception Blue	Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> 3:40-5:40pm	RB classroom
Year 1 Red	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> 3:40-5:40pm	1R classroom
Year 1 Blue	Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> 3:40-5:40pm	1B classroom
Year 2 Red	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> 3:40-5:40pm	2R classroom
Year 2 Blue	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> & Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> 3:40-5:40pm	2B classroom

Class	Dates/Times	Subject	Location
Year 3Blue	Wednesday 5th December 3:15-5:40pm	Maths, British History, Music	Main Building, Top Hall
Year 3Red	Thursday 6th December 3:15- 5:40pm	Maths, British History, Music	Main Building, Top Hall
Year 4Blue	Monday 17th December 3:15-5:40pm	English, History, RE	Main Building, Top Hall
Year 4Red	Tuesday 18th December 3:15-5:40pm	English, History, RE	Main Building, Top Hall
Year 5Blue	Monday 10th December 3:15-5:40pm	Maths, Geography, Art	Main Building, Top Hall
Year 5Red	Tuesday 11th December 3:15-5:40pm	Maths, Geography, Art	Main Building, Top Hall
Year 6Blue	Friday 14th December 3:15- 5:40pm	Maths, English, History, French	Main Building, Top Hall
Year 6Red	Thursday 13th December 3:15-5:40pm	Maths, English, History, French	Main Building, Top Hall

## Upcoming Dates and Events

### November

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November- Curriculum newsletters to go home

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November- Staff training day, SCHOOL CLOSED**

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> November, 9:00am- Curriculum parent workshop- KS2 History

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> November, 9:00am – Year 6 Sats meeting for parents

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> November- Trip to the Field of Remembrance

Mondy 12<sup>th</sup> November, 9:00am- Remembrance Assembly

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November- Year 5 Red trip to Tate Britain

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November, 10:00am- School tour

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November, 9:00am- Anti-Bullying week assembly

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November- Nasal Flu Vaccine

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> November, 9:00am – Inter-Faith assembly

Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November- 'Child in Need' Non-Uniform Day, wear colourful/spotty clothes and bring £1 or similar donation.

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> November, 9:00am- Curriculum parent workshop- KS2 Science

Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November, 9:00am – Headteacher coffee morning

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2:30pm- School tour

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> November, 9:00am –KS2 Athletics workshop



### December

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2:00pm – Christmas concert at St Stephen's Church

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December- Year 1 & 2 Christmas Concert "How Rudolph got his red nose"

Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2:00pm- Early Year's Nativity Play, EY Hall

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 9:00am- Clubs Assembly, Top Hall, Main Building

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 3:45pm- Year 1 and Year 2 Art Exhibition, Art Studio, EY building

Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December- Autumn Academic Reports sent home

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> December- **Last Day of term, 1pm finish**

### Half term holidays

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> December until Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January**

*Family holidays outside of these dates will be unauthorised and you may be at risk of a Penalty Notice issued by the Local Authority*

### January

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January, 8:55am- First day of term