

October 2021



Dear Parents,

As Headteacher, I would like to welcome you to the school year 2021-2022. I would like to extend a particularly warm welcome to all our new families and hope that you will enjoy becoming part of our happy school community. Our new children have settled in very quickly, although it often can take several weeks to adapt fully to their new school! A huge thank you to all the parents for your support! The staggered start and exit are working well.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The school will be closed for holidays on:

Tuesday 12th October – Día de la Hispanidad

Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd November – Mid-term holiday

SCHOOL PHOTOS will be taken at Milton on the following dates:

Monday 25th October Pre-Nursery & Nursery

Tuesday 26th October Reception & Y1 Year 1 children need to come to school in their winter uniform on this day.



Hallowe'en Party Day – Friday 29th October

We will be celebrating Hallowe'en in school, in a fun way as usual on this day. **Children may come to school wearing a Hallowe'en costume** (e.g. cat, witch, ghost, monster, fairy, zombie etc) and they will be doing activities related to the theme in class during the day. They may also bring a special snack to share with their class.

Individual Parent/Teacher Progress Meetings on Zoom

We will be offering individual parent meetings via Zoom to meet with your child's teacher and discuss your child's learning and progress from late-October onwards, rather than leaving these meetings until December when the reports go home. We did this last year and it seemed more beneficial than leaving the meeting until December. We will be sending more information about the times of these meetings shortly; each parent will be given an appointment time with the class teacher.



After School Activities

Due to the Covid restrictions in place for schools, we will only be offering Basketball this term, as the children will not be in their class “bubble” but with other children in their year group. We will continue to review the situation and hope to resume more activities after school whenever we feel able to mix children in the same year group indoors.



New School Logo

You will notice that the updated school logo is on this letter head and also on our new website and Frog platform. We decided to modernize our ‘look’ to tie in with 2022 being the **GOLDEN JUBILEE of Canterbury School – an exciting time for us!** We are planning to organize several celebratory events throughout 2022 to celebrate **fifty years since Mrs Pritchard founded our school.** More information soon!

New Website

The school website is being updated and modernised, and the new-look website is now live. Information about all aspects of school life will be able to be found on the website. School newsletters are not sent home with the children. Please look at the school website /class Frog site frequently so as to keep up to date. www.canterburyschool.com

FROG



Everyone should now have been able to log into the FROG platform and be able to see the home page and class site of their child. If you have any issues with logging in please let us know. Here is some brief information about how to translate the Frog page into Spanish.

On a mobile – download the “My Frog” App. When you log in, go to the red drop-down menu to select “Home” to see news for everyone at Milton House. If you scroll down below the news section you will see the “Quick Links” section. The first item is the Google translate button; if you want to have Frog all in Spanish, or any other language, here you can select the language from the drop-down menu and everything on Frog will be translated into your desired language. Also in this section, parents of Pre-Nursery and Nursery children will see the “Daily Diary” tab, where they can access information about their child’s day.

If you select “Classes” from the red drop-down menu you will see the link to your child’s class site. On the class site you can see the main page with current information and links, the gallery where teachers post photos of the activities taking place and also the “Learning Sites” where you can see videos and activities of the work currently being done in the class to support their learning at home.

On a desk top computer, the layout is slightly different; the home screen has the Milton news items in the middle and at the top of the column to the right there is the translate option, where you can change Frog into Spanish. Below this you can access the “Daily Diary” for Pre-Nursery and Nursery children. To access the child’s class site, select “Classes” from the menu bar along the top. *Please look frequently at the Frog platform as we post updates, letters and update information regularly.*



WHOM TO CONTACT

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask either myself or the staff and we will try our best to help you. We also always endeavor to reply as quickly as possible to emails.

- Any **questions** you have in relation to your **child's education** be it academic, social or emotional should initially be directed **to their class teacher**. If they are unable to resolve the issue it will be passed to Miss Pam.
- Matters related to school organisation, curriculum, etc... should be directed to **Miss Pam**.
- **All administrative questions** are dealt with by the **secretary** whose hours are: **8:00–14:00** and **14:30–15:45** by sending an email to milton@canterburyschool.com.
- Questions related to **the school bus service** are dealt with directly by **Amanda Bus** whose telephone number is 928 22 48 38.

Medical Issues

If your child has any specific medical needs or allergies and /or needs medication in school (EpiPen, inhaler...) please make sure that you have informed the class teacher and given the school office (milton@canterburyschool.com) this information in writing, so that we can meet your child's needs appropriately. If your child suffers from something like asthma, but does not need medication in school please also inform us about any such condition.



The authorisation form (available from the office) to permit us to give medication during the school day must be filled in and the medication must be handed in to the office in its original packaging. **For the safety of all the children, medication is not allowed to be left in a child's school bag.**

Allergy Aware School



class Frog Site.

- As we have several children across Canterbury School with severe **nut** allergies and **kiwi** allergies, we would like **the school to be a nut-free and kiwi-free zone**. Please do not send kiwi or nuts of any description (peanuts, almonds, pistachos....) or food containing nuts with your child for their snacks. Our suggested 'Healthy Snack Menu' can be found on our website /



- **No trolley bags (with wheels) are permitted in the Infant school.** They are dangerous and the children are too small to handle them bearing in mind how many steps and stairs there are within the school.



Birthday Parties

If you would like your child to celebrate his/her birthday at school and you decide to send a cake (this must be commercially packaged from a shop or bakery) please remember to send paper plates and spoons too. Please tell the class teacher in advance of when you would like your child to celebrate their birthday, so they can arrange their timetable accordingly.

Due to health and hygiene laws, we can't accept home-made products for birthday celebrations: biscuits, cakes, cookies, etc. Any products you send in must be commercially packaged.

It is not necessary to send "party bags" in to give out to the other children in the class to take home, however if you do choose to send a gift for the other children, we recommend that these are not bags of sweets so as to be in line with the school's focus on children eating healthily.

Absences

We would like to remind all parents that you must **let us know in writing** if your child is absent for any reason. **This should be sent by email** (milton@canterburyschool.com) **on the morning that the child is absent.**

It is important that you adhere to the times of the school day for your child. In unavoidable circumstances when you need to take your child out of afternoon school please inform the office by email in advance and **collect your child at 14:00** to avoid unnecessary disruption to school life.

Parking and End of Day Routine

Parents are responsible for their own children's safety and behaviour once they have been handed over at the end of the day. For the safety of all the children we request that all families to please leave school promptly when you have collected your child. Children should not be running around or playing in the school grounds, including the grass/garden areas, at the end of the school day. Thank you!

- To ensure your child's safety we are unable to hand over any child to another parent/carer unless we are able to identify that person and have clear written permission prior to the end of the day. If your child is being collected by a different person, parents must send this in writing to the class teacher and email to the school office, with a copy of their DNI.
- Parking is difficult in the local area so **if parents leave the drop off area quickly, the traffic in the road by the school will flow better and this will enable every parent to drop off their child nearby the school gate.**

Kind regards,
Pam Ainsworth
Infant Department Headteacher

