



Milldene News 3

19th September
2017

www.milldene.essex.sch.uk



School Council Election—Democracy in Action!

Last week the children were given the chance to vote for their School Council Representatives. Classes 1-6 had a selection of boys and girls to choose from to represent their year group.

The votes have been counted and our new School Council members are:-

- Year 1: Summer D and Alfie M
- Year 2: Rosie and Freddie
- Year 3: Zak and Olivia
- Year 4: Evie and Ryan
- Year 5: Jacob and Katie
- Year 6: Kieran and Chloe



We look forward to seeing what new and exciting ideas our new Council members have in store for us here at Milldene!

E-Safety



Update

Many parents, myself included, worry about staying up to date and keeping their children safe in today's digital world.

A highly recommended site for parents and carers is www.net-aware.org.uk. The NSPCC and O2 have joined forces to provide a simple guide to help parents talk to their children about staying safe on social networking platforms, websites and apps that our children use the most. The information and reviews will help you make informed decisions about whether the sites, apps or games are age appropriate, as well as highlighting the risks and benefits of each. This website certainly proved to be very helpful in my household!

Save the Date! E-Safety Evening

We are delighted to announce that we have booked "The 2 Johns" of EST E-Safety Training to join us and conduct a parent information evening. This will take place on Tuesday 17th October. Final details will be announced nearer the time.



Attendance

Our attendance target for the last academic year was 97%. However, as was the case in 2015/16, we have missed our target by a small margin (96.78%). Please help us to meet our 2017/18 target which is likely to remain at 97%.

Our analysis shows that holidays in term time are still having an impact on our figures. Requests are still being made on a regular basis citing exceptional circumstances. May I politely remind you that in order to meet the exceptional circumstances criteria, it needs to be a 'once in a lifetime' occasion. Whilst I realise that the reduced costs are tempting, please do not make a request unless there is a genuine reason, as refusal often causes unnecessary offense.

In addition, a review of the Essex Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices has resulted in some important changes which will be effective from 1st October 2017:-

- A penalty notice may be issued if 10 unauthorised absences have occurred during a 10 week period (instead of the current 6 week period)
- A penalty notice may be issued if there are 6 or more unauthorised sessions due to a holiday taken during the first two weeks of September (this will apply for holidays taken during September 2018 onwards).

Music Tuition

We still have spaces available for guitar and piano lessons! If your child is interested in starting tuition, please contact the school office for information.

School Meals

Please note that we are on Week 1 of our school lunch menus this week.



