



MILE OAK NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 27TH MAY 2022

Summer 2 Newsletter



On 15th March, Ofsted completed a full inspection of the school. The final report has now been released and we are delighted to announce that the school has been graded as 'GOOD' in all areas.

Ofsted commented that, 'Pupils feel happy and safe at this school. They know that staff have high expectations for all pupils. Staff encourage pupils to follow the school's vision and 'Think Big' about what they can achieve in the future. Pupils are proud to belong to the school and they enjoy the range of experiences on offer. Mental and physical health are strong themes in the school's work to support pupils.'

Our incredible pupils are wonderful ambassadors for the school. They are the focus of every decision that is made and we are delighted this has been recognised in the report. We are incredibly proud of this outcome and know that it reflects the continued hard work, dedication and commitment of all staff and the whole community over the last four years.

Thank you for the faith and support that parents have shown. We are incredibly excited about the school continuing to develop and strengthen over the coming years. We will be thinking BIG!

The final report is attached for you to read and enjoy.

We hope that you have a well-earned and restful half term holiday and we look forward to welcoming all children back to school on Monday 6th June.

Mr. Lording



AMBITION



RESPECT



PRIDE



COURAGE

Book Swap

We have had another highly successful Book Swap this half term. The children absolutely love the event and it is always so lovely to see their excitement at being able to choose a book to take home, from the wide-range of books on offer. This half-termly event would not be possible without the donations from all of our Mile Oak families so thank you for your continued support.



The next book swap will be on
Thursday 14th July 2022

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

On **Friday 27th May**, we celebrated the Queen's Platinum Jubilee with a busy, fun-filled day.

Across the day we:

- Played a variety of traditional games
- Enjoyed 'A Timeline of the Queen's Reign' performed by the Rainbow Theatre
- Sang and danced to a full brass band
- Decorated pebbles for our Jubilee Garden
- Marveled at the Jubilee art produced in our well-being hub
- Sang the National Anthem

Learned the significance of this event

The children were an absolute delight, as they always are.



We hope that this is a day which will be remembered for many years to come. Many of our staff have been reminiscing about their Jubilee celebrations when they were at school.

Thank you to all of our families for their kind donations of food for our afternoon tea!

We hope that you all have the opportunity to enjoy some of the community events over the bank holiday weekend.

The Mile Oak Platinum Pudding Competition

A huge thank you to the following families who entered our Platinum Pudding Competition:

Frankie S - Year 2

Jack P - Year 4

Willo-Louise K - Year 3

Jessica R - Year 4

Alexia B - Year R

Natasha B - Year 2

Naomi G - Year 2

Larisa B - Year 4

Maryria K - Year 4

Our judges thoroughly enjoyed your creations! All entries will receive a certificate of entry after the half-term break.



THE LIVING CLASSROOM



Wow! This half term has flown by as rapidly as our garden has grown.

We are starting to enjoy the fruits of our labor by harvesting, sharing, and tasting produce such as Rhubarb, lettuce, Radish, and Broad Beans. We have been observing how the blossom and flowers are starting to form into Apples, Strawberrys, Raspberrys, Courgette, Peas, and Beans and how pollinators play a huge part in this. We have also been lucky to spot bees fly into our bee hotels to lay eggs!

Our small gardening groups continue to impress with their teamwork, kindness, and support for each other. Sometimes the children step out of their comfort zone by helping to collect stinging nettles, picking up slugs and snails, tasting new Vegetables, playing with sticky weed, walking through long grass, and smelling manure! but they always do it with enthusiasm and encouragement for each other.



THE LIVING CLASSROOM

We are also taking part in iNaturalist an online social network of people recording and sharing the weird and wonderful living things we find on our school grounds. There are 244 cities taking part from around the globe and we have added Mile Oak School to the Map. It can be accessed through their website or downloaded as a free app. All the information collected is used as scientific Data. Please do have a look, it is simple to use and can help identify any creature or plant.



Congratulations to Year 2 for having won £150 from the South Downs Trust after sending in their pictures and letters about ideas on how they would like to renature our retreat area. Look forward to putting your plans in place next term.

Many of you may have seen The One Show and Radio Two are giving away free seeds, all you need to do is pop into either Homebase or B&M ask for your free seeds... Easy!

**BBC Radio 2 - Radio 2 and The One Show
Go Green - Sow, Grow and Show**

FRIDAY 27TH MAY 2022

OUR LEARNING MENTORS



This term in the Well Being Hub, friendship groups from the break and lunchtime clubs have been 'creatively collaborating'. The children have been working on 3 pieces of Jubilee Artwork for our celebrations!!!

Problem solving, decision making ,working together and sharing ideas and listening to each other have helped the children to design and make some incredible pieces if work together.

They are looking forward to sharing their finished art with the Queen herself. As we will be sending her majesty some photographs and a card if the children's hard work!! Well done everyone !!



P.E. AND SPORT UPDATE

There have been many positives in PE and Sport this half term; however, the most impressive achievement has been again that over 150 children have been involved in school sport. As a school, we are always aiming to increase this number, by 'thinking big' and offering a broader range of activities for an extra-curricular club. Lots of children have been able to try sports that they have never experienced before such as Badminton in Y4 and Handball in Y6.

On the 23rd May, the Commonwealth Games Baton was received from PACA and all of our children had the opportunity to run around our Daily Mile holding the baton. The day after six Y6 children ran from our school to Hangleton to exchange the baton with Kings school in a show of hope and solidarity.

There are exciting sporting opportunities that will take place in the next half term including: Y3/4 racquets festival, an athletics tournament at Withdean, Y6 girls cricket tournament, and sports day, amongst many more!



A MESSAGE FROM YEAR SIX



Year 6

Murder Mystery

On Monday 16th May, Year 6 commenced their Crime and Punishment topic with a morning of mayhem at our Murder Mystery event. The children attended a party at The Paramount Casino in Las Vegas and enjoyed playing card games; watching entertainment (including Elvis Presley, Paul Piano, dancers, magicians and comedians); having refreshments; and looking out for suspicious behaviour. They had to ask and answer questions and guess who had committed a crime based on the evidence and their sleuthing skills. We had a fantastic morning, as the children really immersed themselves in their character, which their fabulous costumes really helped with – a huge thank you to parents/carers for providing these!



SATs

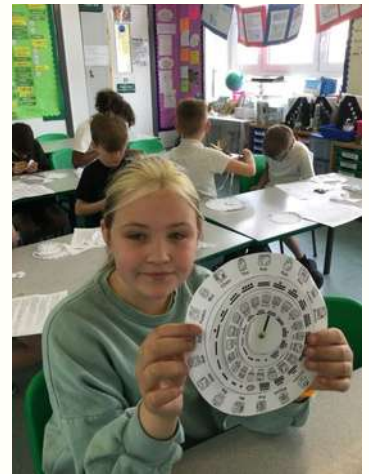
Year 6 have been working incredibly hard leading up to SATs and we were so proud of them during SATs week, as they were so positive and focused. We enjoyed serving them breakfast in the mornings and were impressed by the amount of beans on toast they could eat! Finally, we ended the week with a relaxing SATs picnic on the field, followed by lots of games. Thank you parents/carers for your support with all their homework, revision and providing the delicious food last Friday.

A MESSAGE FROM YEAR FIVE



Year 5

This term, Year 5 have been enthusiastically learning all about the Ancient Maya. We began the topic with our stunning start, where we tasted and evaluated different types of chocolate and learned songs about the Maya. A week later, we had an amazing Maya Day delivered by Portals to the Past. Children were treated to a range of activities and workshops including hunting, playing a Maya board game, making a calendar, completing a quiz, recreating a play of a well-known myth and even playing Pok-a-tok. Our Maya topic has also inspired lots of great writing, learning in History, Art, as well Science, where we tasted and experimented with the ancient Maya chocolate drink.



Next half-term, we will be continuing with our topic of The Ancient Maya for two more weeks as there is still so much exciting learning to be done.

Following that we will be embarking on our final topic of the year – Everyday Heroes. This will involve looking at various people who help us in our society. We will focus on the history of protest from Martin Luther King, through to Nelson Mandela, Marcus Rashford and Greta Thunberg.

While looking at what artists contribute to our society and environmental impact, we will go on our class trip. This Art walk along Brighton seafront will take place on Tuesday 21st June 2022.

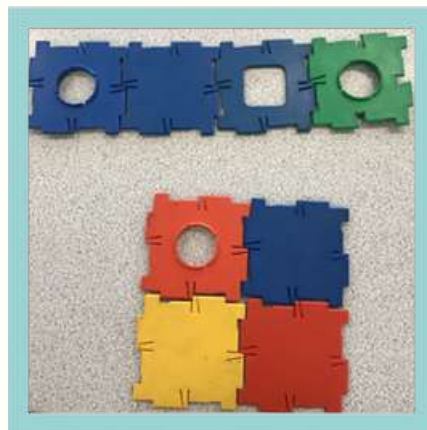
A MESSAGE FROM YEAR FOUR

Year 4

Topic - We have started our topic of Explorers and will continue with this topic into the next half term where we will become explorers ourselves. Using our geography skills, we will map out the school, as well as navigating the Mile Oak area and its varied architecture – we may even discover a place we have never been before! During this outing, we will use photography to record our observations and use that to create some map artwork.

Times Tables – Between 06/06/22 and 24/06/22, pupils in year 4 will take a statutory times table check issued by the government. The children are currently practising the set up so that they are familiar with the procedure. Please test your children whenever you can because knowing your tables is crucial to making progress across the maths curriculum.

The Living Classroom – we will finish making our bird and bug houses with Mrs Thomas and then we will harvest the elder flowers to make our very own elderflower cordial. We will also grab any opportunity to enrich our learning either in the living classroom or the beautiful school grounds.



We're are still going to be learning about fractions next term and we are starting to see them everywhere! Go fraction spotting over half term!

We are also very excited to announce that Year 4 will be working with a local performance poet, Kay Walton, on creating a poetry trail around the school. Not only will Year 4 be creating and performing poetry, they will also be contributing towards the school's cultural capital as the trail, will then be used by all year groups – Watch this space!

YEAR 4 MULTIPLICATION CHECK

Every year children in year 4 complete a multiplication tables check. The check is an on screen check consisting of 25 times table questions up to 12×12 . On average, the check should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete.

The purpose of the check is to determine whether your child can fluently recall their times tables, which is essential for future success in mathematics.

The check has been designed so that it is inclusive and accessible to as many children as possible, including those with special educational needs or disability (SEND) or English as an additional language (EAL). However, there may be some circumstances in which it will not be appropriate for a pupil to take the check, even when using suitable access arrangements. If you have any concerns about your child accessing the check, you should discuss this with your child's headteacher.

Year 4 will complete this check in June and are already familiar with the format.

As a school, the information gathered through this check will help us to identify if your child may need additional support in year 5.

You do not need to do anything additional to prepare your child for the check.

The score will be shared with you in the end of year reports. There is no pass mark for the check.

If you have any questions about the check, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Year 4 - Get practising over the half-term on times tables rock stars.



A MESSAGE FROM YEAR THREE

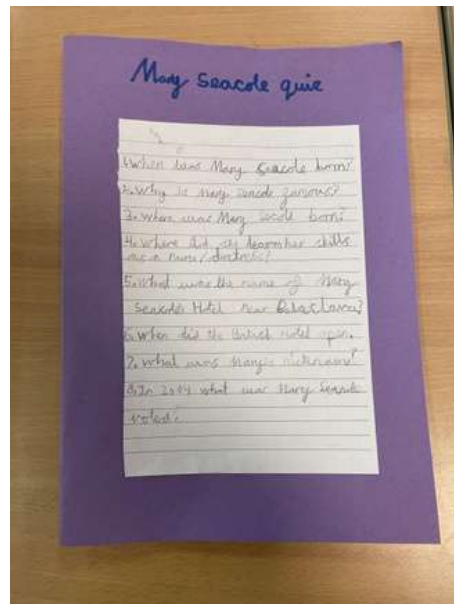


Year 3

We have had a wonderful start to our Summer Term. Our big questions in Science have been 'Are all parts of a flowering plant important?' 'What do plants need to be healthy?' and 'How do plants get water?' In order to find the answer to these questions we set up an experiment to identify the best conditions for seedlings to grow in. Some of the beans have grown very well and we hope to plant them in the garden soon. We also put some celery and white flowers in water and food dye. This helped us to visualise how the water is transported in the plant through the xylem; look for the blue tubes in the photo of the celery! The living Classroom was a great way to explore the different parts of plants that we eat, teaching us that all parts of flowering parts are important!



A MESSAGE FROM YEAR TWO



Year 2

The Year 2 team are so proud of our children for all their hard work this half term, especially during their 'Secret Agent Training!' They have put so much effort into all their work. We have been learning lots about the amazing work of Mary Seacole, Edith Cavell and Florence Nightingale. The children have produced some fabulous work, including some brilliant home made lamps! They drew and painted portraits of Mary Seacole and wrote fantastic diaries in role as Mary.



A MESSAGE FROM YEAR ONE

Year 1 - If I Were a Minibeast....

We had a terrific start to this term.

We boarded the Science Bus at the beginning of term, and had a carousel of Science activities. This included observing and handling minibeasts, going through the worm hole on the top deck (!) researching mini beast facts, exploring the garden and Forest areas to look at the fantastic range of habitats and where woodlice in particul12ar can be found.



Also in Science, we have been labelling body parts of animals, including humans, finding out about how animals can be grouped, according to their features and what they eat. Again, the school grounds have been a rich resource in developing the children's understanding of animal names, groups and habitats.

As part of English this developed into Report Writing, understanding the features of Reports, such as headings, labels, captions and facts. We have also written Animal Riddles, exploring adjectives and clue writing.

A MESSAGE FROM YEAR ONE



Our focus text 'You're Called What?' by Kes Gray and Nikki Dyson has been enjoyed by staff and children alike. We have learned so much about a whole host of fascinating creatures, and we have applied this learning in our reading fluency sessions. Words and phrases such as 'pink fairy armadillo' and 'shovelnose guitarfish' now trip off the tongue!

In Design and Technology we are creating wheeled vehicles. We are evaluating existing designs, and designing our own vehicles. This shall extend into next half term's learning. Children shall assemble, using axels, wheels and chassis. Children then add additional features, using junk modelling. If families have collections of small cardboard boxes these will be gratefully received!



Ahead of the Jubilee celebrations next week, we have been learning the National Anthem in Music, and having a go with Boom Whackers to play along! These are tuned percussion instruments, made of a very robust material that play a musical note when struck. Lots of fun, and requires excellent focus and listening!

Thank you to all families for continuing to support the key skills of phonics and reading at home.

The Year 1 Team.

A MESSAGE FROM RECEPTION



This term in Reception we have been on our adventures into storyland and using our imaginations in the world of fantasy.

Our first imaginary world was within the traditional story of Jack and the Beanstalk. We had an exciting visit from our very friendly Giant. The children were hooked! Stories, discussion, questions galore about where he had come from, how we could help him, and if we had seen any of his missing golden eggs! He even came back a few weeks later to see if we had found the dragon who made him sneeze and blew out the sun! The fabulous text supporting these adventures was 'There is No Dragon in This Story' by Lou Carter.

The following weeks saw us share many more quality texts featuring dragons and other mythical creatures, knights, royal characters, fairies and unicorns. 'How to Grow a Unicorn' by Rachel Morrisroe has inspired many imaginary discussions around what fantasy plants we could grow and culminated in us making our very own unicorn poop, a magical manure as described in the story!



FRIDAY 27TH MAY 2022



Alongside this fun we have been regularly exploring the Living Classroom Forest School area looking for fairies through the fairy doors, growing our own beanstalks and building shelters. We are so excited to see our strawberries are already starting to bear fruits.

Our half term culminated in a brilliant week of preparations for the celebrations of Queen Elizabeth's Platinum Jubilee. We have proudly learnt the National Anthem, revisited the Queen's Hat by Steve Antony and made models castles and palaces.



Our next topic is based around our local environment. 'Here's Looking Around Me' is a journey into our very own part of this amazing world. We will explore Mile Oak and Brighton, thinking about all the fantastic things we have around us, old and new. We will also be appreciating all the everyday heroes that keep our city moving and how we can play our part in looking after ourselves and our home. It would be a great opportunity to discuss what activities you do at home to look after our environment for all of our futures.

NEXT HALF-TERM

Topics for Summer 2

Reception - Here's Looking Around Me

Year 1 - Let's Go Green

Year 2 - Brighton Open House

Year 3 - Who Were The Ancient Egyptians?

Year 4 - Journeys

Year 5 - Heroes

Year 6 - Moving On

Please visit the school website and select your child's year group to view the curriculum overview for their year group. This details what children will be learning in each subject.

In addition to which concepts and time periods children will cover, the curriculum maps show the language which will be taught.

As a school we focus on the development of children's capacity and confidence to use speech to express their thoughts and communicate with other.

Please discuss the language used on the curriculum maps with your children at home.

Core Reading Texts for Summer 2

Reception - Nature Trail: Benjamin Zephaniah/A Mouse Called Julian: Joe Todd-Stanton/Busy People-Occupations: Lucy George

Year 1: The Egg drop Wangari's /Trees of Peace Avocado baby – Burningham

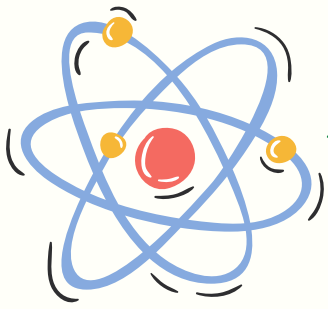
Year 2: Winter's Child/ Rabbit and Bear- Rabbit's Bad Habits

Year 3: Varjak Paw

Year 4: Kensuke's Kingdom (Michael Morpurgo)

Year 5: The Explorer

Year 6: Happy Here (Transition Text)



SCIENCE WEEK



Our much-loved Science Week is returning with a bang next term. The theme for this year's Science Week will be Women in Science. During the week beginning 27th June 2022, children will be focusing most of their learning in school on Science

We would love parents and families to get involved too. On the Friday of Science Week, 1st July 2022, we will have a Science Dressing-up day. Children are invited to wear anything related to Science to school on that day. Extra housepoints (and possibly prizes) will be given out for costumes which:

- Celebrate creativity – homemade is always best!
- Highlight Women in Science
- Demonstrate a scientific principle, e.g. magnetism

We are also planning to invite parents and carers to attend Year Group assemblies the following week so children can present what they have learned during Science Week. More details about these to follow.





June

W/C 06.06.22 Whole School – New Class lists for September will be published to Parents/Carers

Mon 06.06.22 Year 6 – Chestnut Class on crime and punishment tour around Brighton

Tues 07.06.22 Year 6 – Blackthorn Class on crime and punishment tour around Brighton

Tues 07.06.22 Year 3 – Ash Class visiting Brighton Museum

Wed 08.06.22 Year 6 – Sycamore Class on crime and punishment tour around Brighton

Wed 08.06.22 Year 3 – Beech Class visiting Brighton Museum

Thurs 09.06.22 Year 3 – Cheery Class visiting Brighton Museum

Fri 10.06.22 Whole School Transition – Circle time in new classes

Fri 10.06.22 2:15pm Time to Talk Transition - Please join us for an open discussion around your child's move to their new class next year. Learn why we are mixing our class groups and hear how you can support your child through their transition into the year above and beyond.

Tues 14.06.22 Reception – Ladybird visiting Mile Oak Farm

Wed 15.06.22 Reception – Dragonfly visiting Mile Oak Farm

Wed 15.06.22 Year 6 – Residential / Activity Week

Thurs 16.06.22 Year 6 – Residential / Activity Week

Fri 17.06.22 Reception Screening

Fri 17.06.22 Year 6 – Residential / Activity Week

Fri 17.06.22 2:15pm Time to Talk Diversity - We are looking to form a working party of parents to share their thoughts and ideas on how we can develop areas of the curriculum to ensure it reflects our diverse Mile Oak world community.

W/C 20.06.22 Time to Talk Let's get cooking! - Join us for the first of our food and cooking sessions where each half term we will hold a different nutrition related event based around budget friendly healthy eating.

Wed 20.06.22 Reception Screening

Tues 21.06.22 Year 5 – Art walk around Brighton

Wed 22.06.22 Year 1 – Visit to Church of the Good Shepherd

Wed 22.06.22 Whole School Transition – Story time

Fri 24.06.22 RE Big Read

Fri 24.06.22 Year 6 – PACA Tea Party

Fri 24.06.22 FOMO - Mile Oak Summer Fair

W/C 27.06.22 Science Week

Thurs 30.06.22 Year 6 – PACA transition day



July

Fri 01.07.22 Time to Talk Active kids - This session will be used to share information and ideas on budget friendly ways to keep your children active and learning over the summer holidays.

Mon 04.07.22 New Reception Starters – Play picnic

Tues 05.07.22 Whole School Transition – Writing

Wed 06.07.22 Year 6 – Shoreham transition day

W/C 11.07.22 Time to Talk Book share - All parents from Year 1 to 6 are invited to join their children in class to share their workbooks and celebrate the progress they have made over the course of the year.

Mon 11.07.22 Sports Day – Reception, Year 1 & 2

Mon 11.07.22 Whole School Transition – Publishing

Tues 12.07.22 Sports Day – Years 3 – 6

Tues 12.07.22 Reception visiting i360

Wed 13.07.22 New Reception Starters – Story time

Thurs 14.07.22 Mile Oak Book Swap

Fri 15.07.22 Year 6 Summer Fair

Fri 15.07.22 Year 6 Dinner and Disco

Fri 15.07.22 Reports issued to Parents/Carers

Mon 18.07.22 New Reception Starters – Story time

Mon 18.07.22 Time to Talk New Beginnings - We would like to invite our current Reception parents to join our new Reception parents. You will spend some time in our Reception classes celebrating your child's progress and also take part in a Forest School session.

Wed 20.07.22 FOMO – School Disco

Thurs 21.07.22 End of Summer Term

MILE OAK SAFEGUARDING TEAM



Mile Oak Primary School

"THINK BIG"

Safeguarding Team

Mile Oak Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children. We expect all members of our school community to share this commitment.

We are all alert to the signs of abuse and neglect and follow agreed procedures to ensure that all pupils and families feel supported, protected and kept safe.

If you are concerned about the welfare of a child or would like to request further support yourself, please contact one of the safeguarding leads, detailed below.



*Mr Lording
Headteacher*



*Mrs Gale
Deputy Headteacher*



*Ms Bennett
SENDCo*



*Mrs Foster,
Learning Mentor (DDSL)*

If you need to contact one of the safeguarding team, please call us on 01273 077114 or email office@mileoak.brighton-hove.sch.uk and mark it 'FAO the safeguarding team'.

COMMUNICATION

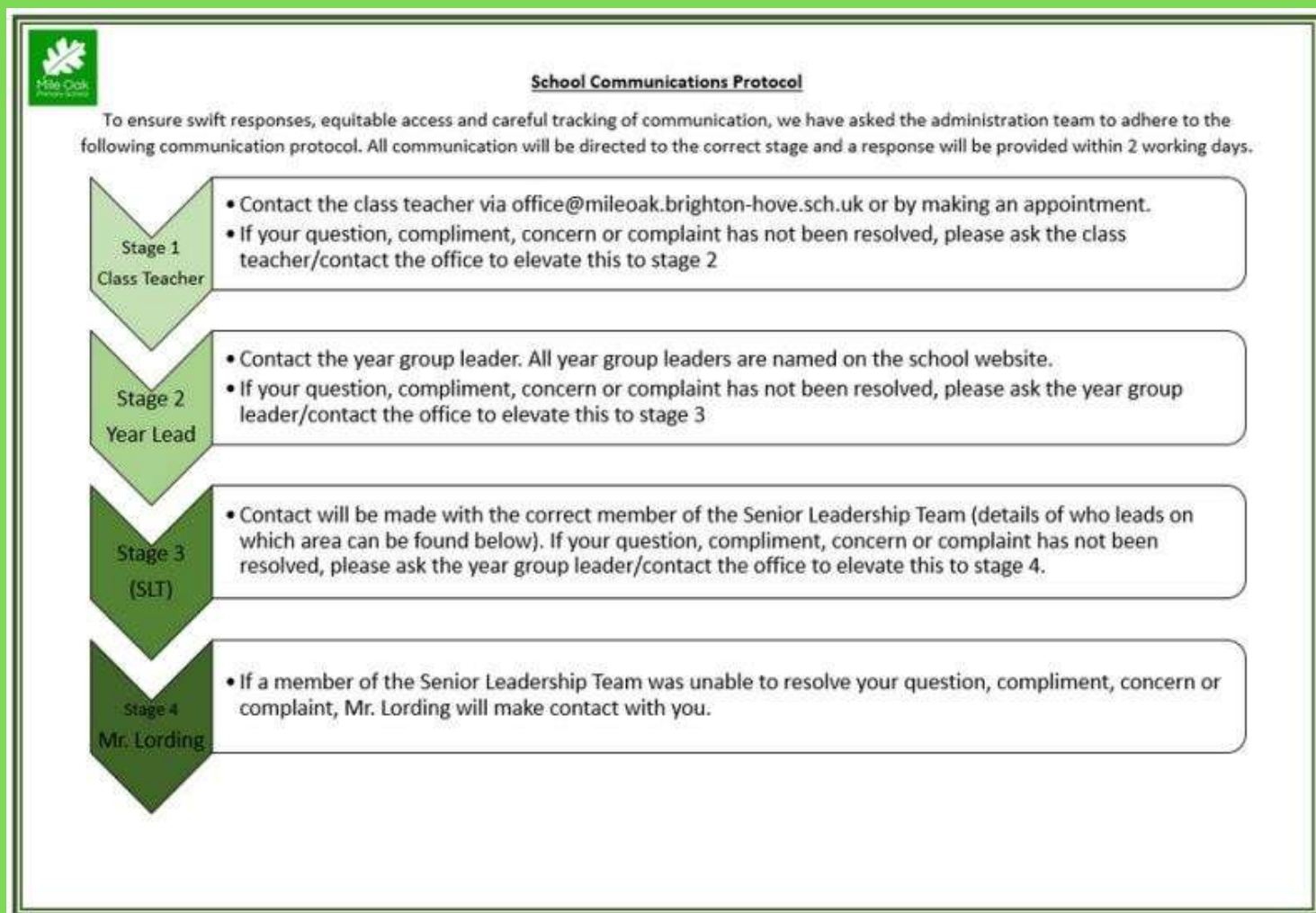
We have received excellent feedback regarding our new communication protocol for staff and parents. All communication is logged by the admin team and tracked for a response.

Whilst it can sometimes feel simpler to grab a teacher at the end of the day, this means staff are not able to supervise children who they are releasing to parents. Before school, it is vital that teachers can fully prepare for the day ahead and many of them run early morning interventions. In addition, our wonderful admin team track communication which means it does not get lost in a busy email inbox or become a forgotten question at the end of the school day.

Once initial communication has been made, staff will respond within 2 working days. If a face-to-face meeting is required, the relevant member of staff will make an appointment for a mutually convenient time.

The Admin team are very happy to take calls, emails or even messages in the postbox outside of the reception area and will ensure your query, concern or compliment is passed on to the correct members of staff.

For more further information on our communication protocol, please visit our website.



Mile Oak Primary School, Graham Avenue,
Portslade, BN41 2WN



01273 077114



office@mileoak.brighton-hove.sch.uk



<http://www.mileoakschool.co.uk>

BIKE WEEK

We have been told about a fantastic event being held at the University of Brighton on Sunday 12th June. This event will be aimed at celebrating the incredible activity of cycling.

Some of the activities being held on this day are a family orientated bike train running from the University of Brighton to Stanmer Park and back again. This is a great opportunity to ride with other people in a safe and fun way.

There will also be cycling experts, who will be more than happy to offer help and information on matters such as: bike maintenance, riding as a family and how to get started in cycling.

Another great part of the day is the female friendly and women only rides on offer. Mile Oak school have made an investment in our very own fleet of school bikes, which we are really excited about using across the school.

See more information on this link:

<https://www.cyclinguk.org/event/university-brighton-community-bike-train>

Bike Week

we are
cycling
UK

Sunday, 12th June 2022

Join the community family bike train led by the Brighton Bike Hub. Location: University of Brighton, Falmer site rugby pitches (next to train station)
Starts: approx. 1pm. Ends: approx. 2pm
Provisional Route: Falmer - Stanmer Park - Falmer
Pace: Easy going. Attitude: Fun!

Other activities on the day at University of Brighton, Falmer site include:

- BRITISH CYCLING - Cycling for Schools training 10am to 4pm.

- X2 BREEZE WOMEN BIKE RIDES:

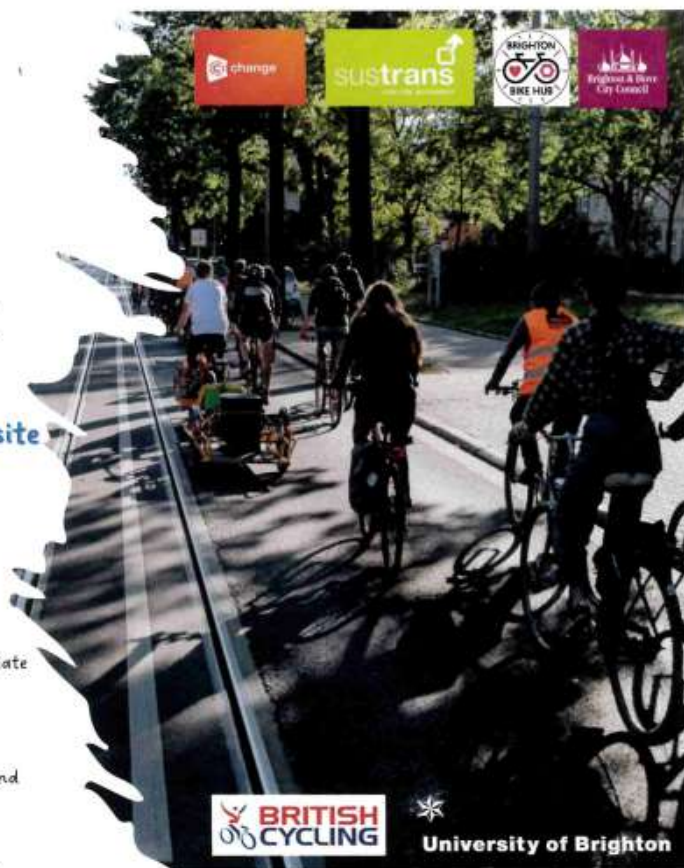
1. 10:15am - BREEZE ALONG THE IMPROVED FALMER ROAD TO WOODINGDEAN - traffic free intermediate ride to Woodingdean and back, along the recently improved cycle path (6 miles)

2. 2:30pm - BREEZE TO LEWES - Road & traffic free intermediate ride to Lewes and back (10 miles)

All rides are FREE and led by trained female British Cycling Ride leaders.

Did you know that these free women's bike rides take place throughout the year? Places are limited and can be pre-booked here:

<https://www.letsride.co.uk/breeze> (Search by postcode BN1 9PH)





Thank you to everyone for your support so far! We have lots coming up over the Summer term and beyond, and we wouldn't be able to do it without the support of everyone in the school community.

FOMO's Next Meeting will be
Monday 13th June at 7pm
Mile Oak Pub Function Room