

You have been sent this newsletter as when your child joined the school you indicated that your child had a parent or parents who were serving in the Armed Forces. We collect this information so we can support your child and also because as a school we receive a payment* to enable us to provide additional support for your child. This is called the Service Premium

On average 35% of our children come from service families and this means that we understand and respond to the needs of these families and in particular the needs of the children .

Our children from service families make good progress and this progress is often better than their peers. Their attainment is higher than all groups nationally. This is in no small part to the fact that:

- The well-being and attainment of service family children is seen as of paramount importance to the Senior Leadership Team and this focus then percolates down to the teaching staff; we have high aspirations and high expectations.
- All staff know who their service family children are
- All staff understand the issues that may affect service family children and their families. As a staff we make sure that we keep up to date and understand the research that exists about the impact that there can be upon families and individual children relating to being in a service family.

Service Pupil Premium is primarily used by us for smaller classes (average of just 19 children in each class). Small classes increase the level of pastoral care and support that can be put in place for individual children and their specific needs which may change during the year.

In addition we put the following provision in place:

- We hold a weekly drop in session where we enable children from Reception to Year Two to take part in a range of activities including playing, making and talking together. We call this group Forces Friends. It is very popular and each week different children attend. In any one week there may be 25 plus children out of the possible 40. Across the year all children choose to attend at least some sessions. This group enables children to broaden their friendships and support network across the school. We 'mix up' children from different classes and different year groups and think about how our lives are similar to each other; maybe our parents are away Monday to Friday, or on a long deployment or we may have moved or be moving.
- We are part of the MKC Heroes group and staff attend meetings and children attend events
- We attend the events organised by MKC Heroes that are appropriate to the age and stage of development of our children. We also organise our own visits related to our Forces Friends group. Previously this has included attending events at HMS Raleigh, visiting the Poppy Wave and attending the anniversary of Torpoint Archives .
- Service children who are new to our school receive a welcome card from our Forces Friends group and we give farewell cards when our friends leave at a different time to the end of an academic year or to a different location to their peers.
- When a parent is on deployment we have special books with our Forces Friends logo available. Children can use these to put down their thoughts or to record special events or special things to them so that when their parents return home they can share with their child what their child has been doing. Sometimes the parent has one of the books too so that they can write to their child.
- We have at least one special assembly each year when the children talk to their parents about what happens in our school; they love talking about and sharing with the rest of the school population the special work their parents do and the places their parents have visited on deployment .
- We hold a Remembrance Service in School each year and invite special guests to join us and this includes inviting all the parents who are or have served in the Armed Services.
- We hold a family event each year (last year it was a picnic and previously it was a tea party) to build the sense of community for our families and children.
- We take a very active role in the local community and attend council and Royal British Legion events. We are affiliated to the Royal British Legion.
- We have a named member of the senior leadership team, Mrs Stephanie Lock , who works with children, parents and staff to promote the well being of children from our Service Families. She acts as a point of contact for staff and parents alike and who works closely with the head teacher to ensure that the needs of children from Service families are met across the school.
- We have a whole school focus on emotional health and wellbeing. This includes universal provision and also individual support at times of need.

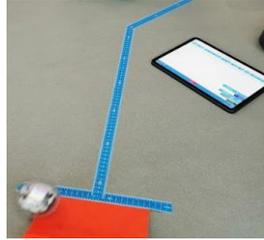
*£300 service premium is paid by the government for each Service Family Child from Reception age onwards

Torpoint Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service 10th November 2019

We ask children from our Forces Friends group to represent the school at the Torpoint Remembrance Service. If you would like your child to take part please can you complete the attached consent form which contains further details about the event.



MKC Heroes
Apple Store Visit



School Leaders
Conference

The start of this school year has already been a busy one for our Forces Friends group.



Parachute Drop

In addition to the Forces Friends group we have had an informal presentation by our friend Jowan, who shared with us his scrapbook from his visit to the mass parachute drop to commemorate the Battle of Arnhem.

Members of Forces Friends paraded our MKC Heroes standard at the unveiling of the new War Memorial in Torpoint.

Mrs Lock, together with a member of the group and his parent, spoke at the Plymouth School Leaders Conference in HMS Drake.



Two members of the group attended an MKC Heroes event at the Apple store in Plymouth, this gave them the opportunity to meet children from other schools who are part of Service families



Torpoint War
Memorial

Forces Family parents are invited to our

Remembrance Day Service

at Torpoint Nursery and Infant School on
Friday 8th November 2019
at 1:45 pm for a 2pm start



Please RSVP via the attached form
by Friday 1st November 2019



To enable us to help your child please can you let their teacher or Mrs Lock via the school office know when a member of the family, who is in the armed forces, is away and for how long, including if they are working away in the week and come home at the weekend.



Torpoint Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service
10th November 2019

Dear Parent,

This is a consent form for your child to take part in the **Torpoint Remembrance Sunday Parade and Service**

Please can your child arrive at the Torpoint Nursery and Infant School, main Entrance, at 10.20 am ready to parade to St James Church. Mrs Carney- Haworth, Mrs Lock and members of the school team will be at the school gate to meet you and your child.

School staff will remain with your child throughout the parade to and from the service and during the service which is held outside the church. The school staff will then return your child to you outside the school following the parade back through Torpoint, at approximately 12.00 pm.

Your child should wear smart school uniform, including their school jumper or fleece. They may need to wear an extra layer underneath their school jumper and if the weather is inclement they may need a coat. The emergency contact phone number for the day is 07989332213.

Please could you return the form below to your child's classteacher by Friday 1st November

Name of child

Date of birth

Special details - any information about your child's health which may need special attention, but does not prevent them from taking part should be noted below. (For example; **any allergies including plasters or penicillin**, any medication needed and the dosage, travel sickness, diabetes, asthma or epilepsy?)

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Has your child had any recent illness?

-

Does your child have any specific dietary requirements?

-

Any additional information which may be of use

-

- I consent to any emergency medical treatment required by my child during the course of the visit.
- I consent to my child travelling in a motor vehicle driven by a member of staff or other adult in the event of an emergency and in accordance with associated Local Authority guidance.
- I confirm that my child is in good health and I consider him/her fit to participate.

Signature of parent/guardian

Date

Name of parent/guardian

Address

Telephone number

Contact name and telephone number in event of an emergency

Relationship to child

Name of family doctor

Approximate date of last tetanus injection



Child's name.....

Class.....

Has a parent currently serving in the Armed Forces

Has a parent who has left the Armed Forces since the child has been in Reception, Year One or Year Two our school

Which branch of the Armed Forces does the child's family member serve in? (this can help us identify appropriate support and activities for your child).

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Particularly if your child no longer has a parent who is currently serving in the Armed Forces please indicate which activities you would like your child (Children in Reception, Year One and Year Two) to be involved in

Forces Friends Group	Yes	No
Forces Assemblies	Yes	No
Community Events and Parades	Yes	No
MKC Heroes Activities and Special Events	Yes	No
In school Activities and Special Events	Yes	No

Please return this form by Friday 1st November to your child's class teacher

Remembrance Day Service



Child's name

Class.....

Number of adults attending the Remembrance Day Service on our school playground.

Please return this form by Friday 1st November to your child's class teacher