

Ideas to kickstart Month of the Military Child



The Month of the Military Child is an opportunity to celebrate Service children and show them that they are a valuable member of the school community. Here are some ideas to try out during April.

- 1. 26th April is 'Purple Up' day. Ask the pupils to wear something purple (the colour of #MotMC) and hold an assembly highlighting positive stories about their lives. Use this to share good news stories about your school with families and the local media. Tag events you are running or participating in with the hashtag #MotMC or #monthofthemilitarychild.**
- 2. Put on a breakfast event. Include all parents associated with the armed forces. Don't forget to invite staff who were once Service children too!**
- 3. The charity Never Such Innocence is running an art/ poetry competition throughout April about Service children. Visit www.neversuchinnocence.com for more details.**
- 4. Highlight April as 'Month of the Military Child' on the school's website, and parent newsletters. Discuss what support you can offer, particularly with families new to the area.**
- 5. Consider hosting a 'person in uniform day'. Invite a serving mother or father to come to the school to read to children or talk about their role in the services either in class or during an assembly.**
- 6. "Share Your Story" Project: Get children to think about their life experience and how they might share this with the rest of the class. Children can create artwork or a journal about their experiences.**
- 7. Create a Time Zone Wall: A series of clocks on a wall identifying different time zones from around the world, with a focus on where Service children have lived before is a great conversation starter.**

Service children can face challenges with parents in the armed forces. Yet these children are also an amazing asset to families, schools and the local community. The Month of the Military Child helps us remember this and helps us celebrate their achievements.

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