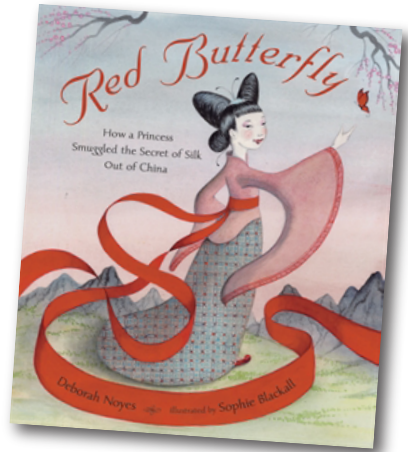


Children's Book Review

Set in ancient China, when the secret of silk had spread wealth across the country, *Red Butterfly* follows a young princess as she prepares for her marriage to the king of a distant land. Desperate to take with her a piece of her homeland, she smuggles tiny silk worms in her elaborate hair-do, passing the secret of China's success on to her husband's country of Khotan. In telling this Chinese legend, Deborah Noyes has used the traditional verse form of Chinese poetry giving the book a magical incantatory feel. The Chinese legend is fascinating but the rhythm of the prose and the splendid illustrations makes this book a true indulgence of the senses. Butterfly's homesickness will resonate with any child who has lost their home or struggles with separation. Her apparent bravery and her boldness in stealing the silk secret show her as a strong feminine figure despite her traditional and socially restrictive setting.



**Deborah Noyes and
Sophie Blackall**
Red Butterfly

(Walker Books for Candlewick
Press, Hbk, 2008)
rrp. £10.99.

Milford Pre-School Receives an Outstanding OFSTED Report

Milford Pre-School is part of the Early Years & Childcare Partnership and also a member of the Pre-School Learning Alliance.

Their objectives are to offer all children good quality care & education by trained, qualified staff in a relaxed setting. They offer a wide variety of activities that stimulate & promote children's development in all areas of learning. All of the activities on offer at Milford Pre-school incorporate the following teaching methods - Kinaesthetic (physical), Auditory (talking) & Visual (seeing). At the Pre-School they use the "Makaton Vocabulary Language Programme" which encourages language development in children & adults with communication difficulties.

Opening Times:

Monday to Friday 9am to 12pm – funded Sessions
3 – 5 years old.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday – Lunch/play session
– 12pm to 12.45pm

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday
1pm to 3.15pm – 2 to 3 year olds.

Milford Pre-School has just received an 'Outstanding' Ofsted Report which is the highest grade you can achieve and means that the Pre-School provides an exceptionally high quality service.



Midas After-School Club LLP

The club is staffed by qualified, caring and motivated staff with experience in childcare and education and a desire to create a happy, safe environment for children to relax in after school and really enjoy themselves.

Some of the activities include:- crafts and creative design, computer games and skills, board games, sports and team games, construction, dressing up, once a month cinema night, playstations and (weather permitting) lots of outdoor fun and games. There is also a quiet area for children to relax or do homework.

Hours : Monday to Friday 3.30pm – 6.00pm

Milford Pre-School and Midas After-School Club are based at Milford Primary School, Chevin Road, Milford. For further information on either, you can contact Diana Lawday on 01332 842913.