

# Month of the Military Child



## Ideas for #MotMC April 2023

1. Identify a day in April to highlight Service children in your school. Ask the pupils to wear something purple (the colour of #MotMC) on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April and have 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. Organise 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 competition for Service children throughout #MotMC. The theme is friends Near and Far.
4. Look for a link to your local military base/ unit. Many have Unit Welfare Officers or Community Development Officers that organise events for Service families.
5. 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.
6. Consider hosting a 'person in uniform day'. Invite a serving mother or father either in class or during an assembly to talk to a class.
7. "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.
8. 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.
9. Schools can promote the Month of the Military Child on their web sites. Provide links to sites that offer resources for military families. There are several charities that support Service children and produce materials for schools, families and children.

**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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