



Newsletter 2

15 September 2023



Growing together to build our future

Message from the Headteacher

A very warm welcome to our Reception families who have been in school for their first full week of school. They are learning about our school routines very quickly and settling into Merley life. They have even had their first experience of outdoor adventurers. You are absolutely fabulous, well done Butterfly and Ladybird Class!

Next week is our 'meet the teacher' meetings for Year 1 - 4. These are short information meetings in your child's classroom where you will meet the class teacher and find out about the year ahead. These meetings are intended for parents /carers only. Reception parents are invited to their information meeting on Tuesday 26th September at 6pm in the school Hall. If you are unable to attend, the slides from the meeting will be available on the school website.

Please can I remind families that children should only have water in their school water bottles for the classroom (juices and other drinks may be included in a packed lunch) and children should not be bringing into school any toys, comforters or football cards etc at all. Your support with this is appreciated.

I hope you are able to make the most of the beautiful September weather and have lovely weekend,

Katharine Anstey
Headteacher

This is a school for everyone. Everyone is welcome.



Safeguarding and Online Safety

Through partnership working with BCP Council, Dorset Police and the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group the Partnership has put together a briefing document with key information for parents/carers with more information about risks linked to county lines and exploitation.

If you have any serious concerns about a child, particularly if you think they may be suffering or at risk of suffering harm, please share this information promptly with the Designated Safeguarding Lead Team. If you are unable to contact a member of the school team and you wish to pass on serious concern, please call the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 01202 735046 We are an Operation Encompass school, to find out more please follow the link [here](#).

Open conversation is best when negotiating online safety with children and young people. Find guidance on these conversations here from the NSPCC <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>

Privacy Notice

Wimborne Academy Trust is committed to protecting the privacy and security of personal information. The privacy notice describes how we collect and use personal information about pupils, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), section 537A of the Education Act 1996 and section 83 of the Children Act 1989. Please find the document [here](#) on the school website.

Attendance

Thank you for your support in ensuring your child's attendance in school and being on time every day. Good attendance in school is a top priority and our expectation is that pupils attend school every day for every session. We believe that regular, uninterrupted attendance secures the best possible learning achievement for all our children and we are committed to working in partnership with families to achieve this. Schools are expected to monitor all pupils' attendance records closely and to pass these on to the receiving school when pupils transfer.

This week's attendance

Whole School	94.64%
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When will absences not be authorised?

The school will not authorise absence for any of the following reasons: holidays, shopping, looking after other members of the family, minding the house, birthdays or similar events.

Children will be marked in as late after 8.55 am and children arriving after 9.15 am are recorded as an unauthorised absence. We carefully monitor pupils who arrive late for school and work with parents and carers to improve punctuality.

Do you have a comment, thought or question you would like to share with the school?

Please use the link [here](#) to access our communication form.

Community Heroes

Do you have a job that helps the local community? Would you be willing to talk to and inspire our youngest children? Reception Classes are learning about 'People who help us in our community' and are looking for any parents who would be willing to come and talk to the Reception children about their role.

If you think you can help please contact the school office, Mrs Riley or Miss Laws.

The Wimborne Green Festival takes place from Saturday 14 October to Saturday 21 October 2023.

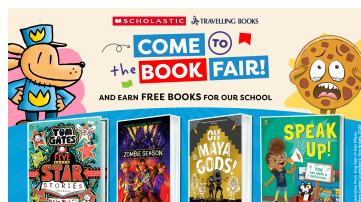


PLANET WIMBORNE
GREEN FESTIVAL

To celebrate the event, Planet Wimborne are arranging a Poster Competition for all schools and children in the Wimborne area. The main points are:

- The posters can be any A4 or A3 size and should celebrate Trees and the benefits they provide.
- There will be three age groups: First School; Middle School; Secondary School
- All participants will receive an attractive certificate
- Trophies and book tokens will be awarded to the first three winners in each of the 3 categories
- Entries will be collected from school offices on **Wednesday morning 4 October 2023**
- **A display of all entries will be mounted at Wimborne Library for the week beginning October 9**

All winners and parents/teachers will be invited for a tea party at the Wimborne Library to receive their trophies on **Thursday October 12 at 3pm** – prizes will be presented by the Chair of Planet Wimborne.



After huge popularity last year, we will be hosting a Scholastic Book Fair again this term. The book fair will be open for parents and children in the school hall from 3.30pm to 4.00pm on:

Tuesday 26th September

Wednesday 27th September

Friday 29th September

It is a cashless event and payments will be made on the day via a QR code and online payment system straight to Scholastic.

Have a look at some of the books that will be available at the fair. [The Book Fair Range – Read Alone](#)

Please see a poster below from The Wimborne Valognes Twinning Association regarding an upcoming schools and community show which some Merley Children will be participating in.

Forthcoming Diary Dates

AUTUMN TERM 2023

September 2023

Tuesday 19th September -Meet the teacher Yr 1-4

Tuesday 26th September- Reception Information Event 6-7pm

27th - 29th September - Book Fair



October 2023

Monday 9th Oct 23 2.45pm - Celebration of learning - Families welcome into the classroom to share learning

Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October - Half Term - No children in school

Monday 30th October - Staff training day - No children in school

November 2023

Tuesday 7th November 9:00-10.00am Inclusion coffee morning - All parents welcome

Wimborne-Valognes Twinning Association



HELLO! BONJOUR!

**A Wimborne area
schools and community show!**

**Wednesday 18 October
7.30 pm**

At the Allendale Wimborne

Tickets £5.00 from the Allendale

www.theallendale.org/tickets or call 01202 887247