



MERLEY FIRST SCHOOL

Newsletter 28 - 8th May 2026

Today, Merley joined children across the country in a live national assembly with over 6000 other schools to celebrate the 100th birthday of Sir David Attenborough. It was a wonderful opportunity for the children to learn about his incredible legacy in wildlife conservation and natural history. With that in mind, we are thrilled to announce that Brooke in Fox Class is a winner in the Wimborne Council Sir David Card Competition! We are so proud of her creativity and hard work. Well done, Brooke!

Next week is Mental Health Awareness Week. As a school, we will be creating various opportunities throughout the week to discuss mental health and self-care with the children. On Monday, we have class photographs in school. Please ensure your child arrives in full school uniform, looking smart and ready for their class group photo. Finally, a reminder that on Friday 15th, we warmly invite parents and carers to come into school to look through your child's books and celebrate their recent work. Classrooms doors open at 2.45pm, please arrive via the main gates. The back gate will open at 3:10pm as normal. Have a lovely weekend.

Rebecca Baldwin

This Week

Reception have created observational drawings of a spring tulips.

Year 1 have written their own versions of the story. Lost and Found.



Year 2 have been learning about dental hygiene with Harold from Life Education

Year 3 have made clay leaf bowls.

Year 4 have used a real life model in science to understand how the digestive system works and the job of each organ.

Healthy Lunchbox Habits

After observing lunchtimes in the hall and consulting with our School Nursing Team, we want to ensure every child has the energy they need to thrive. We've noticed that getting the balance of "brain food" just right can be tricky, so we're sharing some expert guidance on the best types and amounts of food for primary-aged children.

Our goal is to keep our students healthy, focused, and fueled for their afternoon lessons. Please take a moment to review the links below and have a chat with your child about building good eating habits together.

[Lunchbox Ideas](#)

[NHS Healthy Packed Lunches](#)



Growing up in the online world: a national consultation

From the first swipe of a tablet to building worlds in Minecraft, technology is a huge part of our kids' lives. It's where they learn, play, and connect—but as parents, we all know it comes with a unique set of hurdles and risks.

The government is currently launching "Growing up in an Online World: A National Conversation." This is a chance for us to help shape the rules and tools that will protect and prepare our children as technology continues to change at lightning speed.

The DfE have produced surveys for parents/carers and young people. It's a quick way to share your daily experiences with tech at home and in school.



All feedback must be submitted by 26 May 2026.

Dates for the Diary

- **NEW** - 11th - 15th May - Mental Health Awareness Week
- 11th May Class Photographs - school uniform
- **NEW** - 15th May - Celebration of Learning - classrooms - 2.45 - 3.15pm
- 18th - 22nd May - Walk to School Week
- **NEW** - 21st May - Bling your Wheels event - details to follow
- 20th May PTA Disco - information to follow
- 25th - 29th May - Half Term Holiday
- 2nd - 4th June - Life Education lessons for PSHE curriculum - information to follow
- 12th June - Sports Day
- 19th June - RESERVE Sports Day (in case of poor weather)
- **NEW** - 26th June - Transfer Day - Year 4 to Middle schools
- 29th June - 1st July - Year 4 PGL Trip



National School Attendance Award

2025/26 Spring Term



Merley First School

Top 10% of all FFT Primary Schools in England

What an incredible achievement!

Thank you to everyone for all your support and efforts ensuring that your child's attendance remains a priority.

Congratulations

The following pupils have been awarded Oak Leaves for demonstrating our values: Respectful, Engaged and Ready

YR: Tommy P, Annie-Mae P, Jessica B, Darcey D, Bonnie A, Olivia S

Y1: Eliza M, Buddy H, Mia S, Arlo K, Tayah P & Bella W

Y2: Eva C, Emma I, Adelaide W, Myles B, Meredith H & Thamarai P

Y3: Pearl H, Henry S, Caitlin B, Ruben B, Eloise K & Daisy W

Y4: Lydia D, Jackson M, Ethan N, Esme W, Harvey WG & Emily W

These children have a Headteacher's Award because they have been recognised for being Engaged:

YR: Lana S & Olivia S

Y1: Josh B & Nickolay N

Y2: River R & Lenny St B

Y3: Fletcher W & Elwyn H

Y4: Jason J & Theo L

These pupils have been recognised for fantastic effort in a particular lesson or subject and are Star Learners:

YR: Max K & Elodie

Y1: Leon PA & Austin S

Y2: Rex P & Charlie E

Y3: Evie R & George P

Y4: Alfie G & Montana AC

Scooters and Bikes

It is absolutely amazing to see so many of our pupils scooting and cycling to school lately! We love seeing that morning energy and commitment to staying active and healthy. A quick reminder for our families: To ensure all equipment stays safe, all bikes and scooters must be taken home by parents/carers at the end of the school day. We cannot take responsibility for any equipment left on site overnight. Thank you for your support and understanding.



50th *Year*
celebrations



Fun afternoon

Saturday 23rd May

@The Lantern Church

**Join us for an afternoon of fun as we celebrate 50 years
since the start of The Lantern Church**

3–5:30pm

**Free car wash
Facepainting
Bouncy castle
Giant garden games
Drinks & cake
Craft
... and more**

6–9pm

**Ceilidh (led by Celtic
Confusion) & food
£3 per ticket**

sign up here

