



MERLEY FIRST SCHOOL

Newsletter 32 - 12th June 2026

What an incredible Sports Day we had today! A massive thank you to our entire school community for coming along to support the children. It was brilliant to see so many families there and to watch the children enjoying time outside with their friends, competing in such a healthy and respectful way. A special thank you goes to Mr. Watts, Miss Jessop and the Merley team for their fantastic support during the morning and to our wonderful PTA for providing every child with an ice pop and selling refreshments. It was also amazing that Allenbourn Middle School Year 8 students supported - they were super role models to the Merley children.

I have been exceptionally proud this week of our Year 1 children, who sat their statutory Phonics Screening Check and our Year 4 pupils, who completed their Multiplication Tables Check. Every single one of them worked exceptionally hard and tried their absolute best—which is all we can ever ask. They did themselves, you and Merley First School proud!

Just a little reminder that Wednesday 17th June is National Thank a Teacher Day. If you would like to send a message of appreciation to any member of staff, free e-cards can be sent via the official [National Thank a Teacher Day ePortal](#). Thank you.

Finally, as the weather continues to be unsettled, please ensure your child has a coat in school every day. We have been caught out a number of times this week by sudden downpours! Have a wonderful weekend, and enjoy the Wimborne Folk Festival if you are heading down with your family and friends this weekend.

Rebecca Baldwin

This Week

Reception listened and responded to Space Odyssey, a piece of music, by drawing lines of notation on long pieces of paper.

Year 1 have begun to look at Grace Darling in History.

Year 2 have been learning about the seaside in the past.

Year 3 have learned how to add and subtract fractions with the same denominator.

Year 4, in preparation for middle school, have been correlating time on both digital and analogue clocks.



Safeguarding - did you know?

At Merley First School, the safety and well-being of our pupils, staff and community is our absolute priority. As part of our robust safeguarding procedures, we continuously and rigorously risk-assess all aspects of the school day.

We also respond proactively when concerns arise within the school environment to ensure our safety measures remain highly effective.

All of our procedures are strictly aligned with the latest Department for Education (DfE) guidelines, health and safety regulations, and national safeguarding updates.

Community Safety

This week, irresponsible parking caused a major hazard in our community when Sopwith Crescent became completely blocked. As a result, the public bus was unable to pass through safely.

This is a significant concern for Merley pupils, our families and the wider community. When roads are blocked by parked cars it creates a dangerous environment where children cannot cross safely, and emergency vehicles cannot get through.

As adults, it is our collective responsibility to ensure we park safely, legally and respectfully. Please consider the entire community when dropping off or picking up your children.



Attendance - it's only 1 day

As we approach this busy time of year, we completely understand that our children are growing tired and and it can be incredibly tempting to allow your child a day off –after all, it is "just one day." However, a single day's absence means missing around five hours of vital learning. During a typical day, children complete core Maths and English lessons that are part of a carefully sequenced journey; missing just one step makes it harder to retrieve prior knowledge and build on it with new concepts. This is the crucial time teachers use to assess progress, give next steps and build reading, writing and maths fluency.

Beyond the basics, a single day also includes at least two wider curriculum subjects that are essential for broadening their knowledge of the world, understanding British values and developing well-being and self-awareness. Just as importantly, they miss over an hour of valuable social time playing and talking with friends and the chance to feel part of something bigger—their class and the Merley First School community.

It might seem like only one day, but to your child's education and connection to school, it is so much more.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

Congratulations

Huge Congratulations to all the teams today. I am pleased to share that **BLUE** team were the overall winning team.

This week, our celebration is dedicated to the incredible students who truly shone during today's Sports Morning!

These absolute champions didn't just run, jump, and play—they perfectly brought our school values to life by being:

- **Respectful:** Cheering on their peers, showing amazing sportsmanship.
- **Engaged:** Giving 100% effort, diving into every activity and bringing the best energy to the event.
- **Ready:** Showing up with a fantastic attitude, listening to instructions and being raring to go from the very first whistle!

A massive congratulations to our value-driven athletes:

Reception: Elodie D, Finn B, Jude C & Rosie S

Year 1: Oakely D, Ava K, Hazel L & Remy F

Year 2: Connie H, Arlo H, Louis D & Marley W

Year 3: Alfie A, Lottie P, Ireliia H & Finley G

Year 4: Cici R, Jason J, Xander BS & Niamh G

Dates for the Diary

- **NEW** 18th June - Year 4 PGL parent check in meeting - slides will also be shared via Arbor
- **NEW** - PTA Preloved uniform sale - 3pm - 3.45pm - back playground
- 25th June - Year 2 singing in Wimborne Minster at 12 noon. All welcome - letter sent
- 26th June - Transfer Day - Year 4 to Middle schools
- 29th June - 1st July - Year 4 PGL Trip
- 30th June - 2026/27 Year 2 Parent/carer meeting - 4:30pm
- 30th June - 2026/27 Year 1 Parent/carer meeting - 5:00pm
- **NEW** - 2nd July - Year 3 Recorder Performance to Parents - letter sent
- **NEW** - 3rd July - non-uniform day for the Summer Fair - PTA information to follow
- 7th July - 2026/27 Year 4 Parent/carer meeting - 4:30pm
- 7th July - 2026/27 Year 3 Parent/carer meeting - 5:00pm

MUFTI - DAY

FRIDAY 3RD JULY

Wear whatever you like!
In return, please bring one or more of the following items to help with the summer fair!!

Reception & Year 1
Bottle in a Bag!
Any bottle, from lemonade to prosecco! in a bottle bag please!

Year 2 & 3

Filla Jar!

Anything weird & wonderful! Marbles, hair bands, sweets, paper clips - this is for our Jar-Bola!

Year 4

Please bring a book to donate to the summer fair!
good clean condition,
Suitable for age 4 - 11

Please put on the trolley outside the office at drop off

THANK YOU!!

Pre-Loved **UNIFORM** Sale

MONDAY 22ND JUNE

3pm

The back playground

(gates will be unlocked 10 minutes early)

Uniform will be sold
on a donation basis.

Please pay what
you can afford.

Cash & Card Accepted



Merley First School PTA