



# MERLEY FIRST SCHOOL

Newsletter 33 - 19th June 2026

Today, all parents and carers should have received an Arbor message containing a separate, detailed letter regarding our transition arrangements. This outlines how we are preparing pupils to move from their current year group into the next.

Please do check the dates for our New to the Year Group Parent Information Meetings. These sessions are incredibly helpful for understanding what lies ahead for your child next year. We hold these during the summer term so that you have all the necessary information to support your child through the transition process and over the summer break.

We would like to say a massive thank you to our parents and carers for all the kind words, e-cards, and lovely treats given to the staff on National Thank a Teacher Day. It was truly overwhelming to see how appreciated the hard work and efforts of the entire team are. We are incredibly proud to teach at our school and proud to be part of a wonderful community supporting you and your children. The rest of the term is looking very busy! We have the exciting Year 4 Residential coming up, Year 2 will be singing at Wimborne Minster next Thursday at 12:00 p.m and the whole community is warmly welcome to join us to watch them perform! Next week's weather is looking warm! Finally, Year 4 have performed their raps to the rest of the school today. They were awesome!

Have a wonderful weekend everybody!

*Rebecca Baldwin*

## This Week

**Reception** have been thinking about people who inspire us.

**Year 1** have been tasting fruits ready to make their snacks to share at the Lighthouse Keepers Picnic.

**Year 2** have been preparing for the Midday Music Box performance in Wimborne - the singing and starts are fabulous.

**Year 3** tested friction of cars on different surfaces and how this effects the distance of travel.

**Year 4** have been identifying and creating electrical circuits including a bulb, ensuring it has a continuous loop to work.



## Safeguarding - the effect of screen time.

Excessive screen time in primary-aged children is closely linked to physical, cognitive, and emotional developmental challenges.

Key effects include:

- elevated risks of childhood obesity
- sleep disruption from blue light
- shorter attention spans
- increased behavioral or mental health concerns like anxiety and hyperactivity

Alongside these is the risk that children can be exposed to inappropriate content even when filters are in place. Click [here](#) for more information.

**NSPCC**

## Parental Support for Behaviour and Anxiety

Action for Children offer parenting support and advice to help manage behaviours you find challenging. They offer online webinars and in person sessions to help you learn how to support your child's development using positive tools and strategies.

Please click [here](#) to access the information.

In addition, they can explore more Mental Health Support Team in Schools webinars, a video introduction to their service and further helpful resources here: [MHSTNorthandEastDorset Official: Instagram | Linktree](#)

The webinars aim to help parents and carers better understand anxiety in young people, recognise potential triggers, and learn practical strategies to support their child.

Parents and Carers can access the recordings by completing a short form via the links on the poster below.



## Attendance Moments Matter

Poor attendance severely hinders children's social and emotional development by disrupting peer relationships, triggering a vicious cycle of anxiety and eroding their sense of school belonging.

When children frequently miss school, they lose out on the structured, everyday interactions that build essential emotional resilience, conflict resolution skills and self-esteem.

With this in mind, **what do our Merley pupils say about missing school?**

*"If I miss learning new things I feel sad, especially if they are fun."*

*"I feel sad if my friends play without me."*

*"I don't like it when I don't play. I like school."*



## Congratulations

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

**YR:** Layla M, Max K, Izzi H, Luna S, Blake R & Natalie I

**Y1:** Roxie B, Thoms B, Annika D, Josh B, Tommy C & Imrie P

**Y2:** Millie H, Rex P, Arthur S, Hannah B, Evin K & Lenny

**Y3:** Arlo W, Charlie R, Fletcher W, Ruben B, Evie E & Frankie - Lee D

**Y4:** Eliana Jesse & Joel, Eddie S, Thea P & John D

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

**YR:** Alfie H & Isla W

**Y1:** Eddie T & Archie A

**Y2:** Jacob D & Logan R

**Y3:** Hunter L & Emilia E

**Y4:** Eden PA & Harvey S

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

**YR:** Eve L & Benji B

**Y1:** Tom W & Thomas R

**Y2:** Alfie G & Freya H

**Y3:** Sienna K & Frazer S

**Y4:** Theo L & Poppy W

## Dates for the Diary

- **NEW** -22nd June Year 3 (for year 4 PGL 2027) parent meeting 2:45pm - Arbor message sent
- 22nd June 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** - 2<sup>nd</sup> July - Year 3 Recorder Performance to Parents - letter sent
- **NEW** - 3<sup>rd</sup> July - non-uniform day for the Summer Fair - (information below)
- 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!!**



# FUN DAY & PRESENTATION DAY

A DAY OF FOOTBALL, FUN  
AND COMMUNITY!



**SATURDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2026**



**10AM TO 4PM**  
FUN DAY

**FREE ENTRY!**

**LOTS TO ENJOY FOR ALL THE FAMILY!**



**INFLATABLE  
OBSTACLE COURSE**



**BBQ**



**SNACKS  
AND DRINKS**



**FOOTBALL  
GOLF**



**ADULTS  
TOURNAMENT  
(2PM START)**



**FESTIVAL  
FACE PAINT**



**MERCHANDISE**



**FOOTBALL SHIRT  
SILENT AUCTION**



**TOMBOLA**



**AND LOTS OF  
SPORTS RELATED STALLS!**



**MERLEY FIRST SCHOOL FIELDS**  
BH21 1SD



**FUN. RESPECT. TEAMWORK. TRUST.**  
**WE ARE MERLEY**



**MERLEY FC**



# Invitation

## to all new parents and children!



Starting Merley First School  
September 2026



Join us for a  
*Get-Together*  
at Debi Day Care  
Before & After School Club



**Saturday**  
20<sup>th</sup> June 2026



09:30 – 10:30  
hours



Come along, enjoy a coffee and a chat  
with other parents so the children can  
get to meet each other.



*We look forward to seeing you there!*



Email: [debidaycare@btinternet.com](mailto:debidaycare@btinternet.com)



Mobile: 07708 402589