

MERLEY FIRST SCHOOL



Growing Together To Build Our Future Newsletter 3 – 25.09.26

MESSAGE from Mrs Baldwin

We are half-way through Autumn 1, and the children continue to be engaged in their learning across the school and working hard.

Please can I remind all parents and carers that children need to be stood with you at the start of the day when you are waiting for the doors to open at 8:45am. This is to ensure everyone's safety and to help the children enter in a calm way to start their day. Thank you for your support.



Next week is packed with excitement at Merley First School:

Merley First School is partnering with Rocksteady this year so get ready for a bit more noise than usual. We will reveal all to the children (and you!) next week after Monday's launch!

On Friday, we're joining the nationwide celebration for Allergy Awareness Week. Children are invited to add a splash of bright colour to their usual uniform! Whether it's a neon t-shirt, bright socks, an eye-catching hair bobble or funky shoelaces—the bolder, the better.

We will be celebrating Harvest Festival on Monday 5th October with donations of food for Wimborne Food Bank.

Thank you for all your support as always. Have a fabulous, restful weekend!

FOR YOUR AWARENESS

Looking for Practical Parenting Support? Join Incredible Years in Dorset!



Dorset Council and Action For Children offer Incredible Years, a free, friendly parenting programme designed to help you build strong relationships with your child, manage challenging behaviour and set calm boundaries. Groups run across Dorset for parents of children aged 3–11.

- How to join: Visit service.actionforchildren.org.uk/dorset or call 01202 525 643 to find an upcoming group near you.

SAFEGUARDING

TED Questions

- T ELL
- E XPLAIN
- D ESCRIBE

Safeguarding is about making sure every child is safe, supported, and given the best possible chance to thrive. We use the TED approach when speaking to children about their worries or emotions.

ATTENDANCE

Our whole school attendance this week was 98.4%.

Well done to year 3 for **99.2%** attendance overall!

We are all starting to feel the Autumn term tiredness creep in BUT October half term is only 4 weeks away!

We've got this Merley!

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

THIS WEEK

- Reception started learning their first four phonic sounds.
- Year 1 explored aerial maps of Merley in Geography ready for their walk.
- Year 2 have been practising their ball control in PE.
- Year 3 have been writing a setting description of a Stone Age camp in English as they enjoy Stone Age Boy.
- Year 4 have started learning how to round numbers to the nearest 10 and enjoyed trying out Black Belt Reader!

RESPECTFUL, ENGAGED & READY

Congratulations to the following children who received celebration awards today:

Reception: Isaac B, Maisie B, Ollie H, Alfie M-N, Ariella W, Gracie C, Sonny C, Joshua L, Ava R-R, Thea E

Year 1: Billy C, Hallie M, Eve I, Willow W-J, Alyssa M, Mason B-H, Darcey D, Alfie H, Freddie M, Mabel L

Year 2: Ivy A, Tommy C, Kieran F-R, Hazel L, Nikolay N, Noah H, Arlo K, Imir P, Anna PB, Daisy W

Year 3: Ada R-T, Charlotte A, Hannah B, Rosie P, Lenny SB, Emma I, Thea B-L, Millie H, Bukhosi M, Merley W

Year 4: George P, Amira L, Cooper T, Pippa H, Hollie C, Alfie A, Frankin Q, Ava R, Charles R, Nathan W

KEY DATES

- 2nd October - wear a bright item of clothing or an accessory with your uniform for anaphylaxis awareness week.
- **NEW** 5th Harvest Festival - Donations for Wimborne Food Bank please.
- 7th October - Flu vaccinations
- 6th & 7th October - Prospective 2027/28 Reception stay and discover sessions (book through office)
- 12th - 16th October - Prospective 2027/28 Reception Open Mornings 9:15am - book through school office
- 19th & 20th October - Road Safety lessons for all year groups
- 23rd October - Celebration of Learning 2:45pm - classrooms - come in and see your child's books

SNAPSHOTS OF SUCCESS

This week we celebrate Thea and Delilah in Year 3.

Thea and Delilah completed the 'Summer Series' running event and both received medals. What an incredible achievement!

Well done Thea and Delilah, Merley First School is so proud of you!



If your child would like to celebrate a snapshot of their success - anything they have achieved - then please send a picture and a few sentences to office@merleyfirstschool.org

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT – CAREERS

Come and inspire the next generation!

We are looking for people from our local community to come and share their job experiences with our **Reception** children.

If your job involves helping others, could you spare 15 mins during the week commencing 19th October to inspire our Reception children.

If you can help please contact the school office, thank you.
Mrs Riley or Miss Brazel.



WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

SATURDAY 10TH OCTOBER 2026

The theme this year is
Lived experiences heard: real voices, real change.

We are asking the children to bring in a coloured piece of material or ribbon to create a big rainbow at the back of our playground.

They will need their material in their bags on Friday 9th October.

If you would like to donate indigo and violet ribbon/ material for staff to do, a box will be put outside the front entrance, thank you.

Each year group will have time to weave their material onto the fence throughout the day.

Pictures to follow!

Year 4- Red

Year 3- Orange

Year 2- Yellow

Year 1- Green

Recption Blue

Staff- Indigo and
Violet





AGES
4-14 YEARS

Slades Farm, Bournemouth

JUNIOR

PARK RUN



Join our mission and have fun! We're running to raise money for the Ellis Edwards Foundation, who support bereaved children in our local area.

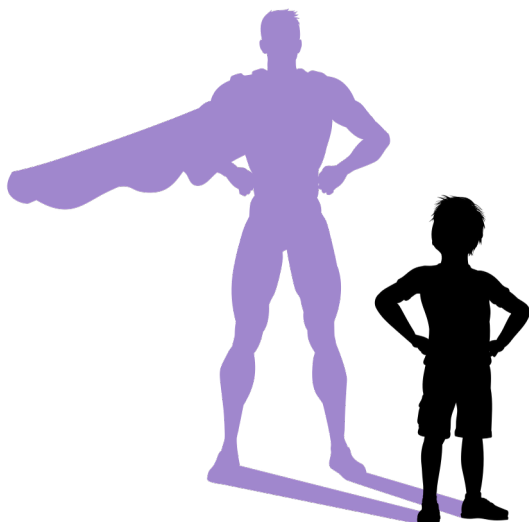
2k kids run - Start time 9.00am

Register now at www.parkrun.org.uk

SUNDAY
4 OCTOBER

FREE TO
JOIN

RAISE £30 FOR
A FREE T-SHIRT
& GOODY BAG!



 EllisEdwardsFoundation.com

MERLEY PTA PRESENTS

Quiz Night

SATURDAY, 3RD OCT

DOORS 7:30 PM

QUIZ 8PM

MERLEY COMMUNITY CENTRE

QUIZ . PRIZE GAMES . FUN

WITH LOCAL QUIZ MASTER

ASHLEY HOOPER!!

£7
PER PERSON

Max 6
Per Team

BYOB
& Snacks



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