

MERLEY FIRST SCHOOL



Growing Together To Build Our Future
Newsletter 4 -02.10.26

MESSAGE from Mrs Baldwin

We have enjoyed a week packed full of rich enrichment opportunities across the school! It began on Monday with interactive music workshops hosted by Rocksteady then, on Thursday, we welcomed Jackie from the Live and Inspired Choir, who taught the children a section of a collaborative Christmas song. Our pupils' voices will be recorded and added to a track featuring other local schools, which will eventually be available to stream on Spotify. I will share details on how to listen once it is released! All proceeds from this project will support Amelia's Rainbow, a wonderful local Dorset charity.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our recent Book Fair—your generosity and enthusiasm for reading across the school community is greatly appreciated! I will let you know of the amount raised for the school once Scholastic releases our funds.

As the weather turns colder, please ensure your child comes to school with a coat every day for outdoor play.

Finally, please accept a polite reminder regarding vigilant and courteous driving and parking around Merley First School. We have received concerning community reports of someone running across the road with a child and nearly being hit, as well as cars failing to stop at the pedestrian crossing. Whether or not these drivers are connected to our school, please take extra care to keep all our children and families safe.

Thank you for your continued support, and I hope you all have a lovely weekend!

SAFEGUARDING

Living with any kind of allergy is challenging and can certainly impact on the quality of a person's life.

Everyone at Merley First School and the members of our school community have a responsibility to support those living with allergies. Today, we wore something bright to show our support for people with allergies. Click here to find out more from Allergy.UK.



ATTENDANCE

When children attend school regularly, they avoid the "catch-up anxiety" of missing out on playground jokes, shared stories and daily lessons. This stability helps them feel socially secure, competent, and fully integrated into their classroom community—all of which are foundational blocks for a healthy self-concept.



THIS WEEK

- Reception made a 3D portrait using different materials and read a book about families, understanding that all families are different.
- Year 1 have carried out an experiment in Science to test their sense of smell.
- Year 2 have been learning about how animals adapt to their habitat.
- Year 3 - This week, in science, Year 3 have investigated if someone with a longer femur can jumper further.
- Year 4 have printed interlocking tessellating patterns.

RESPECTFUL, ENGAGED & READY

Congratulations to the following children who received celebration awards today:

Reception: Poppy H, Oliver P, Teddy P, Jesse B, Enzo JB, Rosalie I, Zoe E, Danny C, Henry C & Ava L

Year 1: Orlagh, Florence, Olivia, Keeva, Luna, Isabella, Thomas P, William, Isla W & Alana

Year 2: Ottie, Luca B, Remy, Tayah, Florence, Arlo W, Arabella K, Chuckie, Roxie & Nya

Year 3: Dylan A, Jacob D, Kit, Esme T, Anahi S, Jasmine, Skylar, Charlie, Logan & Albie

Year 4: Sienna, Elwyn, Sophie, Harry, Jensen E, Miles, Charlie B, Olivia C, Frazer & Eloise K

KEY DATES

- 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
- **NEW** 20th October - Donations for Shoebox appeal 8.30am - 9.00am outside front of school
- 23rd October - Celebration of Learning 2:45pm - classrooms - come in and see your child's books

SNAPSHOTS OF SUCCESS

Congratulations to Natalie in Year 1 who completed Stage 1 in swimming and was very proud to get a certificate and badge.

Also, Liberty in Year 2 has shown she is engaged and ready, achieving her Grade 5 in Gymnastics! Brilliant!

Congratulations Liberty and Natalie from all of us at Merley First School!



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

ROCKSTEADY

On Monday, the children at Merley enjoyed an exciting workshop with Rocksteady Music! Pupils learned about a variety of musical instruments, experienced an energetic live performance and joined in by singing and using body percussion to play together as a full ensemble.



Total Energy

services



DONATIONS NOW OPEN

**Drop your items into
Merley First School
(outside main office)
Morning drop off
on Tuesday 20th October
8.30am - 9am**

**Last year we
bought joy to
over 150 children
in need around
the world.**

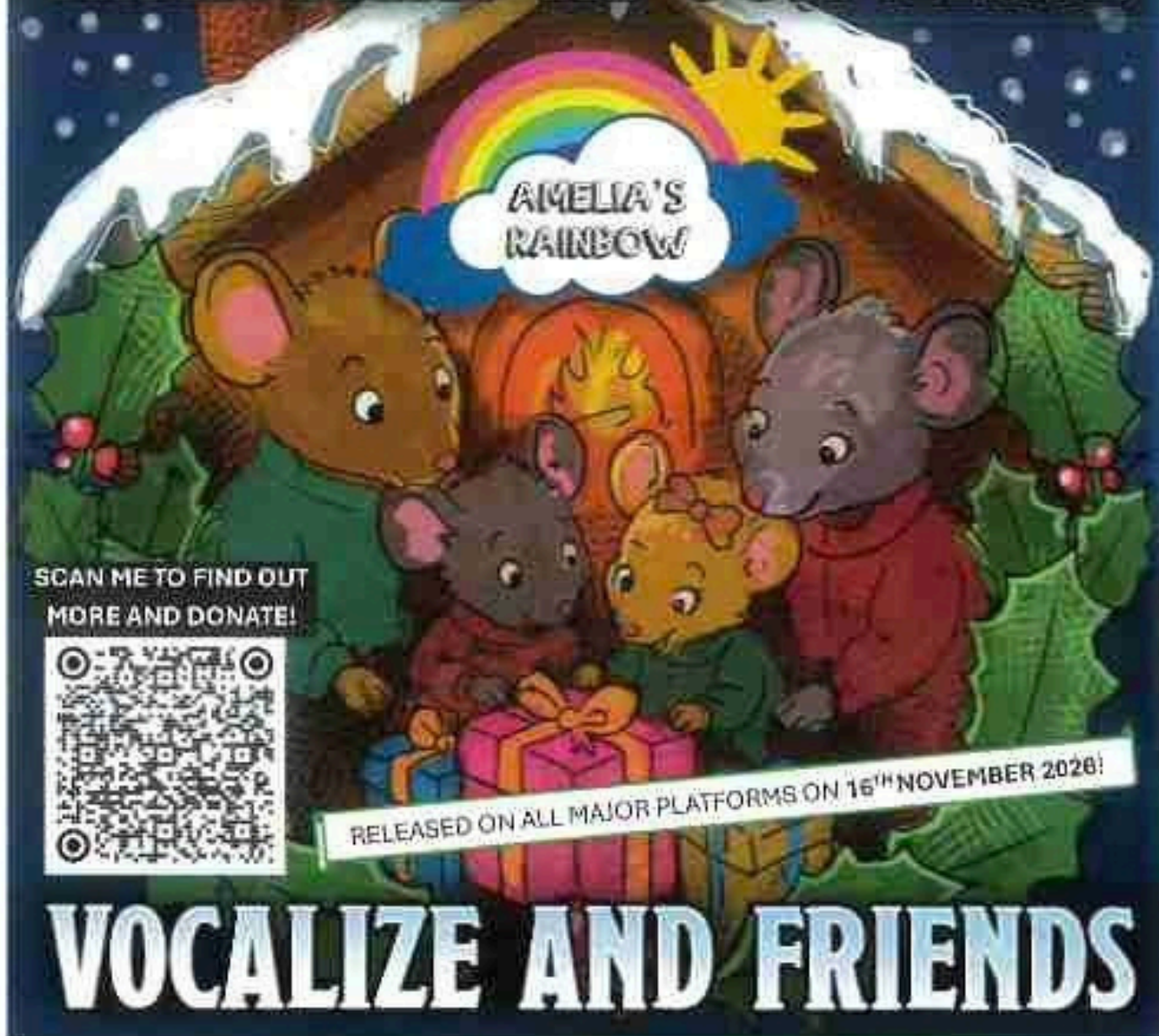
**Help us spread
more joy and love
this Christmas**

How can you help?

Simply drop any donations into our office and we will do the rest. No need to donate shoeboxes we sort, pack and send for you. Items can be new or used but must be in good condition.

**For more information call Holly 01258 472132
or email holly@totalenergy.co.uk**

CHRISTMAS AT OUR PLACE



JustGiving™ It's the brand new Christmas song raising money for Amelia's Rainbow charity!

Amelia's Rainbow is a Dorset-based charity supporting children with serious, chronic, life-limiting, or terminal illnesses. Learn more at www.ameliarainbow.org

Local choir **Vocalize** have teamed up with local musicians, performers and schools to make a memorable warm and fuzzy Christmas hit! Schools involved include:

★ St Johns CE ★ Corpus Christi ★ Pamphill ★ Witchampton ★
★ Hillside ★ Verwood CE ★ Colehill ★ Hayeswood ★ Merley ★

We are looking forward to recording the children singing soon! Please support us!

Thank you for getting involved!

Chris White, Vocalize Choir