

Merley First School News

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Dear Parents and Carers

I cannot believe we are in our third week back at school after the holidays where does the time go. The children have settled back into school life well. However I would like to remind parents of the school policy on long hair. Long hair should be tied back for school and I have reminded the children about this in assembly this week.

Dropping Children off First Thing

A reminder that children should not be dropped off before school starts and left in the playground as there is no adult to supervise them.

Closure in the Event of Adverse Weather

At this time of year, it seems appropriate just to remind everyone about our adverse weather procedures. On very rare occasions, during extreme adverse weather, there may be a need to close our schools. This is always a decision of last resort, and only taken when it is clear that we cannot open and run the school safely. We will endeavour to advise parents of closure via the school website by **7am at the latest**. The website will have a bright, unmissable banner on the front page if the school is closed! Additionally, information on school closures is also available via other sources. We will send a parent mail text out as well. **Local radio** stations broadcast emergency information regarding school closures. These include BBC Radio Solent on 96.1 FM, Wave 105 on 105.8 FM, and Heart Radio on 102.3 FM. The radio stations have all asked schools to remind parents not to phone them directly, but to listen for announcements which will be broadcast at very regular intervals. Let us hope that none of this will be necessary, but, should the 'Beast from the East' return, at least everyone will be able to get the latest information!

Wimborne Academy Trust News

This term we welcome two new first schools to our Trust: these are Verwood CE First School and Hillside First School, Verwood. Additionally, as you will already have seen in the letter sent last week, Wimborne Academy Trust is in advanced talks with Queen Elizabeth's School about joining our family of schools. If this goes ahead it will be fantastic news for the whole community, as our schools feed directly into the upper school and this would mean we provide seamless and outstanding education provision from early year's right through to sixth form.

Drop In Session with the School Nurse

On Wednesday 6th March the school nurse will be running a drop in session between 9-10am for Reception Parents. If you have any concerns you would like to talk about please feel free to come in.

Spelling Workshop for Parents 6.00-7.00pm

On Monday 4th February we will be running a whole school workshop for parent to attend with a focus on spelling. A letter will be going out early next week with more information.

Important Dates

Monday 4th February Year 4 Water wise Talk

6.00pm - 7.00pm Parent Spelling Workshop

Thursday 7th February Year 3 Roman Day

Friday 8th February 2.00pm Year 4 Poetry Recital to Parents

Tuesday 12th & Thursday 14th February Parents Evening

Thursday 14th February Year 2 Trip to the Synagogue

Friday 15th February 3.15pm End of Half Term

Tuesday 5th March Sparrow Class Trip to the Waterfront Museum

Wednesday 6th March Robin Class Trip to the Waterfront Museum

9.00-10.00am School Nurse Drop in for Reception Parents

Thursday 7th March World Book Day

Year 4 Rounder's Festival

Wednesday 13th March Rabbit Class Trip to Pizza Express

Thursday 14th March Hedgehog Class Trip to Pizza Express

Friday 13th March Red Nose Day

Thursday 28th March Mother's Day Café for Year 3 Mums

Friday 29th March Sponsored Sports Event

Wednesday 3rd April Easter Hat Parade

Thursday 4th April End of Term - 3.15pm

A note about safeguarding...

If you ever have any concerns regarding the safety and wellbeing of our children please contact the school to speak to Jane Phillips (Designated Safeguarding Lead), Carolyn Waldron and Mike Wheeler (Deputy DSLs). The safety of our young people is the responsibility of us all.

Attendance from September to end December 2018

Ladybird 95.8%	Butterfly 96.4%	Sparrow 96.7%	Robin 96.9%
Rabbit 97%	Hedgehog 96.1%	Kestrel 96.9%	Owl 98.1%
Fox 97.5%	Badger 97.8%	Whole School 96.9%	