

FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2023

MERRYLANDS NEWS

AUTUMN TERM AT MERRYLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Open-minded

Inquisitive

Never Give Up

Attendance

School Attendance Target: 97.00%

This week's Attendance: 94.01%

Remember.... If your child is absent, a call must be made to the School Office EVERY school day that your child is absent and must be reported by phone 01268 417893, via email admin@merrylands-pri.essex.sch.uk or ParentMail. Please do not send a message via Seesaw or Tapestry.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Christmas Dinner was a great success - A big thank you to all staff for helping.

Well Done to Reception for their fantastic performances and Year 2 for their singing at Eastgate.

Miss Gilmore and Mrs Eyre will be leaving Merrylands taking up new positions in other schools. Mrs Gilkes will be retiring after 20 years as an Assistant Cook and it has been an honour to work with her over the years. I am sure you will all join me in thanking Mrs Gilkes, Miss Gilmore and Mrs Eyre for all they have done for Merrylands and we wish them all the best for the future.

We wish you a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Star of the Week

Acorn Class: Olivia L

Sunflower: Amaryllis R

Daisy Class: Maisie B

Daffodil Class: Aurora P

Ladybird Class: Viniee T

Dragonfly Class: Freya-Rose H

Butterfly Class: Ada T

Sycamore Class: Whole Class

Oak Class: Marie A M

Maple Class: Freddie C

Lake Class: Sophia C

Ocean Class: Elianna S

River Class: Freddie T

Amazon Class: Violet H

Snowdonia Class: Olivia H

Eagle Class: Grace G

Falcon Class: Alex Angelov

Adventurer Class: Jessica B

Explorer Class: Olly-Jay W



BERLESDUNA ACADEMY TRUST – JOB VACANCIES

BERLESDUNA – FINANCE MANAGER closing date 12th January 2024
CRAYS HILL – LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 17th January 2024
CRAYS HILL – SEN LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 17th January 2024
MERRYLANDS – ASSISTANT COOK closing date 3rd January 2024
MERRYLANDS – MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 3rd January 2024
WHITMORE – MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 8th January 2024
WILLOWS – SEN LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 3rd January 2024

For more information and to apply for any of our roles, please follow the link to our website [Vacancies – Berlesduna Academy Trust](#)

On Saturday, Sophie B from Year 5 completed a 10K walk to fundraise for the Childhood Tumour Trust.

The Childhood Tumour Trust is a fantastic charity that supports children and their families with Neurofibromatosis.

Sophie has raised a whopping £1,130 so far! If anyone would like to donate, please use the following link:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/sophie-brookes-1701024810228?utm_medium=fundraising&utm_content=page%2Fsophie-brookes-1701024810228&utm_source=copyLink&utm_campaign=pfp-share



This week we had some very special visitors.

KS1 children were treated to a visit by Olaf whilst KS2 children were amazed by the magician's magic tricks.



BOOK OF THE WEEK

Ocean Class recommends the BFG by Roald Dahl.

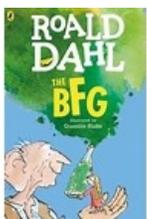
We like the BFG because he has a friendly and funny personality.

"I like when the BFG says that he is a friendly giant" Wiktoira

"I like the character Sophie, she is kind to the giant and openminded" Kiera

"I like the author Roald Dahl" Matilda

If you like stories about unexpected friendships, you'll love this heart-warming story.



Upcoming Events

18.12.23 - Year 6 Parent/Carer drop in
(3:30pm - 4:15pm)

21.12.23 - 03.01.24 - Christmas Holidays



04.01.24 - Children return to School

Lunch at a glance....

Baguettes will be available daily with a choice of Ham or Cheese

	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3
Monday	Main Meals French Bread Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Pasta Jacket Potato Vegetables Seasonal Vegetables Dessert Chocolate Cake & Custard	Main Meals Bacon or Cheese Macaroni Jacket Potato Vegetables Sweetcorn Dessert Donuts	Main Meals Chicken Burger or Quorn Burger with Chiss & Sauce Jacket Potato Vegetables Beans Dessert Pancake
Tuesday	Main Meals Chicken Fajita Wrap or Quorn Wrap with Potato Wedges Jacket Potato Vegetables Sweetcorn Dessert Flapjack	Main Meals Chicken Nuggets or Vegetable Nuggets with Chiss & Tomato Sauce Jacket Potato Vegetables Beans Dessert Home-made Cake & Custard	Main Meals Butchers Sausages or Vegan Sausages with Mash, Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy Jacket Potato Vegetables Peas Dessert Flapjack
Wednesday	Main Meals Homemade Mince Beef Pie or Vegetable Pie with Mash & Gravy Jacket Potato Vegetables Peas Dessert Fruit Jelly	Main Meals Butchers Roast Turkey or Roast Quorn Filled with Roast Potatoes and Yorkshire Pudding Jacket Potato Vegetables Carrots & Peas Dessert Fruit Jelly	Main Meals Homemade Chicken Pie or Vegetable Pie, Roast Potato & Gravy Jacket Potato Vegetables Carrots Dessert Fruit Buns Jelly
Thursday	Main Meals Meatballs or Vegan Meatballs with Tomato Sauce & Fusilli Pasta Jacket Potato Vegetables Seasonal Vegetables Dessert Ice Sponge Cake	Main Meals Beef Bolognese or Vegetable Bolognese with Fusilli Pasta Jacket Potato Vegetables Mixed Vegetables Dessert Flapjack	Main Meals Sticky BBQ Chicken or Sticky BBQ Quorn Pieces with Rice Jacket Potato Vegetables Sweetcorn Dessert Homemade Marble Cake & Custard
Friday	Main Meals Fish Fingers or Cheddar Whirl with Chips Jacket Potato Vegetables Peas Dessert Ice Cream	Main Meals Battered Fish Fillet or Plain Omelette with Waffle Jacket Potato Vegetables Spageth Hoops Dessert Arctic Roll	Main Meals Fish Fingers or Cheddar Whirl with Waffles Jacket Potato Vegetables Peas Dessert Ice Cream

An unlimited selection of freshly prepared healthy salad, yoghurts and fresh fruit are available daily

Are you planning on giving your child a new games console, mobile phone, tablet, or computer game this Christmas? Or do you have friends or family who are?

Visit www.essex.police.uk/sortyoursettings for practical things you can do to help make your child's new device safer when they are online.

#StaySafe



Flat hand, palm down, covers top of other fist.

Makaton Sign of the Week

This week's sign is "More".



Did you know?

1 square meter of Earth can hold a billion living things.



PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Noughts and Crosses

Get Set 4 Education

What you need: 2 players min, three black socks, three white socks and nine markers.

How to play:

- Place the markers to create a 3x3 grid (9 boxes).
- One player uses the white socks, the other the black socks.
- Players begin 6m - 8m away from the grid. They take one sock at a time and place it somewhere on the grid. Then run back to collect another sock and repeat.
- If all three socks have been used players can move a sock that has been placed out but must run back to the start in between each move.
- The winner is the first to have three socks in a row.

Make your decision as you are running.



www.getset4education.co.uk

Sportsperson of the Half Term...

Layla Guscoth

Who is Layla Guscoth?
Layla Guscoth is an English netball player who was born on the 2nd March 1992 in Birmingham. Layla plays in the goal defence and goal keeper positions and she picked up netball at primary school. As well as playing netball, Layla is a trained doctor who helped during the COVID-19 pandemic.

What has Layla achieved in her career?
Layla made her debut for the Vitality Roses (England National team) in 2012 against Jamaica. She was part of the women's team who won a bronze medal in the 2019 Netball World Cup. In the 2023 Netball World Cup, Layla was co-captain for the England squad where the team made it to the final, winning the silver medal after defeat to Australia.