



MERRYLANDS

PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

AUTUMN TERM – FRIDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER

MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL – MRS PRYER

Dear Parents/Carers,

Yesterday, the children at Merrylands enjoyed the ProStrike 'Speed Challenge' fundraising event. All the children enjoyed cheering on their class friends and finding out who had the highest speed when kicking the ball into the goal. Some of the staff even got involved too! Please remember to add any fundraising to the ProStrike online payment page. Any fundraising donations are greatly appreciated.

At Merrylands, we invest 2 hours of learning time to PE each week. These lessons are either taught by the class teacher or our sports coach. In order for all children to achieve the expectations of the PE national curriculum, it is essential that all children have a PE kit in school every day.

A reminder that your child's PE kit should include:

- navy blue shorts
- white t-shirt
- plimsolls or preferably trainers for indoor/outdoor activities
- jogging bottoms or tracksuit (dark colours only) for outdoor PE in Autumn and Winter terms (not compulsory)

If a child wears earrings on PE days, these must be removed and cannot be covered with tape or a plaster. A reminder that staff members are not permitted to remove earrings.

Next week Year 6 children will be heading to the Isle of Wight for their residential trip. We hope they have a fantastic time. The month of October brings Black History Month and Oracy Month. Over the next few weeks, the children across the school will have assemblies and complete activities related to these important events.

I hope you all have a fantastic weekend. See you next week.



School Attendance Target: 95.00 %

This week's attendance: 93.60 %

The class with the best attendance in KS1 was Mrs Anthony's Class with 98.68 %

The class with the best attendance in KS2 was Miss Atkin's Class with 97.60 %

If your child is absent, contact must be made to the School Office EVERY school day that your child is absent.

Please report your child's absence by phone 01268 417893, ParentMail or by email: admin@merrylands-pri.essex.sch.uk



RESPECT

KINDNESS

PERSEVERANCE



STAR OF THE WEEK



Nursery: Ava-Jade L
 Nest: Kasper L
 Reception, Mrs Anthony: Erin N
 Reception, Mrs Sullivan: Dottie-Rose C
 Reception, Miss Bagridge: Rosalina R
 Year 1, Mrs King: Zoe W
 Year 1, Mrs Camoccio: Kareem O
 Year 1, Mrs Andrade: Maria C
 Year 2, Mrs Didham: Roxanne O
 Year 2, Miss Milne: Sienna Y
 Year 2, Mrs Cooper/Mrs Christie: Dominik P

Year 3, Mrs Almond: Lenny H
 Year 3, Miss Gilmore: Lily-May C
 Year 3, Miss Medina: Arthur P
 Year 4, Miss Lee: Shea C
 Year 4, Miss Miller: Harrison H
 Year 4, Miss Atkin: Arley H
 Year 5, Miss Day: Riley S-P
 Year 5, Mr Taylor: Louis F
 Year 5, Miss Osborne: Hana G
 Year 6, Miss White: Dominic A
 Year 6, Mrs Thour: Luke B

BADGES

Our Merrylands badges are given to the pupils who demonstrate the school values at all times. They are good role models to other pupils and work hard to improve every single day. They try their best and persevere in all lessons, complete homework on time, have good school attendance and show kindness to their peers.

Congratulations to this week's winners.

Reception	Natalia M
Year 1	Lexie A
Year 2	Tife A
Year 3	Ada T
Year 4	Oscar D
Year 5	Sophia C
Year 6	Ella W



BOOK OF THE WEEK

Year 4, Miss Lee's class have been reading 'Zombierella' by Joseph Coelho. It is a spooky version of the classic Cinderella story where Cinderella returns from the dead to attend the royal ball. Miss Lee's class have loved reading this book because of the rhyming storytelling and funny illustrations in the book!



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PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Sportsperson of the Half Term...

Lauren James



Who is Lauren James?

Lauren James is a professional women's football player who is currently signed to Chelsea and has represented England and the Women's Euros and Women's World Cup as a forward. She was born on the 29th September 2001 and started playing football from a young age, playing with her brother's in the park behind their house.

What has Lauren achieved?

At the age of just 17, Lauren signed for Manchester United and helped the team to gain promotion to the Women's Super League – she scored 14 goals in 18 appearances. In 2021, she rejoined Chelsea and has continued to have a successful career. Some of her achievements include: FA Women's Super League Winner (2021/22), Women's FA Cup (2021/22), Arnold Clark Cup Player of the Tournament (2023) and London Football Awards Young Player of the Year (2023). In addition to this, she helped England to win the Women's Euros (2025).

Kerby



What you need: 1 ball, two kerbs that are approx. 4m apart, 1 or more players

How to play:

- Players stand opposite each other on the pavement.
- Players take turns to throw to hit the opposite kerb.
- If successful the player can take a jump towards the opposite kerb and throw again.
- If unsuccessful the other player gets a turn.
- When throwing, if the ball bounces back and hits your own kerb or if it bounces back and you catch it, you take two jumps towards the opposite kerb.
- First player to reach the opposite kerb wins.



Play with more people by playing in teams.



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UPCOMING DIARY DATES

SEPTEMBER

29.09.2025 - 03.10.2025 - Year 6 Isle of Wight

OCTOBER

Black History Month

Oracy Month

Harvest Festival Collection- Date TBC

02.10.2025 National Poetry Day

15.10.2025 Reception - Year 6 Autumn Term Parents Evening - 3.40pm-7.30pm

16.10.2025 Reception - Year 6 Autumn Term Parents Evening - 3.40pm-5.30pm

21.10.2025 Nursery Parents Evening (Morning)

22.10.2025 Nursery Parents Evening (Afternoon)

27.10.2025 October Half Term

03.11.2025 Inset Day - School Closed

04.11.2025 Back to School



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SPECIAL LUNCH

THURSDAY 2ND OCTOBER WE WILL BE HAVING A SPECIAL LUNCH!



LUNCH WILL BE:
HOT DOG OR QUORN DOG WITH CHIPS



DESSERT:
CHOCOLATE SWIRL MOUSSE



ALL CHILDREN WILL RECEIVE A FREE GIFT WHEN THEY HAVE A SCHOOL DINNER ON THIS DAY!

JACKET POTATO AND HAM OR CHEESE BAGUETTE WILL STILL BE AVAILABLE.



CHANGES TO LUNCHES

Tuesday 30th September
Dessert: Flapjack not
Chocolate Mousse.

Friday 3rd October
Fish Finger or Cheddar
Whirl, Smiley Faces and
Beans.



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Lighter Bites



OUR LIGHTER LUNCH
OPTIONS OF JACKET
POTATO & HAM OR CHEESE
BAGUETTE ARE AVAILABLE
TO ALL PUPILS EVERYDAY



FRIDAY THURSDAY WEDNESDAY TUESDAY MONDAY

WEEK 1

SWEET & SOUR CHICKEN
SWEET & SOUR VEGETABLES
WITH STEAMED RICE & SWEETCORN
DESSERT - HOMEMADE CHOCOLATE SPRINKLE CAKE
FRUIT & YOGHURT

FISH FINGERS
CHEDDAR WHIRL
WITH SMILEY FACES AND SPAGHETTI HOOPS
DESSERT - AMERICAN PANCAKES WITH SYRUP
FRUIT & YOGHURT

BUTCHERS PORK SAUSAGES
VEGAN SAUSAGES
WITH MASH, YORKSHIRE PUDDING, PEAS &
GRAVY
DESSERT - JELLY & FRUIT

BEEF BOLOGNESE
VEGETABLE BOLOGNESE
WITH PENNE PASTA & MIXED VEGETABLES
DESSERT - HOMEMADE FLAPJACK
FRUIT & YOGHURT

PEPPERONI PIZZA
CHEESE & TOMATO PIZZA
WITH PASTA IN HOMEMADE TOMATO SAUCE
DESSERT - ICE CREAM
FRUIT & YOGHURT

WEEK 2

CHICKEN NUGGETS
VEGETABLE NUGGETS
WITH CHIPS & BAKED BEANS
DESSERT - STRAWBERRY SWIRL MOUSSE
FRUIT & YOGHURT

BEEF CHILLI
QUORN & VEGETABLE CHILLI
WITH RICE & MIXED VEGETABLES
DESSERT - HOMEMADE LEMON DRIZZLE CAKE
FRUIT & YOGHURT

BACON MACARONI CHEESE
MACARONI CHEESE
WITH PEAS & SWEETCORN
DESSERT - FRUIT JELLY & FRUIT

CHICKEN CURRY
VEGETABLE CURRY
WITH SAVOURY RICE
DESSERT - HOMEMADE FLAPJACK
FRUIT & YOGHURT

BATTERED FISH
VEGETABLE FINGERS
WITH POTATO WEDGES & PEAS
DESSERT - ICE CREAM
FRUIT & YOGHURT

WEEK 3

CHICKEN FAJITA WRAP
QUORN FAJITA WRAP
WITH SQUARE POTATOES & SALAD BAR
DESSERT - HOMEMADE ICED SPRINKLE CAKE
FRUIT & YOGHURT

CHEESE PASTA BAKE
VEGETABLE PASTA BAKE
WITH SWEETCORN
DESSERT - CHOCOLATE SWIRL MOUSSE
FRUIT & YOGHURT

BUTCHERS ROAST CHICKEN
VEGAN FILLET
WITH ROAST POTATOES, YORKSHIRE
PUDDING, VEGETABLES & GRAVY
DESSERT - FRUIT JELLY & FRUIT

FISH FINGERS
CHEDDAR WHIRL
SMILEY FACES & BAKED BEANS
DESSERT - HOMEMADE FLAPJACK
FRUIT & YOGHURT

BEEF BURGERS
QUORN BURGER
WITH CHIPS & SPAGHETTI HOOPS
DESSERT - ICE CREAM
FRUIT & YOGHURT

On Monday 29th September 2025 children will return to school on
Week 3.

Please ensure all school lunches are paid for in advance on ScoPay.



Please let the office staff know if there are any changes to your
child's dietary needs.



RESPECT

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HERO

Here, every day, ready and on time

Minutes lost per day



Five minutes late per day adds up to three learning days lost in a school year

If 15 minutes late each day you will miss two full weeks of school in one year

Poor timekeeping means less chance of success!

ACL

FREE!

Storysacks

at Laindon Library

🌟 Calling all families with preschoolers! Join us for a magical journey into storytelling. Our Story Sack sessions bring tales to life with props, toys, and hands-on activities that spark imagination and nurture early learning.

😊 Perfect for preschoolers 📖 Boosts language and literacy skills 😊 Encourages bonding in a relaxed, friendly space 🎨 Inspires creativity and play

Session : 29/09/25 & 06/10/25 Session : 13/10/25 & 20/10/25

Time: 09:30 - 11:00



Scan the QR code, or
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Essex County Council



Are you struggling with a defiant child?



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