



MERRYLANDS

PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

SUMMER TERM – FRIDAY 10TH JULY 2026

MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL – MRS PRYER

It has been another busy and successful week at Merrylands. On Monday, the Year 1, 2 and 3 Sports Day was a great success, and it was wonderful to see the children showing such enthusiasm, determination and teamwork. Congratulations to the winning classes: Mrs Camoccio's class (Year 1), Miss Milne's class (Year 2) and Miss Gilmore's class (Year 3). A big well done to all of the children who participated in the ASC Sports Day too. It was wonderful to see the enthusiasm and enjoyment from everyone involved. Thank you to everyone who attended and supported these events.

We were also pleased to welcome staff from Laindon Library this week, who spoke to the children about the Summer Reading Challenge. We hope many children will enjoy taking part and continue to develop their love of reading over the summer.

As we approach the end of the school year, I would like to say a huge thank you to the Friends of Merrylands for their continued hard work and support. Through their fundraising efforts this year, they have enabled us to provide curriculum enrichment workshops for every year group, purchase additional play-ground equipment and book another pantomime for this December. Thank you to everyone who has supported these events – we truly appreciate your generosity.

Following the Mini Marathon in May, we have been carefully considering how best to use the sponsorship money to promote physical activity. Next week, we are looking forward to welcoming GB athletes, who will be delivering PE sessions and sharing their experiences with the children. We are also planning to put the remaining funds towards new Trim Trail Adventure equipment. This project will cost approximately £15,000, and with over £5,000 already raised, we are well on our way towards achieving this goal. We hope that next year's fundraising events will help us move even closer to making this exciting project a reality. Thank you, as always, for your continued support, and I wish you all a lovely weekend.



School Attendance Target: 95.00 %

This week's attendance: 91.61%

The class with the best attendance in KS1 was Mrs Sullivan's Class with 97.88%

The class with the best attendance in KS2 was Mrs Almond's Class with 97.41%

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



RESPECT

KINDNESS

PERSEVERANCE

STAR OF THE WEEK CERTIFICATE

FOCUS: RESPECT

Nursery: Amayah A
 Reception, Mrs Anthony: Hudson B-S
 Reception, Mrs Sullivan: David G
 Reception, Mrs Bagridge: Libby B
 Year 1, Mrs King: Santiago D-C
 Year 1, Mrs Camoccio: Quinn H
 Year 1, Mrs Andrade: Avineet B
 Year 2, Mrs Didham: Roxanne O & Sebastian W
 Year 2, Miss Milne: The Whole Class
 Year 2, Mrs Christie/Mrs Cooper: Tiago C

Year 3, Mrs Almond: Ada T
 Year 3, Miss Gilmore: Jaiden Y
 Year 3, Miss Medina: Jude B
 Year 4, Miss Lee: The Whole Class
 Year 4, Miss Miller: Hunter T
 Year 4, Miss Atkin: Oscar A
 Year 5, Miss Day: Gracie P
 Year 5, Mr Taylor: Louie G
 Year 5, Miss Osborne: Lillie-Ann A
 Year 6, Miss White: Olivia H
 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	Heidi B
Year 1	Vinny L
Year 2	Erika G
Year 3	Zaliya B
Year 4	Alex P
Year 5	Eva P
Year 6	Max T

UPCOMING DIARY DATES

15.07.2026 - End of Year Celebration Event
 16.07.2026 - Year 6 Leavers Assembly (09:30-11:30am) & Leavers Party (1:00pm -3:20pm)
 20.07.2026 - Inset Day
 21.07.2026 - Start of School Holidays



RESPECT

KINDNESS

PERSEVERANCE

BOOK OF THE WEEK



Year 4, Miss Miller's class have been thoroughly enjoying reading "Here Comes Hercules!" by Stella Tarakson.

This lively and humorous story follows the adventures of Tim, whose ordinary life is turned upside down when the ancient Greek hero Hercules is unexpectedly released from a vase. From that moment on, chaos and comedy unfold as Hercules tries to navigate the modern world, often with hilarious results. The children have particularly loved the book's fast-paced plot, engaging illustrations, and playful humour. It has sparked lots of laughter as well as thoughtful discussions about characters, myths, and how stories from the past can be reimagined in fun and creative ways.



DISTRICTS 2026

On Thursday 2nd July, children from Year 5 and Year 6 attended the District Sports Competition at Basildon Sporting Village. The children showed great resilience and determination throughout the event and were excellently behaved whilst waiting and supporting in the stands. Overall, the children had a great day and it was wonderful to see them being competitive and supportive of their peers.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Sportsperson of the Half Term...

Jake Jarman

Who is Jake Jarman?

Jake Jarman is a British Olympic gymnast who is from Peterborough. Jake was born on the 3rd December 2001- he started gymnastics at the age of 6 after a coach saw him performing tricks on the monkey bars at his local park. As a child, Jake was inspired by the British gymnast Louis Smith, who he used to watch compete on the TV.



What has Jake achieved?

Jake is an incredibly successful gymnast who became the first male artistic gymnast representing England to win four gold medals at a single edition of the Commonwealth Games. At this event, he was victorious in the men's team, individual all-around, floor exercise, and vault competitions at the 2022 Games in Birmingham, England. In addition to this, Jake is a two-time World Champion that became the first male British gymnast to win titles on two different apparatus - the vault and floor - when he stood on the top step of the podium at the 2025 World Championships. He also won a bronze medal at the 2024 Olympics for the floor.



Plane in Flight



What you need: a sheet of newspaper, an A4 sheet of paper, a pen, masking tape, scissors, an adult to help you cut.

How to play:

- Draw circles of different sizes on the sheet of newspaper.
- Ask an adult to help you cut them out.
- Make a paper aeroplane with the A4 paper (have fun finding how to make this on the internet).
- Tape your newspaper so that it hangs in a doorway and name each of the holes after a country.
- Stand 3m away and throw your aeroplane so that it travels through every country.



RESPECT

KINDNESS

PERSEVERANCE



On Monday 13th July 2026 children will return to school on Week 1.

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.

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OUR LIGHTER LUNCH
OPTIONS OF JACKET
POTATO & HAM OR
CHEESE BAGUETTE
are available to
ALL PUPILS
everyday



MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

WEEK 1

BUTCHERS CHICKEN NUGGETS
VEGETABLE NUGGETS
WITH CHIPS & BAKED BEANS
DESSERT -
WAFFLES & GOLDEN SYRUP

BEEF MEATBALLS
QUORN MEATBALLS
WITH FUSILLI PASTA IN A
HOMEMADE TOMATO SAUCE
DESSERT - HOMEMADE GOLDEN OAT
FLAPJACK

BUTCHERS ROAST CHICKEN
ROAST VEGAN FILLET
WITH ROAST POTATOES, YORKSHIRE
PUDDINGS, PEAS, CARROTS AND GRAVY
DESSERT - FRUIT JELLY & FRUIT
YOGURT

BEEF CHILLI
VEGETABLE CHILLI
WITH RICE AND SWEETCORN
DESSERT - HOMEMADE LEMON
DRIZZLE CAKE

FISH FINGERS
CHEESE OMELETTE
WITH POTATO WAFFLES & PEAS
DESSERT - ICE CREAM
FRESH FRUIT & YOGURT

WEEK 2

PEPPERONI PIZZA
CHEESE & TOMATO PIZZA
WITH PASTA IN HOMEMADE TOMATO SAUCE
& SALAD BAR
DESSERT - CHOCOLATE SWIRL MOUSSE
FRESH FRUIT & YOGURT

BATTERED CHICKEN PIECES
QUORN DIPPERS
IN SWEET & SOUR SAUCE WITH RICE &
SWEETCORN
DESSERT - HOMEMADE CHOCOLATE CHIP
CAKE

BUTCHERS PORK SAUSAGES
VEGAN SAUSAGES
WITH MASH POTATO, YORKSHIRE
PUDDING, SEASONAL VEGETABLES &
GRAVY
DESSERT - FRUIT JELLY & FRUIT YOGURT

CHICKEN FAJITA WRAP
VEGAN FAJITA WRAP
WITH CRISPY CUBE POTATOES AND
SALAD BAR
DESSERT - HOMEMADE OAT FLAPJACK

FISH FINGERS
VEGETABLE FINGERS
WITH CHIPS & BAKED BEANS
DESSERT - HOMEMADE SPONGE CAKE
FRESH FRUIT & YOGURT

WEEK 3

BREADED CHICKEN BURGER
QUORN BURGER
WITH CHIPS & SPAGHETTI HOOP
DESSERT - STRAWBERRY MOUSS
FRESH FRUIT + YOGURT

SPAGHETTI CARBONARA WITH
CHEESE SAUCE & BACON PIECES
VEGETABLE PASTA BAKE
WITH PEAS
DESSERT - HOMEMADE
FLAPJACK

ALL DAY COOKED BREAKFAST
ALL DAY QUORN BREAKFAST
WITH HASH BROWNS AND
BAKED BEANS
DESSERT - FRUIT JELLY & FRUIT
YOGURT

STICKY BBQ CHICKEN
STICKY BBQ VEGAN PIECES
WITH RICE & SWEETCORN
DESSERT - AMERICAN PANCAKES
WITH GOLDEN SYRUP
FRESH FRUIT + YOGURT

FISH FINGERS
CHEDDAR WHIRL
WITH SMILEY FACES & PEAS
DESSERT - HOMEMADE ICED SPONGE
CAKE WITH SPRINKLES
FRUIT & YOGURT



VISION ZERO

NO ROAD DEATHS

**HOW MANY
DEATHS ON
ESSEX ROADS
DO YOU
THINK ARE
ACCEPTABLE?**



WE BELIEVE THE ANSWER IS ZERO

The Safer Essex Roads Partnership (SERP) has adopted 'Vision Zero': an aspiration for there to be no deaths or serious injuries on Essex roads by 2040.

Everyone starts their journey expecting to reach their destination, but all too often, death on the road is accepted as a price we pay for having the freedom of public roads. Humans will make mistakes but should not die as a result. We need to work together to create a safe system to ensure that mistakes do not result in death or serious injury.

SERP has identified known causes of collisions and pledged to work with everyone that has an influence over these 5 elements of road safety to achieve 'Vision Zero':

- » Safe speeds
- » Safe vehicles
- » Post collision response
- » Safe road use
- » Safe roads and roadsides

These form an approach to road safety: the 'Safe System'.

For more information and to see how you can support Vision Zero, please visit the SERP website at:

<https://saferessexroads.org/vision-zero-no-more-deaths-on-essex-roads/>

