



MERRYLANDS

PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

AUTUMN TERM – FRIDAY 18TH SEPTEMBER 2026

MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL – MRS PRYER

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a pleasure to see the children working so hard in their learning this week. They have demonstrated really positive learning behaviours and I am really pleased to see how well the children have settled into the new school year.

This week, we marked International Day of Democracy, giving the children the opportunity to learn about the importance of having a voice, making fair choices and participating in decision-making within their communities. As part of this, we held our School Council and Eco-Warrior elections. After the voting process, candidates were selected from each class and we look forward to seeing them contribute positively to school life throughout the year.

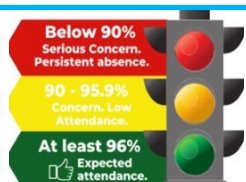
Please ensure that all items of your child's school uniform are clearly labelled with their name. This helps us to return clothing to the correct child when jumpers, cardigans or coats are removed at lunchtime or when children change for PE.

Please see below a brief reminder of our school uniform policy:

- White blouse, shirt or polo shirt
- Light grey skirt or pinafore dress
- Light grey trousers or shorts (no leggings)
- Navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan
- Navy blue checked dress for the summer term (no shorts or all-in-one outfits)
- Plain white, grey, black or navy socks
- Plain white, grey, black or navy tights
- Plain black shoes (no white markings or logos)

In addition, please remember that only small stud earrings and a watch may be worn at school. Earrings must be removed for PE lessons, and smart watches are not permitted. Long hair should be tied back using a small white, black, grey or navy-blue hair tie and decorative hair accessories, such as flowers or large bows, should not be worn.

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing you all next week.



School Attendance Target: 95.00 %

This week's attendance: 95.69%



The class with the best attendance in KS1 was Mrs Cooper/Mrs Christie's Class with 99.11%

The class with the best attendance in KS2 was Miss White's Class with 98.07%

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 CERTIFICATE

FOCUS: KINDNESS

ASC: Oskar H

Nest: Alfie N

Nursery: Jenson P

Reception, Mrs Anthony: Tommy T-H

Reception, Mrs Fairman / Miss Stanhope: April H

Reception, Mrs Bagridge: Aldrin M

Year 1, Mrs King: Natalia M

Year 1, Mrs Sullivan: Laevion C-T

Year 1, Mrs Andrade: Ember P

Year 2, Mrs Didham: Maria C

Year 2, Miss Milne: Klay C

Year 2, Mrs Christie/Mrs Cooper: Sadie D

Year 3, Mrs Almond: Maisie B

Year 3, Miss Gilmore: Raigan E-G

Year 3, Mrs Camoccio: Joshua P

Year 4, Miss Lee: Jude B

Year 4, Miss Miller: Eva P

Year 4, Miss Atkin: Jack S

Year 5, Miss Day: Elayna-R H

Year 5, Miss Medina: Lillie S

Year 5, Miss Osborne: Maisy H

Year 6, Miss White: Keira B

Year 6, Mrs Thour: Roseleah T

Year 6, Mr Taylor: Sophia C

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	Rose K
Year 1	Ruby J
Year 2	Daniel G
Year 3	Rosie P
Year 4	Ada T
Year 5	Billy M-S
Year 6	Georgianna-R C

UPCOMING DIARY DATES

October - Black History Month & Oracy Month
01.10.2026- National Poetry Day



RESPECT

KINDNESS

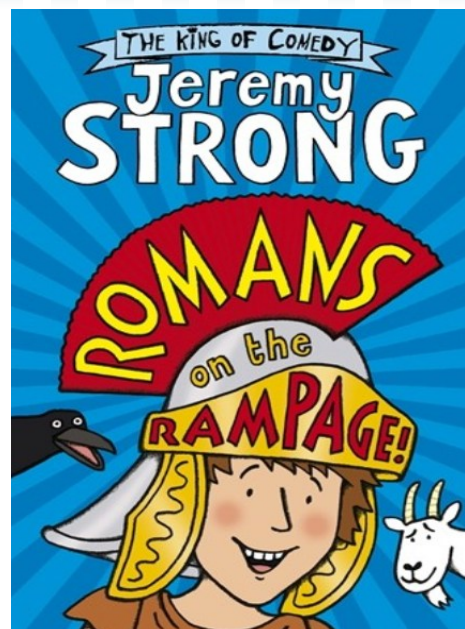
PERSEVERANCE

BOOK OF THE WEEK

Romans on the Rampage by Jeremy Strong.

In Year 5, Miss Day's class have been reading Romans on the Rampage at the end of the day. Our history topic is currently the Romans so we thought this would be a great first book to read as a class! We love the humour in this story and would recommend it to anyone who likes a comedic book!

Esmee—"This book is fun and enjoyable whilst also discovering some cool facts about the Romans!"



YEAR 4/5 DISTRICTS SPORTS EVENT



On Thursday 10th September, children from Year 4 and 5 took part in the delayed District sports event from the Summer. Pupils represented Merrylands amazingly by displaying our core values throughout the day.

Children were also recognised by the event staff for being extremely polite and tidy.

Children took part in running events such as sprints and long distance as well as fielding events such as long jump, howler throw and chest push.

A huge thank you and well done to all who took part.

ACHIEVEMENTS



Betty-Rose took part in a charity hike on Sunday 13th September to raise funds for children in war-torn countries to help provide meals for them. She's been training for weeks and was the only child involved.

Collectively, including Betty's fundraising, £5236 was raised!



RESPECT

KINDNESS

PERSEVERANCE



On Monday 21st September 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.

L
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Lighter Bites



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



HERO



Here, every day, ready and on time

Minutes lost per day

5 minutes

10 minutes

15 minutes

20 minutes

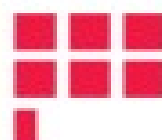
25 minutes

equates to a yearly loss of:

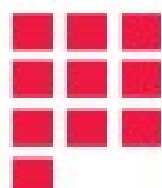
3
days lost



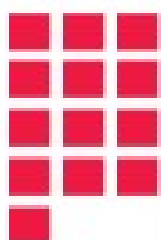
6.5
days lost



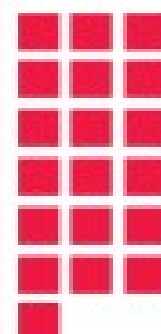
10
days lost



13
days lost



19
days lost



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!

GOOD TIMEKEEPING



What to do the night before:

Get everything you need for school ready



Set your alarm allowing plenty of time

Make your lunch and drink if you bring a packed lunch to school



Turn off devices half an hour before bedtime

Have a good night's sleep - a minimum of eight hours!



Five minutes late per day soon adds up to three days of lost school time

For mental health support for young people
visit: www.youngminds.org.uk