



MERRYLANDS

PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

AUTUMN TERM – FRIDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 2026

MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL – MRS PRYER

Dear Parents/Carers,

The children have continued to work hard in their lessons this week and have enjoyed a range of exciting learning opportunities across the school. Year 6 have been developing their understanding of addition and subtraction in maths, Year 5 have been writing biographies in English, Year 4 have been learning about classifying invertebrates in science, while Year 3 have been exploring emotions in PSHE. Year 2 have been investigating different habitats in science, Year 1 have been using different types of media in art, Reception have been learning about pronouns in English, and Nursery have enjoyed activities linked to the nursery rhyme Miss Polly Had a Dolly.

At Merrylands, we dedicate two hours of learning time to PE each week. These lessons are taught either by the class teacher or our sports coach. To ensure that all children can fully participate and achieve the expectations of the PE National Curriculum, it is essential that they have their 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 and outdoor activities
- Jogging bottoms or a tracksuit (dark colours only) for outdoor PE during the Autumn and Winter terms (optional)

If your child wears earrings on PE days, these must be removed before the lesson. Earrings cannot be covered with tape or a plaster, and staff members are not permitted to remove them.

Next week, the children in Year 6 will be heading to the Isle of Wight for their residential trip. We hope they have a fantastic time, make wonderful memories, and enjoy the exciting opportunities on offer.

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



School Attendance Target: 95.00 %

This week's attendance: 95.37%



The class with the best attendance in KS1 was Mrs Cooper/Mrs Christie's Class with 98.76%

The class with the best attendance in KS2 was Miss Lee's Class with 98.81%

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: PERSEVERANCE

ASC: Clyro R

Nest: Sonny E

Nursery: Reuben C

Reception, Mrs Anthony: Emilia-R G

Reception, Mrs Fairman/

Miss Stanhope: Milan P

Reception, Mrs Bagridge: Arthur L

Year 1, Mrs King: Louie C

Year 1, Mrs Sullivan: Paige A

Year 1, Mrs Andrade: Hudson B-S

Year 2, Mrs Didham: Adaobi E

Year 2, Miss Milne: Harry H

Year 2, Mrs Christie/Mrs Cooper:
Eliza G

Year 3, Mrs Almond: Aleshia M-Z

Year 3, Miss Gilmore: Thomas H

Year 3, Mrs Camoccio: Anthony W

Year 4, Miss Lee: Rory-P B

Year 4, Miss Miller: Cillian D

Year 4, Miss Atkin: Holly R

Year 5, Miss Day: Mattias-C A

Year 5, Miss Medina: John L

Year 5, Miss Osborne: Hunter T

Year 6, Miss White: Kyle P

Year 6, Mrs Thour: Freddie T

Year 6, Mr Taylor: Florrie S

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	Maya N
Year 1	Holly L
Year 2	Francesca B
Year 3	Charlie G
Year 4	Thinara P
Year 5	Heidi D-O
Year 6	Isla C

UPCOMING DIARY DATES

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



RESPECT

KINDNESS

PERSEVERANCE

BOOK OF THE WEEK



In Year 4, Miss Lee's class have been enjoying reading Zombierella by Joseph Coelho, a funny and wonderfully spooky twist on the classic Cinderella story! We have loved meeting its quirky characters and discovering what happens when a little fairy-tale magic meets a whole lot of zombie mayhem. It is a must read for any princess, thriller, zombie, or magic lover! It has been a great book for getting us laughing, talking and using our imaginations. We can't wait to see what happens next!

'I like this book because it has a fun twist'- Jack

'I like it a lot because it's funny and different to the usual story of Cinderella' - Maisie

THE BIG FUTURE SURVEY

We would like to encourage all pupils to take part in The Big Future, a national survey led by the Children's Commissioner for England.

The survey gives children the opportunity to share their views, experiences and hopes for the future.

Their responses will help ensure that children's voices are heard and represented at a national level.

The survey only takes a few minutes to complete and can be accessed here:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture>

We hope you will encourage your child to take part and share their thoughts.



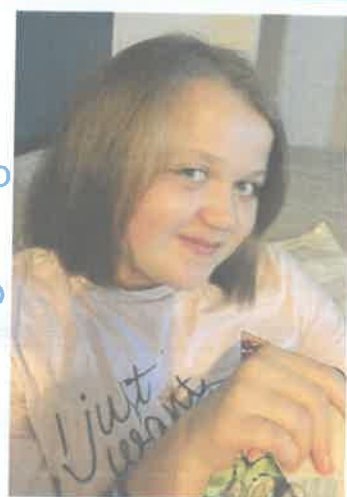
ACHIEVEMENTS



A huge well done to Sophie G in year 6 who cut and donated her hair to The Little Princess Trust. The donated hair will be used to make a wig for children who are going through cancer treatment.

Sophie's selfless act has raised over £600 for the charity.

Sophie already has plans to grow, cut and donate her hair again in the future!



RESPECT

KINDNESS

PERSEVERANCE

On Monday 28th September 2026 children will return to school on Week 2.

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
U
N
C
H
T
I
M
E

 **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 HO
DESSERT - STRAWBERRY MOUS
FRESH FRUIT + YOGURT

SPAGHETTI CARBONARA WITH
CHEESE SAUCE & BACON PIECE
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 PANCAKE
WITH GOLDEN SYRUP
FRESH FRUIT + YOGURT

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

MERRYLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

YEAR 3 & 4

NETBALL Club!

ALL
YEAR 3
& YEAR 4
WELCOME!

Fun!
Friendship
Fitness!
Teamwork!

MRS DIDHAM

MISS MILNE

Come along, have fun
and grow your skills!

EVERY
THURSDAY

- ★ Make new friends
- ★ Learn new skills
- ★ Play fun games
- ★ Be part of a team!

WE CAN'T WAIT
TO SEE YOU!

With Mrs Didham

MERRYLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

YEAR 5 & 6

NETBALL

Club!

Calling all
YEAR 5
& **YEAR 6**
players!

★ Build skills!

★ Improve fitness!

★ Make friends

★ Play as **ONE TEAM!**

MRS DIDHAM

MISS MILNE

♥ Come along, have fun
and grow your skills! ♥

EVERY
WEDNESDAY

- ★ Improve your skills
- ★ Learn new tactics
- ★ Play exciting games
- ★ Be part of a team!

WE CAN'T WAIT
TO SEE YOU!

TEAMWORK
MAKES THE
TEAM WORK!

PASSION
PRACTICE
PERFORMANCE



South Autumn Term

The Essex SEND Local Offer Roadshow

Are you a parent or carer of a young person with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) aged 0 to 25? Do you want to know what support is available in your area? Come along to one of our Essex SEND Local Offer Roadshows.

You can chat with teams from Education, Health and Social Care, as well as local support groups and activity providers.



The marketplace is free and there is no need to book. Children are welcome!



Drop in between 9:30am and 12:30pm



Wednesday 21 October 2026



Richmond Hall, Richmond Avenue, South Benfleet, SS7 5HA

Scan the QR Code for all the information, including dates and venues or visit the Essex Local Offer at:

<https://send.essex.gov.uk/i-think-my-child-needs-help/essex-local-offer-roadshows>



In Partnership with

