



**MERRYLANDS**  
PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

## Newsletter

08.09.17

### Welcome Back!

I hope you have had an enjoyable summer. The children have certainly had lots of exciting stories to share. A special welcome to our new Reception and Nursery children, as well as our new starters across the school and to their families, we're looking forward to working with you. Please could you ensure, that, as parents and carers you put a great value on school and education. Explain to your child that treating everyone with respect, being on time and in school everyday, wearing the correct uniform and working hard in school is important to you. These are also important life skills. The value you place on these will be the value your child holds. All children have started the year well and are looking exceptionally smart in their new uniforms and have been impeccable with their manners too.

We in school will do everything we can to help your child to do their best. Let us know if we can support you in any way. Feel free to book an appointment with your child's class teacher if you have concerns or need support, help or advice, via the school office and they will contact you with a suitable time and day.

I am looking forward to another successful year ahead with all of our pupils and their families and appreciate your continued support.

A couple of changes to note, I got married over the Summer, the children have probably already been home with the news, my name is now Mrs Berry. Some of you may remember Miss Wareham got married over the Easter break and she has now changed her name to Mrs Pryer.

Kind regards,  
Mrs Berry



### Dates for the diary

**W/C 11/09/17**- Swimming lessons and all school run clubs start (letters have been sent home with details)

**18/09/17**- Individual School Photos (School will be open from 8am for those wishing to have family photos)

**18/09/17 - 29/09/17**- Years 1 – 6 Parent Information Evenings (letters will follow with exact dates/times for each year group)

**25/09/17 – 29/09/17**- Author Study Week

**02/10/17 – 06/10/17**- Year 6 Isle of Wight Residential Trip



## **REMINDERS:**

### **Building Work:**

You would have noticed that there is school building improvement work continuing at each of the schools so please take note of any advice given by the school. This could change on a weekly basis and updates will be sent via a text message



### **Road Safety:**

Please drive carefully on the approach to the school and do not park on the yellow zig-zag lines for any reason. All of the yellow lines are monitored by the police and the local authority to ensure your children are safe. Therefore, if you could please begin the term by walking to school or for those families that live a long distance from the school, please could you park on other safer roads and then walk your children the rest of the way, using the zebra crossing if necessary. We appreciate your support and we know that we are all working towards keeping our children and community safe.



### **School Uniform:**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for providing your children with our school uniform. Please name all items of clothing and footwear to help keep the lost property boxes empty and ensuring that items can be easily returned.

### **School Dinners, free school meals and pupil premium funding:**

It is vital that all parents who qualify for free school meals still register their child with the local authority because the additional pupil premium funding means that these children can benefit from additional school support and financial support where necessary. Please ask the school office for more information.



### **Attendance and Punctuality:**

Attendance across the Trust improved once again last year – thank you!

It is the legal responsibility of parents to ensure their child attends school and is always on time. Good attendance at school enables children to cope more easily with school routines and work, thereby making learning more satisfying and ensuring greater progress both socially and academically. It is our policy to follow up any unexplained absences immediately. We monitor attendance and punctuality closely and where necessary work with parents to support them on improving their child's attendance and punctuality at school.

Thank you to all of those parents that have followed the guidelines for term time leave. Please continue to improve our attendance by following the guidance below:

Amendments to School Attendance Regulations "Amendments to the 2006 regulations remove references to family holiday and extended leave as well as the statutory threshold of ten school days. The amendments make clear that Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances."



### **Message from ACL**

ACL offers adult learning courses across Essex. If you need a qualification to help you progress at work, change career, get to uni or start your own business, ACL offers a wide range of accredited courses. We have fantastic pass rates and we are renowned for supporting our learners at every stage. Our tutors are experts in their fields and focused on helping you to succeed. There is still time to enrol on a qualification course for this September – don't miss out!

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