



Newsletter – 16th January 2026



CELEBRATING GOOD SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Overall whole school attendance this week: 94.81%

Well done to class 2E for achieving the highest attendance this week.

Calling all budding artists - Royal Academy of Arts Young Artist Summer Show

This is an art competition for anyone age 4-18 to enter and has a range of prizes including the opportunity for the children's artwork to be exhibited on the Royal Academy website as well as in the gallery in London! Miss Bloomfield (Art Leader) has shared this with the children in assembly this week. It is a wonderful opportunity for any child, who has a real interest in art, to share their talents. The art piece can be in any form but must be completely of the child's creation so no replication of known figures or characters. If you would like your child to enter, please complete the permissions form (attached) and return this together with your child's art piece to Miss Bloomfield by Friday 27th February. We look forward to seeing all of the children's artwork.



The poster features the text 'Young Artists' Summer Show' and 'RA Royal Academy of Arts'. It includes a central illustration of a pencil character and several examples of children's artwork: a pencil character, a drawing of a skunk, a colorful beach scene, a stylized face, a bowl of fruit, and a teddy bear. The bottom text reads: 'How to enter: Bring your artwork to Miss Bloomfield by Friday 27th February - remember your permission slip!'.

Well done to the Mental Health Champions

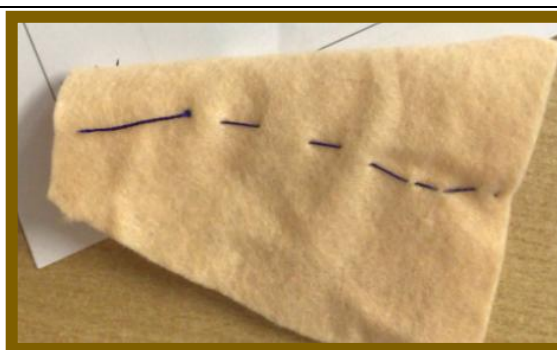
A group of our Mental Health Champions have been busy preparing to launch their club and will be sharing the details at the start of Children's Mental Health Week. They have some great ideas and are very enthusiastic to get going. Well done to them for investing their time and effort and being so passionate.



★ Stars of the week ★

Nursery	All of the Nursery are celebrating Norah this week for her infectious enthusiasm for learning. Norah is always inventing new games and developing activities to explore with her friends. She is kind and helpful and an invaluable member of our nursery team.
Rec 1	Autumn H has been working really hard on her letter formation and this week has produced some very neat independent writing. She has been trying really hard to make sure she doesn't rush her writing. Well done Autumn, keep up the good work.
Rec 2	Albert is our star of the week in R2. His focus and listening skills in our carpet sessions are astounding. Albert always is one of the first to contribute to our sessions. Keep it up superstar!
1M	Hunter A for his excellent sewing skills in DT this week using a needle and thread. Keep up the hard work! Well done Hunter.
1E	1E would like to celebrate Sofia L for her fantastic efforts in her writing this week. Sofia has worked really hard to hold a sentence in her head before writing it out using a grapheme mat to help her. Mrs Bond was very impressed with the concentration and effort that Sofia put into her work. Keep it up Sofia!
2E	Austin B-H for his excellent work on telling the time this week. Well done Austin.
2B	2B star of the week is Henry W for his super attitude to learning this week. Henry has been showing some fab maths skills when telling the time. He has also been working hard on using beautiful handwriting and presentation in his books. Well done Henry.
3D	I would like to celebrate Stanley S for super maths work. He has a good recall of his year 3 times tables and he can identify equivalent multiplication facts. Stanley demonstrates a good understanding of what each multiplication fact represents. Keep learning those times tables!
3T	Edie B for working super hard on her maths work this week, explaining her calculations beautifully.
4W	Esther P for showing great confidence in answering questions in class and participating so well in all lessons - maths, science, PE, ICT - the lot! Well done, Esther!
4R	4R's star of the week is Stella. Her ideas and creativity in lessons have been fantastic. She has been a supportive learning partner and an active participant in all our class and group discussions.
5E	In class 5E we would love to celebrate Farren G for showing superb resilience, effort and understanding during maths this week, Farren has taken on every challenge and has become an expert when dealing with fractions! Well done Farren, your effort is admirable!
5/6W	Myla J is our Star of the Week as she has had a really positive attitude towards her learning and has been such a keen member of the class, always offering to do jobs and has been generally helpful. Well done Myla.
6H	This week I would like to celebrate Oscar. Not only did he design and build the winning catapult in our school science competition, but he also put together and delivered an inspiring presentation for this week's Nelson ship assembly. Fantastic effort, Oscar!
6Y	Annie G has really pushed herself out of her comfort zone and did a fantastic job during our 'hot-seat' activity as a character from our book Wonder.

Hunter A's (1M) excellent sewing skills





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Lost Property

As you can imagine, we constantly have children losing their belongings. This is something which is not only upsetting for the child but also incredibly frustrating for you as parents, not to mention expensive! Please can you help us to reduce the number of items which are unable to be reunited with their owners by ensuring your child's belongings are all clearly named.

We will do our very best to ensure any found items, which are named, are returned swiftly.

Free School Meals

If your circumstances have changed or you think you may be eligible for free school meals as well as help with the cost of trips and PE kit, please email office@merseaschool.org
It is a very easy process which we are happy to do for you.

Market Gardening Club

Garden Club's 'Kitchen Garden' project is now underway. Our garlic, planted before Christmas, is already coming through and this week the children have harvested seeds from bell peppers and butternut squash.

On Monday we will be turning old 4 pint milk cartons into mini greenhouses to start off some of our seeds. Can we please ask again, if anyone has any spare seeds/seedlings/trays or compost that they would like to donate we would be very grateful.

Parent Drop-in

The next parent drop-in session is on Wednesday 11th February from 9 – 10am. Everyone is welcome. Please let the office know if you will be coming so we are aware of numbers.

Attendance

Thank you to all those of you who are reporting any absence to the school office, by 8.30am. If we do not hear from you and your child is not in school, we will do a home visit to check that everyone is safe and ok. With many of our older pupils having permission to walk to school, should they not be in attendance and we do not hear from anyone, we have no way of knowing if you are aware they are not in school. This is why we visit, not to judge but to ensure everyone is ok, because we care. If we hear from you, we do not need to home visit, as we know all is well, so please do make contact as this saves us all lots of time and worry.

Keeping Children Safe

The safeguarding of children is everyone's responsibility. Should you ever have any concerns about a child, please contact the police immediately on 999 if you have concerns for their safety. If you need to speak to someone in school about any safeguarding related matters, please see the names of key staff below:

Safeguarding Team

Lead: Mrs T Wright (Headteacher)
Deputy Safeguarding Leads: Miss S Poole (Deputy Head), Mrs A Khan (Inclusion Manager),
Mrs C Jenkins (Pastoral Lead)

Wishing the choir all the very best for their upcoming performance next week at the O2!