



Newsletter – 14th February 2025



CELEBRATING GOOD SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Overall whole school attendance this week: 94.81%

Well done to class Reception 1 for achieving the highest attendance this week.



It has been a relatively short but incredibly action packed half term. We have been really pleased to see so many parents engaging in school life and I would like to thank you, as I know it can be a juggling act, especially for those of you who are working or have numerous other commitments.

This week has been a celebration of all things international with the children learning about different countries, cultures, languages and, probably the most popular part, foods! It has been wonderful to see so many children trying new dishes and really enjoying them. Well done to the kitchen staff for putting so many smiles on so many little faces!

We have also had an additional focus on internet safety. With the half term ahead, please do take the time to re-check the settings on your child's devices, check their online activities and remind them of what to do if they see or know of anything happening which is not appropriate/okay.

The calendar overview is attached for spring 2 so you can see, at a glance, what is coming up next half term – I hope you find this helpful. Should you wish to see further ahead, all the dates are already on the calendar for the rest of the academic year. Term dates can also be found for 2025-2026.



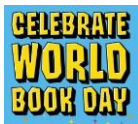
We would really like our children at Mersea Island School to get involved in the Show Racism the Red Card competition 2025. It is a competition which aims to educate children about racism through creative arts. The competition asks our Year 1 – 6 children to create a piece of artwork, creative writing (e.g. a story, poem, diary entry, letter) or a video (no longer than 6 minutes) promoting a positive anti-racist message. Entries need to be received by Friday 7th March. Artwork must not exceed A3 size (297mm x 420mm), film entries must not exceed 6 minutes and must be playable on Windows Media Player. Entries can either be emailed to your child's class teacher or delivered to the school office.

Part of our PSHE curriculum ensures that children learn about what racism is and how important it is to combat it. A message, I am sure, you continue to echo at home.

We are hoping lots of our children will enter. There will be one winner per class and an overall school winner.

Good luck everyone!

Mrs Moore



Competition Time for World Book Day!

World Book Day is on Thursday 6th March and we will be holding our annual Mersea Book Week from Monday 3rd March. This will involve lots of activities to do with books and reading as well as dressing up for World Book Day on the Thursday. The Book Fair will arrive in school on Friday 7th March. As part of the fun, we are holding a competition with the prizes being book vouchers that can be spent at the Book Fair.

Key Stage 1 - draw a picture or make a model of your favourite book character.

Key Stage 2 - draw a picture or create a model of a famous setting in a book. (You could make a snowy Narnia, a replica of Willy Wonka's chocolate factory or anything else you like.)

So, if it's rainy and cold over half term, get drawing or making! (And don't forget to get your costume for World Book Day ready!)



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Stars of the Week

Nursery	William is our Nursery superstar this week. He has been so busy exploring the construction, the role play, shape building and painting. William has been using his excellent speaking skills to tell the bus driver where he wants to go on his journey!
Rec 1	Madden P as he always tries his best in everything he does. This great attitude has helped him achieve some lovely work this half term. Well done Madden, keep up the good work.
Rec 2	Reception 2 are celebrating Harrison K. He has worked hard to learn his letter sounds and is beginning to blend sounds to read words. It is so lovely to see how proud he is of his achievement! Well done Harrison.
1M	Henry M for his resilience when making his puppet in design and technology and his excellent cricket skills, holding the bat correctly to hit the ball. Well done Henry!
1P	1P would like to celebrate Arthur B for his fantastic efforts in English. Arthur has been challenging himself with his written work, extending his sentences to add more detail. He even included an exclamation mark and question mark in his independent writing this week! Well done Arthur.
2E	Alex W for her brilliant diary entry from the Great Fire of London. She captured the feelings and thoughts of somebody caught up in the fire brilliantly throughout her writing, well done Alex.
2S	2S star of the week is Florence for her fabulous efforts in maths. Florence has been really motivated to get lots of calculations completed and has worked carefully to draw out the tens and ones correctly.
3D	Daisy S for her continued effort in all aspects of her learning. She has worked incredibly hard on her spelling using grapheme and word mats to help her. She has also developed a wider variety of vocabulary by a thesaurus to make better word choices. Her confidence in her maths ability has also soared when after a multiplication and division lesson this week she said "That was easier than I thought!" Keep it up Daisy.
3E	Thomas M has had a great week! He has been working really hard on his non-chronological report, trying to add detail and uplevel his language, started writing in pen and increased his score in his maths assessment! He has also taken a really keen interest in our languages week, using atlases and fact sheets to find out about the various countries, very well done Thomas, keep it up!
4W	Vivienne T for always being cheerful and positive in class and for showing great determination to improve, especially with her reading.
4B	Logie A-P for being a fabulous actor. Well done Logie!
5F	5F would like to celebrate Roy J for working hard this week and completing tasks with increased independence. Roy wrote an excellent comparison in geography comparing the river Thames and the Mississippi river. Well done Roy!
5T	Mason R for excellent effort during our show rehearsals. He has been working on his comic timing and projection and I am so excited for everyone to see your great acting and singing! Well done Mason!
5W	Albie C for his super progress in grammar- full marks in his test! He has also made good progress in writing by using a lot of ambitious vocabulary and adverbials- very well done Albie, keep up the good work.
6H	Violet for being an excellent team player in our netball games this week. She was accurate with her passing and made brilliant use of the space on the court. It was clear that she was fully focussed and thinking tactically throughout the games. Well done, Violet!
6Y	Betsy Y as recently, she has been enthusiastic during class discussions, determined in her work and resilient when faced with a tricky maths problem.



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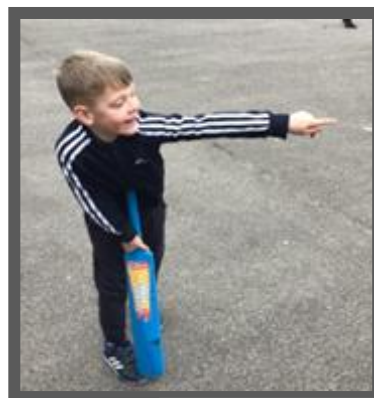


Snapshots of the week...

Leela J was so inspired by our focus on Mental Health week, she worked a whole week on producing this wonderful piece of artwork. It reminds us all that we feel certain things at different times, and this is ok. It also demonstrates what wonderful talent we have in our school. A fantastic effort by Leela.



Henry (1M) showing just how much he is enjoying cricket and how proud of himself he is with his puppet design.



William (N) using his words to get to the right place on the bus!

**Wishing you all a very restful
half term.**

**Please remember the first day
back is Tuesday the 25th
February.**

Nursery places for September 2025

We are pleased to be able to take applications for nursery places for September 2025. If you would like details, please contact the school office via office@merseaschool.org or pop in and speak to a member of staff.

