



Newsletter – 7th February 2025



CELEBRATING GOOD SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Overall whole school attendance this week: 96.78%

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

Celebrating Children's Mental Health Week

We started the week with an inspiring assembly, led by Miss Pender. The children were assigned the task of exploring different emotions with a view to understanding that it is ok to feel any and all emotions. The children have really taken on board that mental health is just as important as physical health and knowing that we all need to be kind as we cannot always tell how someone may be feeling inside, unlike when someone has a broken arm or leg. Classes and year groups produced some lovely artwork to convey emotions. Here are some examples:

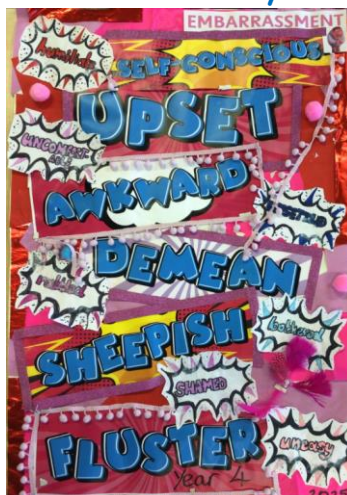
Joy - by Reception



Sadness - by Year 2

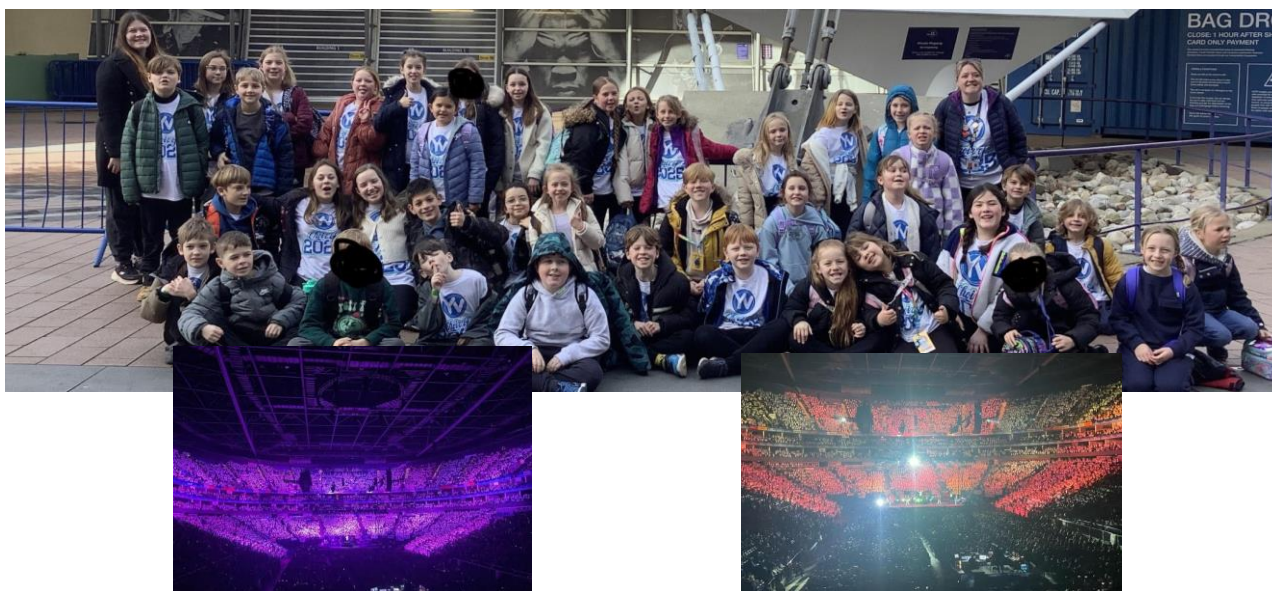


Embarrassment - by Year 4



Young Voices at the O2

On Wednesday, 40 members of our talented school choir took part in 'Young Voices' at the O2 Arena, London. They sung their hearts out as part of an 8509 strong choir, remembering all of their lyrics, dance routines and even some sign language! A highlight of the night was getting to sing backing vocals for Mc Grammar, Souparnika Nair (from Britain's Got Talent) and Tommy Blaize (Strictly Come Dancing). Miss Tokley and Mrs Deeks are incredibly proud of all of them, they performed brilliantly and were great role models throughout the day. A big thank you to all of the parents for your support with this event.





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Whole school focus - Did you know?

One of the things we are really working hard on, with regards to writing, is grammar, punctuation and spelling (GPS). Our curriculum is progressive and we have recently been looking at how we share this with the children in terms of what they learn in their new year group as well as still remembering their previous learning. Parents also often ask us whether or not their children should know about certain elements of this. When children write, we ask them to check certain aspects of their writing before sharing with an adult.

G - Grammar - We ask them to read their writing to check it makes sense

P - Punctuation - Check their punctuation (this is the punctuation that they learnt in their previous year group and should, for most children, be 'old' learning and things they have already learnt and already know.

S - Spelling - Check their common word spelling (again, this is spelling that they learnt in their previous year group and should, for most children, be 'old' learning and things they have already learnt and already know.

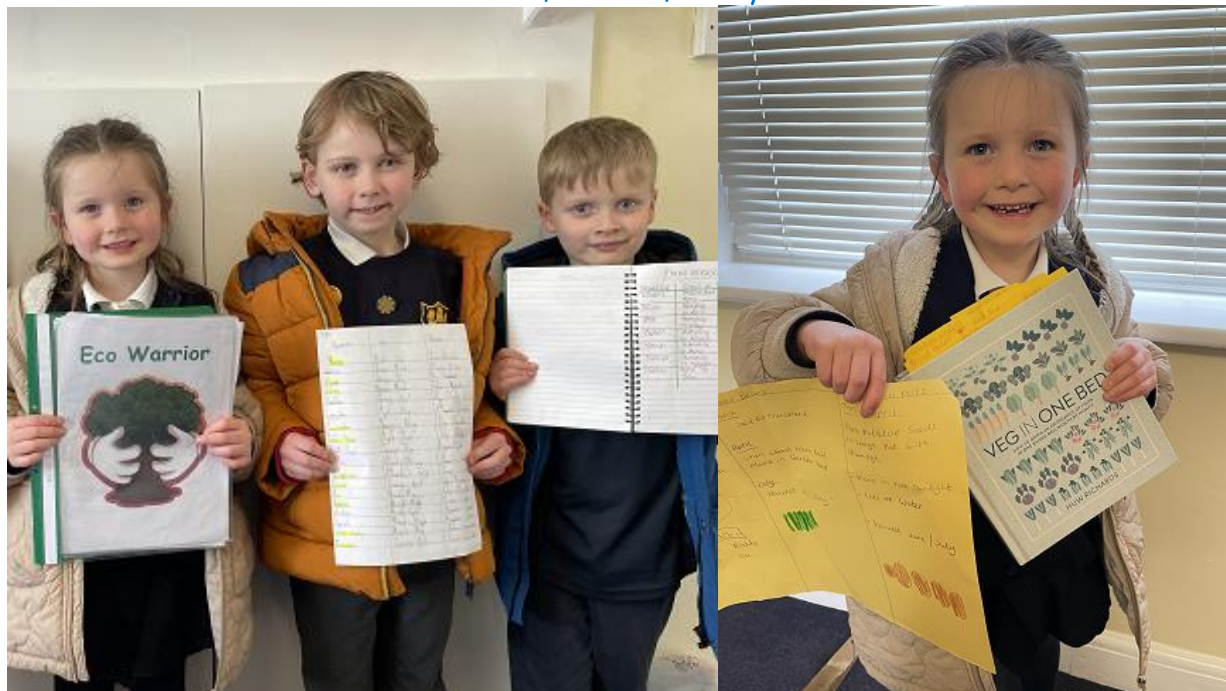
We also use green pen to highlight positives in books and blue to guide the children on their next steps. The children use purple pen to edit and improve their work.

When you next view your child's work, hopefully this will give you an insight into what you are seeing and how we feed back to your child.

If you would like more information about curriculum coverage and expectations, you can find information on our website or please speak to your child's class teacher.

Eco Warriors

Some of our younger Eco Warriors have been researching vegetables that could be planted now and harvested in July. This is for a vegetable growing competition that they are organising. More information will follow but, for now, a very well done to them all.



Our Key Stage Two Eco Warriors have been working extremely hard, preparing to open our very own Refill Shop. They have been attending training, completing business plans and have agreed the name of their company 'Rapid Refills'. They plan to open on the 26th February and would like to bring your attention to the attached letter.

It has been an absolute pleasure working with them all and seeing how committed and excited they are about their new venture.



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Stars of the Week

Nursery	Nursery have been on a bear hunt this week! Betty N has created a beautiful picture; carefully cutting out the characters and using her colouring skills to show them walking through the wavy grass. Well done Betty.
Rec 1	Flynn G this week is being celebrated. We have been talking about looking after each other this week. Flynn always goes out of his way to make sure people are ok. He will always comfort his friends who may be upset and greets me every morning with a smile and asks if I am ok.
Rec 2	Riley D for being an excellent friend and a brilliant role model. He has demonstrated his excellent knowledge and skills with 'taking away' in maths this week.
1M	1M star of the week: Sienna A for her amazing effort with her writing this week on Stanley stick and super concentration hitting the Boom Whackers at the right time when performing in music. Well done!
1P	1P would like to celebrate Douglas T for his fantastic sewing of 'Green Winnie the Pooh' in DT this week. Douglas had a brilliant attitude towards learning and loved practising this new skill. Well done Douglas!
2E	Robyn S for her excellent writing in her non-chronological report about The Great Fire of London. A well presented and informative report Robyn, well done.
2S	2S star of the week is Harvey R for always putting 100% effort into everything he does. Harvey works hard to present all of his work beautifully and should be really proud of himself.
3D	Lily-Rose G for trying really hard to be independent in her learning. She has been using her phonics in her reading and writing as well as recognising what her sentences need. She is also beginning to apply her step counting knowledge to multiplication problem solving. Great effort Lily-Rose.
3E	Raiden B has had such a great week. He is working hard and really trying to take on board our new learning. He also has shown himself to be such a kind and thoughtful young man and adults working in our class have all commented on how polite and caring. Really well done Raiden, keep being your lovely self!
4W	Tommy W for great work in squash lessons where he shows coordination and precision, and also for positive contributions to maths lessons.
4B	Connie W for writing a fabulous non-chronological report on dragons and for also being super expressive and dramatic at acting out Harry Potter scenarios.
5F	5F would love to celebrate Harry D this week for having a superb attitude to learning across all of the subjects! In particular maths and English, Harry has responded positively to feedback and has improved his work! Super effort Harry!
5T	Albie L for fantastic work in Maths, focusing on the properties of 2D and 3D shapes and learning lots of new and advanced vocabulary!
5W	Teddy B for his really positive and determined attitude; his keenness to learn has been a real pleasure to witness- very well done Teddy, you are a superstar!
6H	Christopher J for displaying excellent sportsmanship in our netball lesson this week. A teammate made an error with their footwork and the ball had to be given to the other team. Christopher immediately approached the person and said, "That's okay, we're all just here to practise and get better." He is absolutely right! This is exactly the sort of encouragement we love to see at Mersea Island School so thank you Chris.
6Y	Olivia G for her amazing resilience and enthusiasm in Maths this week. Also, for her maturity and contributions throughout our work with our class text.



Snapshots of work...

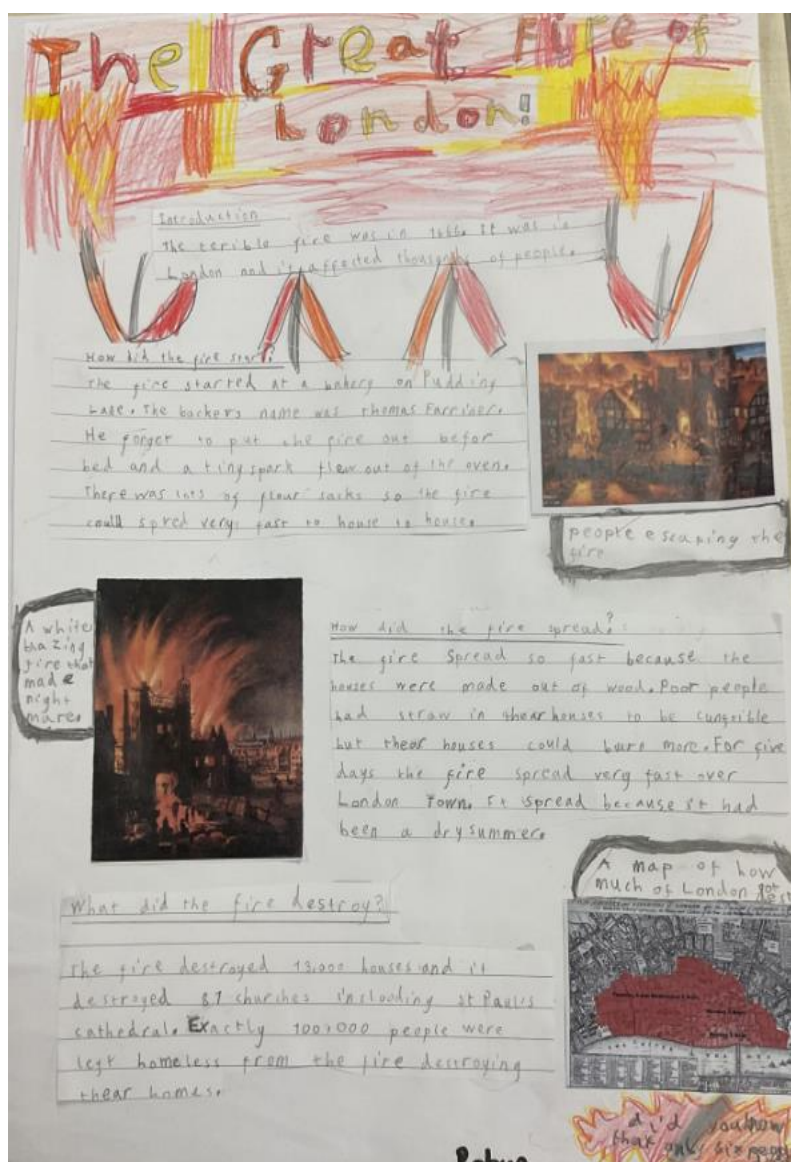
Betty N (Nursery) – Bear Hunt artwork



Douglas T (1P) hand puppet



Robyn S (2E) Fire of London non-chronological report



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.

Well done to Year 1's for their lovely class assemblies this week. It was great to see so many parents and grandparents attending.

School Uniform

Please can I ask parents to check the school uniform policy before purchasing new items. Black trousers, jumpers or tights are not part of our policy. Tights should be navy blue and socks, under trousers should be dark grey or black please. Do remember the Uniform Hut is there for you, should you need anything.