



Newsletter – 4th September 2026



CELEBRATING GOOD SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Overall whole school attendance this week:	98.37%
--	--------



A Very Warm Welcome Back to School

I hope you have all had a wonderful summer break and enjoyed making the most of the beautiful weather. It has been a real pleasure to welcome everyone back, and it has been lovely to see the school come alive again with happy faces, laughter and excitement.

A very special welcome goes to our youngest pupils in Reception, who have taken their first steps on their school journey with us. We would also like to warmly welcome all the children and families who have joined our school community from other schools and nurseries. We are so pleased to have you with us and hope that you have already begun to feel at home. We look forward to getting to know you and watching your children grow, learn and flourish during their time with us.

Our first week has been all about settling in, getting to know new routines and, most importantly, getting to know one another. We know that children learn best when they feel happy, safe, valued and understood. Building strong, trusting relationships is therefore at the heart of everything we do, and this includes the very special partnership we have with you, our parents and carers.

We want every child to feel that they belong here, that their voice matters and that they are encouraged to be the very best version of themselves. Our aim is not only to support children in their learning, but also to give them opportunities to discover new interests, develop their confidence, try new things and create memories that they will carry with them throughout their school journey.

We really value your thoughts, ideas and feedback. We are always happy to hear suggestions about how we can make things even better, but please do also tell us when something is working well. Knowing what you value and what makes a positive difference to your family is just as important and helps us to build on the things we are already doing successfully. There are Coffee and Croissant mornings for each year group on different Friday mornings this half term. There will also be opportunities throughout the year to share your views at our Drop-In Sessions, with dates already available on the school calendar. If you are unable to attend, please don't worry — you can email your feedback and suggestions to office@merseaschool.org, or simply have a chat with one of us on the gate. We are always happy to listen and welcome an opportunity to talk.

It has been such a positive start to the year. The school has felt calm, purposeful and happy, and one of the greatest joys has been hearing the children talking so positively about their new classes. Their enthusiasm, smiles and excitement have been wonderful to see and are a lovely reminder of why we do what we do.

We hope that today's topic launches have sparked curiosity and inspired your children about the learning ahead. There is so much for them to discover, explore and enjoy over the coming weeks. Curriculum overviews for each year group are now available on the school website, and if you have any questions or would like to know more, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher.

As we look ahead to the year, we are excited about all that is to come. There will be lots of opportunities for the children to shine, grow in confidence and celebrate their achievements. We look forward to sharing those moments with you and celebrating every success, both big and small.

Thank you for your continued support, encouragement and trust. By working together, we can create a school community where every child feels known, valued and loved, and where they can truly thrive. Here's to a wonderful year ahead — we can't wait to see what our children will achieve.



Newsletter – 4th September 2026



Our new post holders for 2026-2027

This morning, we were delighted to congratulate many pupils on gaining key posts of responsibility. We still have Stationery Shop Managers, Librarians and a Head Pupil to confirm but will endeavour to do so in the next week! A huge thank you to all those who applied, and a particular well done to the following children:

<u>Head Pupils 2026 – 2027</u>	
Alice Hempstead & TBC!	
<u>Ship Captains 2026-2027</u>	
Sebastian Gibbons (SC)	Connie West (SC)
Henry Sydenham (FL)	Jessica Hobson (FL)
Alfie Pattenden (SC)	Ava Day (SC)
Emilia Saunders (FL)	Fraser Graham (FL)
Dylan Williams (SC)	Morgan Lovell-Hume (SC)
Darcie Clark (FL)	Lilia Hosni (FL)
Edward Stephenson (SC)	Violet Seward (SC)
Tommy Wilby (FL)	Vivienne Taylor (FL)

<u>Stationery Shop Managers</u>
TBC
<u>Rapid Refill Shop Manager</u>
Alice Hempstead

<u>Learning Ambassadors</u>
Reuben Brock, Jessica Hobson, Eva Peyronnel, Vivienne Taylor, Connie West, Morgan Lovell-Hume

<u>Eco Warriors 2026 - 2027</u>	
Name	Class
Alexis King	1B
Lily Cooper	1E
Arlo Ager-Haynes	2D
Lachlan Jarvis	2E
Lois Morgan	3S
Toby French	3T
Rose Woods	4R
Francesca Gibbons	4W
Isabelle Storrar Thomas Birch	Year 5
Clara-Grace Locke Alice Hempstead George-Weekes Rolfe	Year 6

<u>School Council Representatives 2026 - 2027</u>	
Name	Class
Finnley Wilkin	1E
Reuben Danquah	1B
Harper Crossingham	2D
Morgan Williams	2E
Millie Pattenden	3S
Austin Bradford-Hill	3T
Talulah Carter	4R
Ava Brown	4W
Theo Jay Isabella Berryman-Watts	Year 5
Edward Stephenson Tommy Wilby Ava Day George Wakeling	Year 6

School Council Fundraising

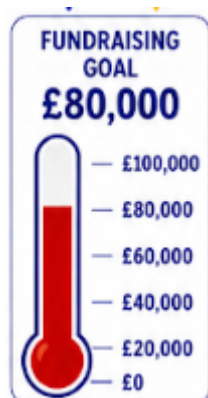
We are so grateful for all the children (and their family's) fundraising efforts and we are very happy to share with you that there is now a new speaker at the far end of the school site.

Over the summer holidays the children continued to raise money. Particular thanks to Imogen (Year 4) and Elsie H (Year 2), Olivia W (Year 4) and Skyla A (Year 4). The girls did a bake sale over the summer holidays. Also thank you to Autumn H (Year 1), who sold shells to raise some more money.





Newsletter – 4th September 2026



TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE!

Fundraising Campaign for 2026-2027 – All help will be greatly appreciated

As we look ahead to the 2026–2027 school year, I want to share openly with you that, like many schools, our finances are becoming increasingly stretched. At the same time, our commitment to providing every pupil with the very best learning experiences, high-quality resources and an inspiring, welcoming school environment remains as strong as ever. School funding in the UK is rarely sufficient to cover costs because funding increases have often failed to keep pace with rising staffing, energy, SEND and other essential operating costs. To help us continue to build on what we offer, we are launching our 2026–2027 fundraising campaign, with an ambitious target of £80,000. The funds raised will enable us to improve our learning environments, expand opportunities and experiences for our pupils, and invest in resources and projects that will create lasting benefits for every child in our school community. A list of identified spending priorities can be seen on our website.

There are many ways you can support our campaign, and every contribution, whatever its size, can make a real difference. You could choose to make a one-off donation or set up a monthly contribution, maybe you have family who have an historical link with the school who you could share our campaign with. You could also sponsor a specific project that is particularly meaningful to you, or, if you own or represent a business, perhaps you might like to explore opportunities to offer corporate support. If you are not in a position to help financially, perhaps you have a little time to spare the FOMISA team. You can offer your time, share your skills and expertise, or sign up to become part of the FOMISA team and help us organise and support fundraising activities throughout the year.

We sincerely hope that everyone in our school community will feel able to play a part in whatever way works best for them. We would also be delighted to hear from anyone who has ideas, suggestions or opportunities that could help us generate additional income and further support our fundraising efforts. Above all, please know how incredibly grateful we are for any support you are able to offer. Every contribution, whether through time, expertise, ideas or financial support, will make a real difference to our pupils and our school. We will keep you updated throughout the year on our progress and, most importantly, on the difference your generosity is helping us to make.



Donations can be made to FOMISA via the QR code. Alternatively, please contact the school office if you would like further information or to organise a meeting.

Medications

Thank you to those parents who have already been in to the office to deliver medication and fill out the necessary forms. If your child needs any medication in school, please can you ensure we have it and that the relevant paperwork has been completed. This has to be done every September so please do not assume that the paperwork from last year has been carried over in to the new academic year. If your child is asthmatic, or needs an Epipen, please ensure we have in date medication for them in school.

Please can I remind everyone that we are a NUT FREE school, so please do not send your child in with anything containing nuts as we have several children with severe allergies. You may have heard of Benedict's Law which is about schools being allergy aware, trained and equipped with lifesaving Epipens. I am pleased to confirm that we do have spare pens in school, for emergency use.



Newsletter – 4th September 2026



Music lessons

Individual, optional music lessons take place via specialist music tutors within school hours. We currently offer: Guitar on Mondays, IRock (Group lesson) on Wednesdays, drums on Thursdays along with piano and woodwind lessons on Friday. Please contact the office for more information. If your child is particularly interested in learning to play an instrument, please do let us know. We will do our best to accommodate.

Have you booked your Wraparound care?

If you know you are going to require wraparound provision for your child/ren during the autumn term, please can you contact the school office to book your place/s. This will really help us in having an idea of numbers. If you are a parent who may need to book the odd days here and there, you will still be able to sign up last minute so please do not worry!

Permissions

Please can you ensure you have had the necessary communication with your child's class teacher regarding your permissions or denial of consent for your child to appear in photos etc. If your child is in Year 5 or 6 and you wish for them to walk home alone, you will need to provide written communication to your child's new teacher before they will be allowed to do so. If your child is in KS2 (Yr 3 up) and you would like them to meet you somewhere on the playground, you must give permission for your child's class teacher to release them unaccompanied on the understanding that you are responsible for them.

Nursery

It has been so lovely to see our new nursery children settling in and wearing their uniform! If you would like to book a space for your child, either for a session or for Wraparound before or after school, please contact the school office.

Contacts for new class teachers

Nursery – Mrs Clarke, Mrs Deeks – Nursery@merseaschool.org
Reception 1 – Mrs Sales - Reception@merseaschool.org
Reception 2 – Mrs Turnbull - Reception@merseaschool.org
1B – Miss Bloomfield – 1b@merseaschool.org
1E – Mrs Edwards and Mrs Elmer – 1e@merseaschool.org
2D – Mrs Deacon – 2d@merseaschool.org
2E – Mrs Elson – 2e@merseaschool.org
3T – Miss Tokley – 3t@merseaschool.org
3S – Mr Strutt – 3s@merseaschool.org
4R – Mrs Richards – 4r@merseaschool.org
4W – Mrs Waites and Miss Prior – 4w@merseaschool.org
5&6E – Mr Elmer – 5and6e@merseaschool.org
5&6H – Mr Hall – 5and6h@merseaschool.org
5&6Y – Mrs Green and Mrs Clegg – 5and6y@merseaschool.org

School Uniform and polite reminders...

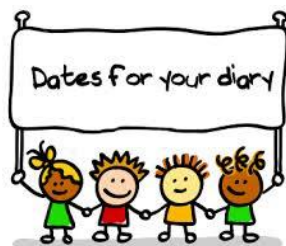
- Toys should not be brought in to school.
- Please ensure your child is wearing the correct uniform – see uniform policy attached.
- Please note, pupils cannot wear tape over earrings for PE, they must be removed.
- Lunchbox trolleys will be outside classrooms during drop off.
- Please encourage your child to come in to school independently. It is ok to say goodbye to them at the gate and let them walk to their classrooms to meet their teacher, as soon as they are ready.



Newsletter – 4th September 2026



Please help your child to have the best possible start to the day by ensuring they are in school on time. Gates open from 8.35am and school starts at 8.45am. If you arrive after this time and gates are closed, you must report to the school office, with your child, to sign them in late.



Key dates for this half term can be found on the attached calendar overview and can also be found on the website.

SAFEGUARDING CONTACTS IN SCHOOL:

Mrs T Wright (Designated Safeguarding Lead)

Miss Poole, Mrs Khan, Mrs Jenkins (Deputy Safeguarding Leads)

If you have a concern about a child please act quickly – call the police immediately if you consider them at risk of imminent harm. For other matters, please contact a safeguarding lead.

First days at school...



Next Week – don't forget...

All clubs start

Year 3 Beach Trip on Wednesday

Reception 'Welcome to...' information meeting for parents in Reception 3.30pm – 4.00pm

Thursday is Muffin morning (FOMISA) on the playground from 8.30am

Friday is Year 1 Superhero Dress Up Day and Year 1 Parent Coffee Morning from 9.00 – 10.00am in the Main Hall – please sign in at the Main Office after drop off.

Have a great weekend