



Newsletter 4

29 September 2023



Growing together to build our future

Message from the Headteacher

On Monday, all of our Merley children showed great enthusiasm and engagement when treated to a performance by a musical group; 'The Winds of Change.' Consisting of Simon (flute, piccolo, piano), Polly (oboe, Cor Anglais) and Bryony (bassoon, clarinet, sax), the trio of musicians are part of our Creative Music Hub, involved in leading our local area junior ensembles. They were keen to show the children what their exciting instruments could do by sharing with us an inspirational set of pieces. They did not disappoint! Renditions of the Harry Potter theme tune, Pink Panther and Wellerman were big hits, to name but a few! We hope that this exciting live music opportunity has inspired and engaged our children into the world of instrument learning.

Staffing update

This term we have successfully recruited a new officer administrator and I am delighted to share with you that Mrs Chery Knott will begin working in our school office the week before half term. In the interim period Mrs Danielle Delgarno will be working in our school office before moving on to another Trust school office. Thank you for your understanding as we secure and train new members of staff to our team.

Harvest

On Monday 9th October we will be celebrating Harvest in a school assembly. This year we would like to continue our support to Wimborne Food Bank. If you would like to send your child into school with an item for the Food Bank, we will ensure it is passed on. The Food Bank website can be seen [here](#) for more information about the work they do and the items they are collecting.

Attendance

Recently, I shared a letter regarding school attendance. To support families understanding their responsibilities and to provide clear information, a Trust wide website has been developed to provide you with one place to answer questions you may have. Please click [here](#) to find out more.

The weather this week has certainly seemed more wet and windy, so please ensure your child has a coat in school each day as we will go out to play if it is wet and damp.

Have a lovely weekend,

Katharine Anstey
Headteacher

This is a school for everyone. Everyone is welcome.



Safeguarding and Online Safety

Through partnership working with BCP Council, Dorset Police and the Dorset Clinical Commissioning Group the Partnership has put together a briefing document with key information for parents/carers with more information about risks linked to county lines and exploitation.

If you have any serious concerns about a child, particularly if you think they may be suffering or at risk of suffering harm, please share this information promptly with the Designated Safeguarding Lead Team. If you are unable to contact a member of the school team and you wish to pass on serious concern, please call the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) on 01202 735046 We are an Operation Encompass school, to find out more please follow the link [here](#).

Open conversation is best when negotiating online safety with children and young people. Find guidance on these conversations here from the NSPCC <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>

Privacy Notice

Initio Learning Trust is committed to protecting the privacy and security of personal information. The privacy notice describes how we collect and use personal information about pupils, in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), section 537A of the Education Act 1996 and section 83 of the Children Act 1989. Please find the document [here](#) on the school website.

Attendance

Thank you for your support in ensuring your child's attendance in school and being on time every day. Good attendance in school is a top priority and our expectation is that pupils attend school every day for every session. We believe that regular, uninterrupted attendance secures the best possible learning achievement for all our children and we are committed to working in partnership with families to achieve this. Schools are expected to monitor all pupils' attendance records closely and to pass these on to the receiving school when pupils transfer.

This week's attendance

Whole School	93.43%
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When will absences not be authorised?

The school will not authorise absence for any of the following reasons: holidays, shopping, looking after other members of the family, minding the house, birthdays or similar events.

Children will be marked in as late after 8.55 am and children arriving after 9.15 am are recorded as an unauthorised absence. We carefully monitor pupils who arrive late for school and work with parents and carers to improve punctuality.

Do you have a comment, thought or question you would like to share with the school?

Please use the link [here](#) to access our communication form.

The Wimborne Green Festival takes place from Saturday 14 October to Saturday 21 October 2023.



PLANET WIMBORNE
GREEN FESTIVAL

To celebrate the event, Planet Wimborne are arranging a Poster Competition for all schools and children in the Wimborne area. The main points are:

- The posters can be any A4 or A3 size and should celebrate Trees and the benefits they provide.
- There will be three age groups: First School; Middle School; Secondary School
- All participants will receive an attractive certificate
- Trophies and book tokens will be awarded to the first three winners in each of the 3 categories
- Entries will be collected from school offices on **Wednesday morning 4 October 2023**
- **A display of all entries will be mounted at Wimborne Library for the week beginning October 9**

All winners and parents/teachers will be invited for a tea party at the Wimborne Library to receive their trophies on **Thursday October 12 at 3pm** – prizes will be presented by the Chair of Planet Wimborne.

Merley School Car Park - Our school car park is restricted to members of staff and visitors only. Please do not walk through the car park during the school day. Children should be walked into school via either the Oakley Straight gate or the Harrier Drive gate and not through the car park. Thank you for your support to ensure the safety of our staff and children.

Please see a poster below from The Wimborne Valognes Twinning Association regarding an upcoming schools and community show which some Merley Children will be participating in.

Forthcoming Diary Dates

AUTUMN TERM 2023 October 2023

Monday 9th Oct 23 2.45pm - Celebration of learning - Families welcome into the classroom to share learning

Monday 9th Oct Open Morning for new prospective parents Sept 2024- Booking required

Tuesday 17th Oct 5-7pm Open Evening for new prospective parents Sept 2024

Monday 23rd - Friday 27th October - Half Term - No children in school

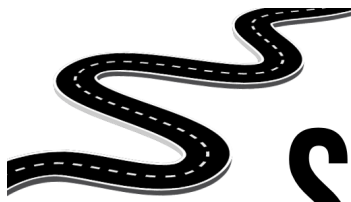
Monday 30th October - Staff training day - No children in school



November 2023

Monday 6th Nov Open Morning for new prospective parents Sept 2024- Booking required

Tuesday 7th November 9:00-10.00am Inclusion coffee morning - All parents welcome



STICKY CHURCH



SUNDAY 1ST OCTOBER

3:30 PM - 5:15PM

AT THE LANTERN CHURCH

FOR FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN OF ALL AGES



WWW.THELANTERNCHURCH.ORG

SCAN TO
SIGN UP



Wimborne-Valognes Twinning Association



HELLO! BONJOUR!

**A Wimborne area
schools and community show!**

**Wednesday 18 October
7.30 pm**

At the Allendale Wimborne

Tickets £5.00 from the Allendale

www.theallendale.org/tickets or call 01202 887247