



MERLEY FIRST SCHOOL

Newsletter 5 - 10th October 2025

We've had another wonderful and busy week here at school, full of community spirit and exciting opportunities. We have had an amazing day today celebrating World Mental Health Day! It was fantastic to see the school flooded with yellow colour as we all embraced this year's theme, #HelloYellow. Taking part is a brilliant way to show our children that they are not alone and to highlight the importance of looking after our mental wellbeing. Thank you for all your support in making the day so bright and positive. Photos and updates will be shared next week. We also had our fantastic Open Evening this week for the Reception intake of September 2026. It was a pleasure to welcome so many prospective families, as well as existing ones, through the doors. We are incredibly proud of our school community and it was a joy to share it with everyone who attended. This week, Miss Parkin launched Times Table Rockstars and Numbots in assembly. The children are all very excited to start building their maths fluency! Please help your child log in using MyLogin to start the adventure. Just 3 minutes of practice a day will make a huge difference to their confidence and recall. Have a brilliant weekend everyone!

Rebecca Baldwin

This Week

Reception have learnt the k sound and enjoyed making yellow crowns.

Year 1 made road safety posters to show the Green Cross Code.

Year 2 have used coordinating conjunctions to join clauses.

Year 3 have examined 'stone age poo!'

Year 4 have been learning about Roman gladiators and creating our own life sized version

NHS School Nursing Team Drop-in

We will be welcoming the Dorset School Nursing Team into school on Wednesday 19th November from 8:45am -9:30am in the school hall.

The focus for this drop-in session is toileting.

The workshop will cover the following areas :

- What a healthy bladder looks like, including water intake
- Using nappies and signs/signals when to stop using them
- Day/night wetting and soiling issues
- Routines/consistency and rewards
- Where to get help and support

If you would like to attend, please contact the school office.



Thank you!

A HUGE thank you to all our Merley families for their support with donations for Wimborne Foodbank this Harvest time. The food bank were very appreciative.



Merley Road Safety Day

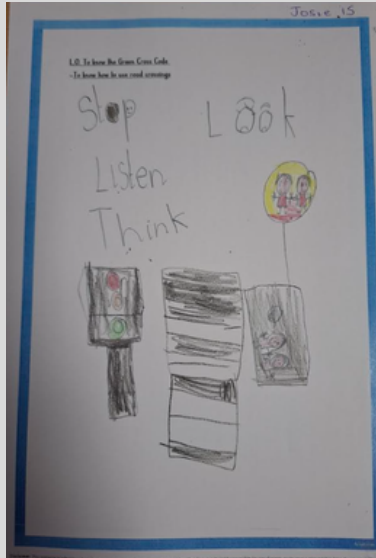
On Thursday, the whole school had road safety workshops with the BCP Road Safety team. The focus was



on how to use road crossing safely with particular reference to our zebra crossing.

Please support this safety message by modelling safe road crossing with your children out of school.

This lovely poster was made by Josie Y in Year 1.



Attendance

Whole School	98%
Reception	97.3%
Year 1	98.7%
Year 2	97.6%
Year 3	97.8%
Year 4	98.7%

Safeguarding

The NSPCC have a wealth of information for parents and carers on how to support your child and keep them safe. Click [here](#) for more information.

NSPCC

Dates for the Diary

- 13th - 17th October- 9:30am - 11:00am - Prospective Reception Parents 26/27 tours
- **NEW** 21st October - Shoebox appeal donations at drop off. Please click [here](#) for details
- **NEW** 21st October - 2.45pm Celebration of Learning in classrooms - parents/carers to attend
- **NEW** 23rd October - PTA Halloween disco - please click [here](#) to book tickets
- 27th - 31st October - Half Term - school closed
- 3rd November - INSET Day - school closed to pupils
- 4th November - Pupils return to school
- 4th November - Individual and sibling photographs - all pupils in school uniform please
- **NEW** - 4th November - Parent consultations 3:40 - 6:40pm - school hall
- **NEW** - 11th November - Parent Consultations 3:40 - 6.40pm - school hall
- 19th November - 8.45am - 9.30am - NHS Dorset Healthcare School Nursing Team Toileting drop-in session - school hall. Entry at 8.45am via main entrance - parents/carers only.

Congratulations

The following pupils have been awarded Oak Leaves for demonstrating our values: Respectful, Engaged and Ready

YR: Keeva B, Lana S, Arthur N, Arthur E, Orlagh B & Finn B

Y1: Archie A, Mia H, Harry L, Thomas B, Annika D & Blake OS

Y2: Courtney HC, Skylar M, Eva C, Lucas W, Evin K & Cole

Y3: Finlay A, Grace LG, Daisy W, Cooper T, Ruby K & Lottie P

Y4: Alfie G, Cici R, Jared S, Jesse D, Montana AC & Xander BS

These children have a Headteacher's Award because they have been recognised for being respectful:

YR: Eve L & Luca D

Y1: Thomas R & Alex

Y2: Lincoln B & Talia B

Y3: Harper W & Fred E

Y4: Rosa W & Natasha D

These pupils have been recognised for fantastic effort in a particular lesson or subject and are Star Learners:

YR: Darcey D & Florence S

Y1: Millie M & Josie Y

Y2: Emma I & Myles B

Y3: Frazer S & Sarah H

Y4: Sophia W & Ella H



IS YOUR CHILD STARTING RECEPTION IN SEPTEMBER 2026?

**SCHOOL READINESS INFORMATION EVENT
FOR PARENTS AND CARERS
THURSDAY 13TH NOVEMBER 2025
6PM - 7PM
VENUE: ALLENBOURN MIDDLE SCHOOL**

As you prepare for your child's transition into reception year at school, you are warmly invited to a school readiness event hosted by six first schools in Wimborne who are working in partnership to support all our families as you prepare for your child's transition into school in September 2026.

This informal event is open to all families - no matter which school you plan to apply for.

Alongside Reception teachers a range of outside agencies will be attending including:

- Speech and language therapist
- School nurse
- Special Educational Needs coordinators

These Early Years professionals will be available to offer practical advice, answer questions and share ideas to help your child feel confident and ready for school.

We look forward to welcoming you.
Colehill, Hayeswood, Merley, Pamphill, St John's and Witchampton First Schools

To express your interest please call 01202 888455