



MERLEY FIRST SCHOOL

Newsletter 10 - 21st November 2025

Our Year 4 students had the exciting opportunity to visit Allenbourn Middle School this week, an important step in their journey towards becoming middle school ready. In addition, our Year 4 students have begun Bikeability training, which is essential for promoting road safety and encouraging active lifestyles. This training equips our children with vital skills that will serve them well throughout their lives.

We welcomed the School Nursing Team this week, who delivered an informative toileting workshop that parents found invaluable. We encourage parents to share any suggestions for future workshops with the school office and we will feed back to the Nursing Team.

As we approach the festive season, the school is filled with the joyous sounds of Nativity and Christmas singing. Any extra tickets for the Year 1 and 2 nativity will be available from Wednesday 26th November, at the school office.

Last week, we enjoyed Crazy Hair Day for Meredith's Mission. We raised a staggering amount of money which will be compassionately spent by the charity. In order to touch as many lives as possible, we are also asking for donations to the charity for Christmas Jumper Day also on Friday 12th December. This week, despite the weather turning particularly cold we have had some children in school without coats. Please ensure your child brings a coat to school. They are out on the playground at lunchtime for around 40 minutes.

I hope everyone has a good weekend, enjoy decorating your Christmas tree if it is going up this weekend and you celebrate Christmas.

Rebecca Baldwin

This Week

Reception have been learning about Autumn.

Year 1 have been exploring a forest in PE.

Year 2 have been using adjectives to describe nouns and making additions to sentences.



Year 3 have been dancing like robots in PE!

Year 4 have started learning about animations in computing.

Safeguarding

When children want to speak, as adults we should listen.

- **Take it Seriously:** Always listen to a child without judgment. What a child says about harm, abuse, or their feelings should always be taken seriously.
- **Stay Calm:** If a child discloses abuse, your primary job is to remain calm, avoid panic, and assure them it's not their fault. Do not promise to keep secrets.

If you have any safeguarding concerns or questions, please speak to Mrs Waldron, Miss Stone or Mrs Baldwin.

Dorset Heath Partnership



Amy, an education officer from Dorset Heaths Partnership visited this week to tell us all about the heath land local to us. She shared information about the plans and wildlife that live on the heaths as well as some information about her job.

We need to work together as a community to ensure these special habitats are conserved.



PARKING

In the UK, around 1, 190 children are injured each month within 500 metres of their school.

The main factor: congestion and careless Parking!

Please park responsibly outside our school and in our community.

**Report irresponsible parking to:
parking@bcpcouncil.gov.uk
BCP Council Parking Line:
01202 128 900**

Attendance

Whole School	97.8%
Reception	98.5%
Year 1	97.9%
Year 2	97.6%
Year 3	98.3%
Year 4	96.9%

Dorset Wildlife Trust - River Allen - Community Engagement Survey

We have been asked to share information about the River Allen Landscape Recovery Plan with our school community. The plan has one mission: to restore the river and landscape in our area.

The group currently has a community engagement survey open and they would be very grateful if you could take the time to complete it (max 5 mins).

SURVEY:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/RIVERALL EN>

The results will influence how we shape the community engagement plan.



Congratulations

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

YR: George F, Jessica B, Alana G, Sebby B, Darcey D & Jude C

Y1: Thomas R, Anna PB, Imrie P, Alex B, Tobia L & Josie Y

Y2: Kit F, George C, Millie H, Myles B, Harvey F & Jake S

Y3: Sarah H, Viba A, Sienna K, Pippa H, Ruben B & Ava R

Y4: Poppy W, Sienna B, John D, Charlie B, Elsie J & Emily W

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

YR: Bonnie A & Blake R

Y1: Tommy C & Nya R

Y2: Cohen D & Delilah K

Y3: Pearl H & Ellie L

Y4: Alfie G & Jesse D

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

YR: Monty R & Natalie I

Y1: Jamie H & Austin S

Y2: Lexie B & Albie S

Y3: Harry A & Evie E

Y4: Luke M & Eden PA

Dates for the Diary

- **NEW** - Sunday 7th December - Year 3 singing in Merley Precinct for Lantern Church
- 12th December - PTA Elfridges event - information to follow
- **NEW** - 12th December - Christmas Jumper with school uniform day - donation to Meredith's Mission
- **NEW** - 17th December - whole school party day - wear party clothes to school
- **NEW** - 15th - 17th December - bring an orange into school for Christingle
- **NEW** - 18th - Last Day of Term