



MERLEY FIRST SCHOOL

Newsletter 12 - 5th December 2025

It has been a wet week in school, but despite the weather, the children have enjoyed some time outside walking through the puddles in their Wellington boots.

Christmas preparations are underway, and we are looking forward to sharing our singing and performing with families next week. Please ensure you refer to the Christmas letter that was sent out in November if needed.

A gentle reminder about school uniform: Please can we remind parents that, in line with school policy, branded clothing and items with logos should not be worn to school. We really appreciate your support in helping us maintain our uniform standards.

Finally, I would like to update the community that, at the end of this term, we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Fortnum, who has served Merley First School with dedication for 23 years, most recently in Key Stage 2 and through her support of the Early Bird Breakfast Club. Having been absent during the past academic year, she has now made the decision to spend more time with her family, and we would like to take this opportunity to thank her sincerely for her hard work and commitment to the Merley community and to wish her love and every success for the future.

Have a fabulous weekend everyone.

Rebecca Baldwin

This Week

Reception listened to Antartica live brilliantly today - I cannot believe they have been with us for a whole term!

Year 1 have been drawing on the computers.

Year 2 have been writing sentences and using exclamation marks.

Year 3 have rehearsed and are ready to sing carols on Sunday in the precinct!

Year 4 felt disgusted in their science experiment!

Safeguarding

Please speak to us if you have any concerns about a child's safety.



Our New Cycle Track

This week, a Cala Homes representative visited to celebrate our new cycle/scoot track. Thank you to Cala for funding this addition to the playground.



Attendance

Whole School	95.5%
Reception	93.1%
Year 1	95.1%
Year 2	95.5%
Year 3	97.5%
Year 4	96.4%

Dates for the Diary

- 8th & 9th December - Reception Christmas Songs - tickets given out
- 9th December (pm) - Year 1 & 2 Nativity - tickets only
- 10th December (am & pm) - Year 1&2 Nativity - tickets only
- 12th December - PTA Elfridges event
- 12th December - Christmas Jumper with school uniform day - donation to Meredith's Mission
- 12th - Year 3 Carols to parents 2.15pm
- 15th December - Year 4 Lantern Church Carols - 1.45pm
- **NEW** - 17th December - whole school party day - wear party clothes to school
- **NEW** - 15th - 17th - bring an orange into school for Christingle
- **NEW** - 18th - Last Day of Term

Christmas Jumper Day for Meredith's Mission

On Friday 12th December, children are invited to wear their Christmas jumpers to school with their uniform instead of their Merley First jumper.

If you are able to, please help Meredith's Mission and make a donation to take part. Click [here](#) to make your donation.



Congratulations

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

YR: Hallie M, Eve L, Olivia B, Florence S, Isabella F & Bella S

Y1: Leon PA, River H, Tommy C, Daisy W, Austin S & Thomas B

Y2: Reece M, Marley S, Eva C, Delilah, Talia B & Rawdon R

Y3: Jenson D, Devyn M, Frazer S, Isabella V-C, Franklin Q & Lottie C

Y4: Sophia, Maisie, Jackson M, Niamh G, Remy W & Joey S

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

YR: Mabel L & Benji B

Y1: Arlo K & Oakley A

Y2: Kit F & Lucas W

Y3: Olivia C & Amira L

Y4: Lucas C & Amelia C

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

YR: Lana S & Mason B-H

Y1: Annika D & Mia S

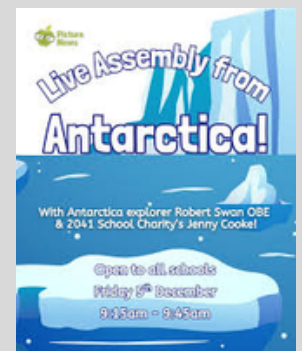
Y2: George C & Quinn W

Y3: Theo WJ & Viba A

Y4: John D & Leo W

Antartica Live!

Today, Merley has been on a journey to a very special part of the world. A place that needs our help...Antartica! We met a man called Robert Swan who is an explorer and conservationist. Robert Swan OBE earned his place in history in the late 1980s when he became the first person ever to walk to both the North and South Pole. Following his first expedition to the South Pole, French ocean explorer Jacques Cousteau gave Robert a 50-year mission to save Antartica from the realities of climate change. Merley will be joining in with 2041 mission! This also supports our work on careers and aspirations as part of our Personnel Development Curriculum.



Winter drinks

Tuesday 16th December 2025

3.15pm - Greenplayground!

The PTA will be selling mulled wine and hot chocolate with all the trimmings in the rear Green playground to raise money for the school and celebrate the end of term!

See you there!

