



MERLEY FIRST SCHOOL

Newsletter 22 - 13th March 2026

It's been a wonderful week at school, especially as the children have finally been able to head back out onto our green spaces during break and lunch times! It is lovely to see the wellies back in action and everyone enjoying the fresh air.

We have also had a fantastic Science Week, where the children traded their pens and pencils for practical, hands-on learning—it's been a joy to watch their curiosity in action.

A gentle reminder that children should remain standing with their parents or carers until the classroom doors open at 8:45 am. This helps us ensure everyone stays safe while on site before the official start of the school day. Thank you.

Today, we say a heartfelt goodbye to Mrs. Crook as she leaves Many First School for her next professional adventure. We wish her the very best!

We hope you all have a lovely weekend. Happy Mother's Day to all the mums in our community - enjoy your special day!

Rebecca Baldwin

This Week

Reception created and performed an "Under the Sea" themed dance in PE, using movements structured in counts of four.

Year 1 have made wonderful clay pinch pots.

Year 2 had a brilliant Science lesson learning outside the classroom, making birds nests and explaining their choices of materials and location.

Year 3 are preparing to write a non-chronological text on Poole Harbour Birds after their trip next week.

Year 4 have been writing about a rainforest biome in English and applying their knowledge of fronted adverbials.

Merley Uniform Expectations

Please can I remind parents and carers of our [uniform policy](#).

- Clothing worn for PE should be blue or black and non-branded. Clothing should not contain logos or the name of any brands.
- Hair accessories should be blue or black only.
- Earrings should be small studs.
- Smart watches are not permitted.
- Make up and nail polish, including nail extensions, are not permitted.

Thank you for your cooperation.



Safeguarding

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



Attendance

Whole School	96.9%
Reception	98.7%
Year 1	98.5%
Year 2	93.7%
Year 3	96.9%
Year 4	96.4%

Dates for the Diary

- **NEW** 6-15th March - British Science Week - activities in school
- 17th March - Year 3 to Wimborne Minster during the school day
- 19th March - Year 3 Birds of Poole Harbour trip
- **NEW** - 20th March - Non uniform day for Red Nose Day
- 27th March 2:45pm - PTA Easter Event cakes/drink sale and Merley pupils singing
- 30th March - 10th April - School Holidays
- 13th April - INSET Day - school closed to pupils
- 14th April - Back to school for all pupils
- **NEW** - 11th May Class Photographs

British Science Week 2026

The theme for this year's Science Week was Change and Adapt and Merley embraced it! British Science Week is a nationwide celebration designed to spark interest in the "STEM" subjects: science, technology, engineering, and maths.

From creating animals to table-top glaciers look at the end of the newsletter to see what all the fun was about. Thank you to Miss Legge and Mrs Wheeler for organising the event.



Congratulations

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

YR: Jude C, Oscar P, Max K, William S, Jessica B & Tommy M

Y1: Nya R, Tobias L, Chuckie H, Imrie P, Anna PB & Evie W

Y2: Dylan A, Esme R, Marley W, Delilah K, Hannah B & Ada RT

Y3: Fletcher W, Ruby K, Arthur P, Connie B, Robbie W & Harper W

Y4: Natasha D, Theo S, Reuben C, Thea P, Maisie H & Sophia W

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

YR: Alice C & Lily R

Y1: Thomas W & Arabellea K

Y2: Skylar M & Myles B

Y3: Sarah H & Frankie-Lee D

Y4: Jared & Molly

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

YR: Ida B & Annie-Mae P

Y1: Roxie B & Eliza-Joy M

Y2: Reece M & Thamarai P

Y3: Cooper T & Pippa H

Y4: Dillon E & Lucas C

FRIDAY 20TH MARCH 2026

RED NOSE DAY

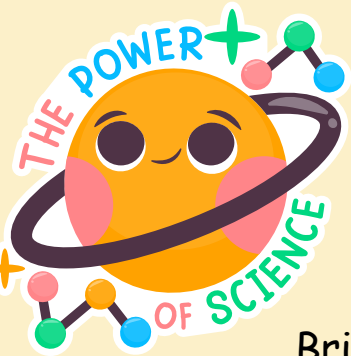
NON-UNIFORM DAY WITH
SOMETHING RED!

HELP MERLEY FIRST RAISE MONEY
FOR COMIC RELIEF. FOLLOW THE
LINK OR SCAN THE QR CODE TO
DONATE.

[HTTPS://WWW.JUSTGIVING.COM/FUNDRAISING/R](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ND26-MERLEY-FIRST-SCHOOL)
[ND26-MERLEY-FIRST-SCHOOL](https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ND26-MERLEY-FIRST-SCHOOL)



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT



BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK



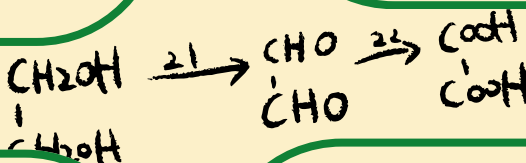
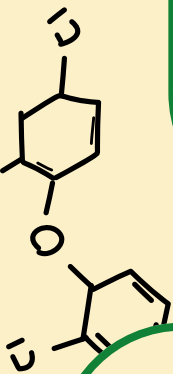
British science week has run from 6th - 15th March. As a school we have been thinking about the theme of 'curiosity' and each year group has completed an activity.



Reception: How are animals similar and different?



Year 1 - What does good teamwork look like?



Year 2 - How do birds make their nests?



Year 3 - What Sort Of Vehicle Would Be Best On The Moon?



Year 4 - What's the best design for a paper aeroplane?

