



MERLEY FIRST SCHOOL

Newsletter 36 - 10th July 2026

We are delighted to announce that our brand-new Merley Calm Zone on the front playground is officially open! This wonderful new space is the result of a fantastic community effort - every single item purchased for the area came directly from our children's own ideas, designs, and requests. It is truly a space designed by the children, for the children. I would like to extend a massive thank you to our LSC member, Mrs. Tofts, who successfully secured funding from Barclays Bank to buy the resources. Not only that, but she also generously volunteered her time with some of her colleagues to paint the wooden structure itself! Mrs Butler took a leading role with this project so a huge thank you to her also.

Also this week, we were absolutely thrilled to host a series of incredible drama workshops. The workshops brought tremendous joy and creativity to the children. Reception and KS1 went on a magical journey to Neverland with a brilliant focus on Peter Pan and KS2 tackled the classics, bringing the enchanting, tangled world of Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream to life. Every single child thoroughly enjoyed participating, exploring their confidence, and showcasing their acting skills!

This weekend is a special one for Miss Rowley who marries her fiance on Saturday. I know you will all join the Merley staff in sending her many congratulations and best wishes.

Have a great weekend everyone.

Rebecca Baldwin

This Week

Reception have painted their self portraits and thought about how much they have changed this year.

Year 1 have started to tell the time to the hour and half past the hour.

Year 2 have constructed and painted their trains in DT.

Year 3 loved the Planetarium at the Winchester Science Museum.

Year 4 have designed their light box in DT.



Safeguarding

BCP Council are holding 2 drop-in events for parents/carers and professionals to give advice and guidance when choosing clubs for children.

The aim of the event is to raise awareness amongst parents in particular but professionals too, to promote confidence in being curious about the suitability of any activity provider or individual for children attending activities outside of school.

The events are taking place on:
Monday 13th July 2026
Queens Park Golf Club 9.30am – 12pm
or
Kinson Community Centre 2.30pm – 5pm



Congratulations

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

YR: Luca D, Finn B, Junior S, Rai S, Alyssa M & Mabel L

Y1: Harry L, Reggie L, Ottie L, Will P, Eddie T & Daisy W

Y2: Delilah K, Ottilie B, Charlie E, Lexi B, Marley S & Milo M

Y3: Hollie C, Henry S, Elvis H, Faye S, Finley G & Grace LG

Y4: Theo H, Bella P, Poppy W, Natasha D, Theo S & Elizabeth G

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

YR: Lana S & Annie-Mae P

Y1: Kieran & Cooper D

Y2: Evin K & George C

Y3: Malakai & Connie B

Y4: Jared S & Joel CP

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

YR: Jude C & Luna S

Y1: Jaxson S & Halli S

Y2: Hannah B & Millie H

Y3: Amira L & Theo WJ

Y4: Cici R & Mya E

Dates for the Diary

- 15th & 16th July - Year 4 Leavers Show for Year 4 families
- 21st July - Year 4 Leavers Disco
- 22nd July - Last day of summer term - finish 3:15pm
- 1st & 2nd September - INSET Days - School Closed to children
- 3rd September - First Day of the Autumn Term
- 15th September - NEW Reception Children parent/carers information meeting 5:30pm
- 23rd, 24th & 28th September - Scholastic Book Fair - Hall - 3:15pm - 3:45pm.



INTRODUCING THE... *Calm Zone*



WE'RE EXCITED TO INTRODUCE OUR NEW OUTDOOR CALM ZONE—A PEACEFUL SPACE WHERE CHILDREN CAN RELAX, RECHARGE, AND ENJOY SOME QUIET TIME. FILLED WITH BOOKS, GAMES, COLOURING ACTIVITIES, COMFY BEAN BAGS, SOFT BLANKETS, CUSHIONS, AND BEAUTIFUL DREAM CATCHERS, IT'S A COSY AREA DESIGNED TO SUPPORT WELLBEING, MINDFULNESS, AND EMOTIONAL REGULATION. WHETHER CHILDREN NEED A MOMENT TO UNWIND, READ A STORY, GET CREATIVE, OR SIMPLY ENJOY THE FRESH AIR, OUR CALM ZONE OFFERS A SAFE AND WELCOMING SPACE FOR EVERYONE.

Careers & Aspirations Programme Visit!



Ellie from "Daxie Day Care Merley" visited today.

She talked about the joys and challenges of running a dog day care business, caring for dogs, and running her own company. The children loved asking questions and learning about responsibility and entrepreneurship!

www.daxiedaycaredorset.co.uk



TRY A FULL
CLASS FOR
FREE



Now showing **CONFIDENCE**

Drama, dance & singing classes
designed to help 4-12 year olds shine.

**“ My daughter was a bit hesitant, but each week she comes out
enthusiastic, happy and confident. I’m so glad I found this class. ”**

- Sian Bromley



Scan to find your nearest venue
and book your **FREE** class today.

Call 020 7255 9120 or visit perform.org.uk/try





Outdoor Adventurers Forest School

After School Clubs at Merley First School

- Sessions are run on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
- Children from year 1 to year 4 welcome
 - 3.15pm until 4.30pm
- £7 a session payable each half term



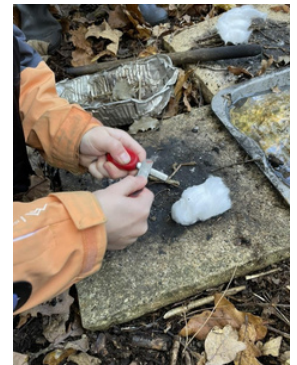
Let your child enjoy Forest School where the ethos is about free play in a woodland setting developing physical, emotional and social skills in children through riskier activities such as: den making, fire lighting, pond dipping, using tools, campfire cooking, water play, tree climbing, creative activities and much more.

- Waterproof clothing, long trousers and wellies or suitable shoes are essential.
- Children can bring a snack to have at the start of the session but either a biscuit or a campfire cooked treat will be provided.
- The sessions will be held in the woodland area at Merley First School.

To book your child's space follow the link to our booking page or scan the QR code: <https://bookwhen.com/outdooradventurers> or for further information email Helen at outdooradventurers10@gmail.com



You can also follow our Facebook page for updates.



FRIDAY SPORTS

with Kevin & Suzanne **Total Sports**



3.15pm – 4.20pm

School Years 1 - 4



Starting 11th September – 11th December

(13weekcourse)

Only£65



Exciting and fun club offering an enjoyable environment for children to learn new skills and try a variety of sports, improve fitness, hand eye co-ordination and team work!



Message Total Sports on

07795258274 to book a space

oremail totalsportsdorset@gmail.com



Football

Archery

Tug of
War

Rugby

Handball

Athletics

Cricket

Hurdles

Dodgeball

Hockey

PlusMore



**Check out our facebook page for Summer
Holiday Clubs at Merley First School**

Facebook: KevinSmithTotalSports

