

MERLEY FIRST SCHOOL



Growing Together To Build Our Future
Newsletter 5 -09.10.26

MESSAGE from Mrs Baldwin

As we head towards the end of this half term, we can see that the children are beginning to get a bit tired after working so hard. I would like to thank parents and carers for ensuring that the children are in school despite this. It really does make a difference.

Looking ahead, we will be selling poppies at the main entrance before school from Tuesday 3rd November to Wednesday 11th November in support of the Royal British Legion. If any parents or children have a connection to the Armed Forces and would like to help us sell the poppies, please let the main office know as we would love to have you involved. Finally, with the weather turning colder, please ensure your child brings a warm coat to school every day and has a pair of wellies kept in school so they can continue to get outside and enjoy the field, whatever the weather.

We have published an update to the Initio Parent and Carer Behaviour Agreement outlining our shared commitment to a safe, respectful, and collaborative community. Please take a moment to review the updated policy [here](#). Initio Learning Trust would like to highlight that continued attendance at Merley First School signifies recognition and acceptance of this policy and that strict adherence to its guidelines is required.

Finally, Miss Leftwich, our wonderful SENCO, has now officially started her maternity leave. We wish her all the best as she looks forward to welcoming her second child very soon.

Thank you for all your support, have a restful weekend everyone.

SAFEGUARDING

A message from the NSPCC:

Talk PANTS is here to help children understand that they have a right to say no and if they need to speak out about something, someone will listen.

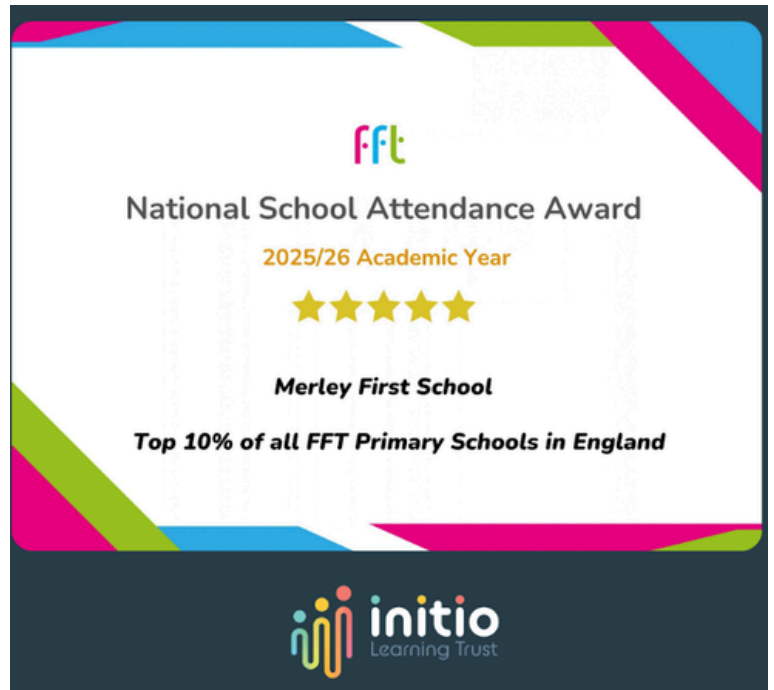
We know that a simple conversation can make a BIG difference, and that's what Talk PANTS is all about. To help you get the conversation started, click [here](#) to get helpful tips, advice and materials by email.



ATTENDANCE

We have been working hard on attendance and belonging through our Initio #FlourishingChildren strategy. We are incredibly proud of our school and our community.

When children are in school learning and socialising, they thrive.



THIS WEEK

- Reception have been looking at different types of houses and how houses were different in the past.
- Year 1 have created portraits in art.
- Year 2 followed their birds eye view route on a map around the school grounds.
- Year 3 have been learning about the trinity in RE.
- Year 4 have made coil, clay pots in Art.

RESPECTFUL, ENGAGED & READY

Congratulations to the following children who received celebration awards today:

Reception: Bella A, Theodore B, Cash, Rory K, Franklin, Myla, Jacob BM, Leo A, Harley K, Lilya
Year 1: Freya T, Rosie, Monty, George F, Olivia B, Isobella, Ida, Erin, Olivia S, Natalie I
Year 2: Harry L, Reggie L, Mia H, Eliza M, River H, Austin S, Alex B, Leon, Evie W, William P
Year 3: Connie, Rawdon, Emil, Meredith, Alaya, Otilie, Drummer, River, Jake & Louis
Year 4: Hwnry, Malakai, Charlotte, Fletcher V, Elvis, Harper, Alfie, Asher, Joseph, Jenson D

KEY DATES

- 12th - 16th October - Prospective 2027/28 Reception Open Mornings 9:15am - book through school office
- 19th & 20th October - Road Safety lessons for all year groups
- **NEW** 20th October - Donations for Shoebox appeal 8.30am - 9.00am outside front of school
- **NEW** 21st October - PTA Halloween Disco (flyer below)
- 23rd October - Celebration of Learning 2:45pm - classrooms - come in and see your child's books
- **NEW** 4th November - Individual and sibling photographs
- **NEW** 10th & 12th November - Parent Consultation Evenings
- **NEW** 11th, 18th and 25th November - Year 1 and Year 4 BCP Road Safety Training

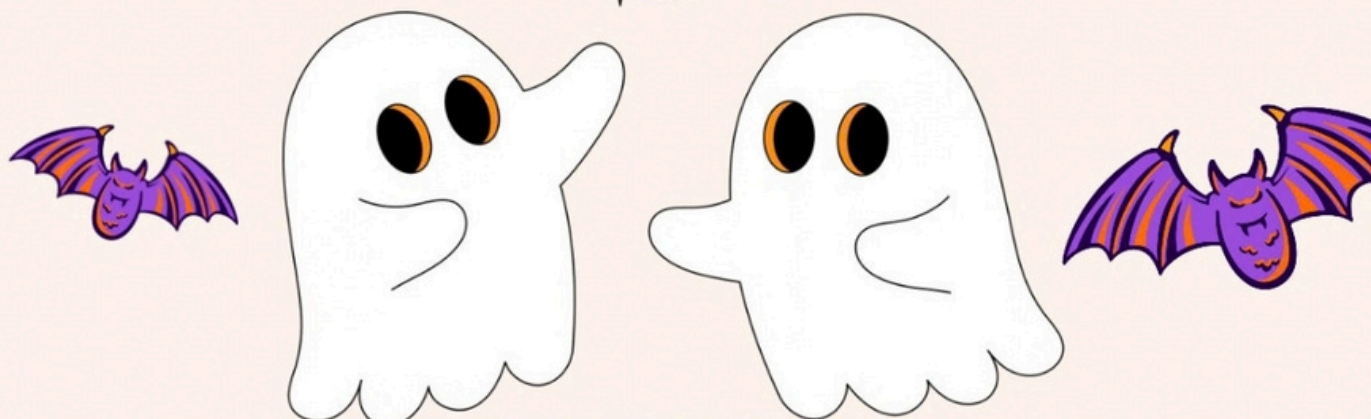
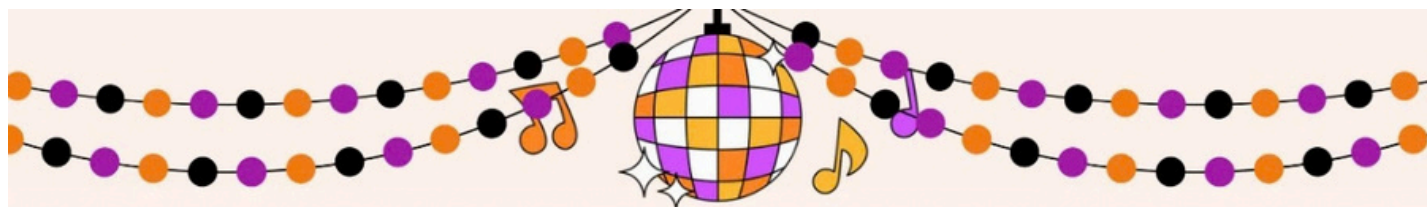
SNAPSHOTS OF SUCCESS

Congratulations to Ava who recently passed her Awards Test at gymnastics and was very proud to receive a medal for her achievement and Hazel in Rabbit Class, who completed her 10th park run and getting a personal best of 12 minutes 58 seconds. She ran the whole 2km without stopping setting a steady pace then a sprint finish.

Finally, congratulations to Amira in Year 4, who competed in the Wessex Dance Championships last weekend. She placed exceptionally well in her dances including 1st in Slow. Brilliant!



If your child would like to celebrate a snapshot of their success - anything they have achieved, big or small - then please send a picture and a few sentences to office@merleyfirstschool.org



MERLEY FIRST SCHOOL

HALLOWEEN DISCO

WITH "OUTALIMITS DISCOS"

WEDNESDAY **21ST** OCTOBER

RECEPTION ~ 3.45 - 4.15

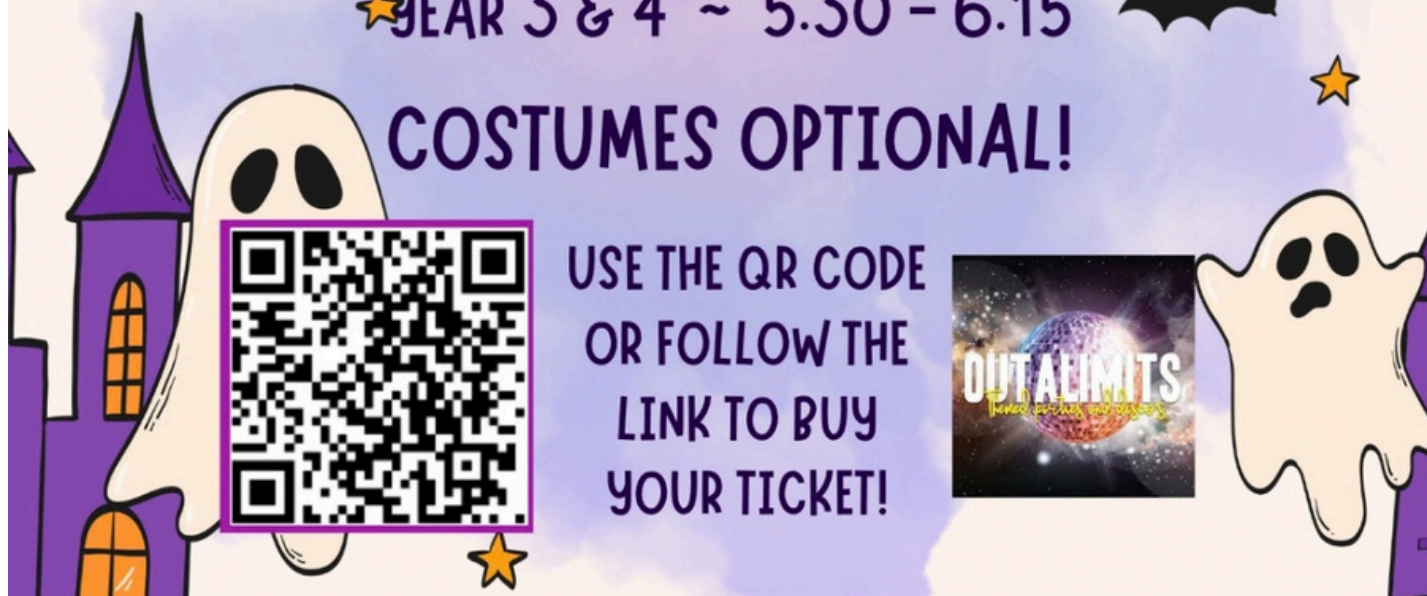
YEAR 1 & 2 ~ 4.30 - 5.15

★ YEAR 3 & 4 ~ 5.30 - 6.15

COSTUMES OPTIONAL!



USE THE QR CODE
OR FOLLOW THE
LINK TO BUY
YOUR TICKET!



ZERO TOLERANCE POLICY

OUR STAFF ARE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU.
THEY MUST FEEL SAFE, RESPECTED AND SUPPORTED TOO.
DISCRIMINATION, HARASSMENT AND ABUSE WILL NOT BE
TOLERATED.

-  Treat all members of our community with respect and politeness. **1**
-  Listen to others and address concerns through appropriate channels. **2**
-  Act as positive role models for all children and young people. **3**

WE DO NOT TOLERATE:



VIOLENCE

DISCRIMINATION



HARASSMENT



ABUSE



WE APPRECIATE YOUR COOPERATION IN MAKING OUR SCHOOL
A SAFE, POSITIVE AND INCLUSIVE ENVIRONMENT FOR
EVERYONE.



WIMBORNE
MINSTER
TOWN COUNCIL



Calling all
young artists!

Children's Christmas Lights Poster Competition

Can you design our **2026** Christmas Lights
Switch-On poster?

The winner from each category will win a prize
and your poster will be used to advertise the event!



Entry Requirements

All entrants must live in the
parish of Wimborne Minster,
and all posters must contain
the following event information:



Location:
Town Square,
Wimborne Minster



Date & time:
Saturday 28 November 2026
1pm – 5pm



If you have any queries
please contact the office on
01202 881 655 or email
gary.mason@wimborne.gov.uk



Categories

There are two age
categories available to enter:

Ages 5-7
(KS1)

Ages 7-11
(KS2)



How to Enter

Create your poster on A4
portrait oriented paper
using pencils, pens,
paint or crayon and write
your name, age and address
on the back.



Send your finished poster to:
Wimborne Minster Town Council,
The Town Hall,
37 Westborough,
Wimborne Minster,
BH21 1LT



Deadline for entries is
Friday 30 October 2026



Christmas Lights Switch-On
Saturday 28 November 2026
1pm – 5pm

Let your imagination light up Wimborne!