

September 2020 Newsletter



The Merton Primary School
To be the best we can be.

Email: admin@merton.leics.sch.uk

Website: www.merton.leics.sch.uk

Dear Parents, Carers and Members of the Community,

Thank you for your continued support in helping our children coming back to school this term. It has been fantastic to see the children return with such enthusiasm and positivity. I would also like to thank people for their patience and support in helping us establish new systems that have had to put in place in line with government guidelines to help keep children safe. We will continue to review everything we do to make sure things are running as smoothly as possible and thanks to all staff who have worked so hard at the beginning of this term!

It has been a pleasure to meet some of you out on the playground at drop off and collection and thank you for the warm welcome from both pupils and parents! This newsletter will be produced each month to keep you up-to-date with what's happening in school. There will also be texts and emails to inform you of any changes we make so please make sure we have the right contact information for you.

Finally, we return to school with exciting news for two of our teaching staff. Mrs Edwards and Miss Yorke are both expecting babies this Winter! I am sure you will join me in congratulating them both and wishing them all the best over the next few months. All being well, they will remain teaching until Christmas and whilst we are aware these are big shoes to fill, we are already making plans to ensure that provision remains of the highest possible quality in their absence. We will keep you updated with our progress on this. **Mr Lee**

Our Newly Named 'Thomson Hall' —Thank you and Good luck to Miss Thomson!



The Merton Recovery Curriculum

We want our children to come back to a positive, engaging experience. They need to be in the right 'place' to learn and their capacity to absorb learning starts with their physical and mental health. This along with curriculum and character will be important drivers for supporting our pupils effectively this term. We will be embracing the following ideas and themes through our curriculum content:

- Supporting and re-building positive relationships
- Celebrating family and community whilst re-establishing our place in the world
- Maintaining engagement with parents through alternative methods
- Modelling positive attitudes and relationships
- Empowering children to express thoughts and feelings
- Building back resilience and a strong work ethic
- Engaging in projects that impact on and make a difference to the lives of others
- Using the work of others as examples of hope, inspiration and creativity
- Identifying gaps in learning and addressing them as swiftly as possible
- Promoting a love of reading
- Providing a broad, rich and meaningful curriculum
- Providing opportunities for children to plan, problem solve, self-organise, self-evaluate and analyse
- Draw out positive models of personal development, resilience, character, achievement and adaptation to challenges
- Provide routine and structure
- Ensure children are not overburdened
- Emphasising quality over quantity where purpose and achievement are the priority
- Increased opportunities for outdoor learning

You Can Help Us By:

- Reading the COVID section of the website
- Parking legally and mindfully outside the school, especially on the estate near the Oak Drive gate
- Standing in the correct zones during drop off and pick up and exiting via the marked walk ways
- Not entering the zones where children line up or crossing them to exit
- Using our one-way system around the school unless you are the final drop off/collection
- Dropping your children off and leaving without waiting for the line to leave if your child is happy
- Arriving no earlier than 10 minutes before your drop off or collection time
- Not allowing your children to climb trees, use any benches or equipment whilst waiting outside
- Social distance around the school

Communication

We will be communicating to you through our website, emails and texts. The COVID tab is the first place to check for all organisational matters and update letters. Should your child be off school and not ill, then learning will either be e-mailed or made available via the Home Learning section as soon as possible. The twitter feed has now re-started so you can see some of the experiences of the children in school. You can contact us via the year group emails or the main admin email for more general enquiries. Please telephone or email us to arrange any appointments with staff unless they are small things that you can mention on the playground.

Reading

Your child will have brought home a reading book and a reading log recently. We would be delighted if you could support us in promoting a love of regular reading. This is the key to children accessing the wider curriculum and one of the best ways you can support us in achieving the goal of 'being the best we can be'

Back to School!.....



"The best thing about being back at school is seeing our friends!"



"The best thing about being back at school is learning and not being bored!"



"The best thing about being back at school is being active again!"



"The strangest thing about being back at school is the way we share the grass!"



"The strangest thing about being back at school is lining up to come in, in the morning but we think it's better!"



"The best thing about being back to school is seeing our friends, teachers and the learning!"