

September 2021 Newsletter



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

Email: office@merton.bepschools.org

Website: www.merton.bepschools.org

Dear Parents, Carers and Members of the Community,

Welcome back! We have had a fantastic start to the new term and the children continue to be excited about the return to 'normal' lessons and the enriched experience this allows for. Walking around school there is a buzz of activity as children once more work in different groups in their classrooms and can eat lunch and play alongside siblings or friends from other year groups.

We have, for the first time in nearly two years, been able to meet collectively for assemblies and this has been a really positive factor in connecting the children back together. It will also be brilliant to see our hall once again host a wide range of clubs and activities for pupils.

We continue to be diligent as a school in regards to cleaning, handwashing and ventilation. Thank you to parents for their honest and open communication around any COVID symptoms and LFT testing. We will continue to keep you informed where COVID cases occur. The number of cases in school at the present time remains minimal.

This year and indeed this term we will be undertaking significant work around 'how' and 'what' we teach the children. Staff will be unpicking the science of teaching and learning to build upon their already considerable expertise in the classroom. We will also be implementing our exciting improved curriculum that aims to deliver the ideas of real purpose and 'Making a Difference' alongside clear knowledge that builds across the school as children go from year to year. These plans will be shared with you on the website over the next few weeks. Progress has been made with the plans to develop both the pond and outdoor learning space. Work will begin on these areas this term. This will lead to opportunities in Science and learning beyond the classroom that our children are keen to explore.

Finally I'd like to thank staff for their hard work in making sure the start to this term has been such a successful one. We have several new faces in school (along with some returning from maternity leave) and I'm sure you will join me in extending a warm welcome to them. Our new Learning Support Assistants: Mrs Hurst, Miss Pebody, Mrs Peel and Mrs Rutter will be supporting children across the school in lessons. Miss Trevor has joined our lunchtime team and we welcome Mrs Edwards and Miss Yorke back from maternity leave. Please get in touch with us via the class or office email addresses if there is anything we can support you with, we hope you stay healthy and your children continue to enjoy being back at school.

Mr Lee

Clubs

We are pleased to announce that clubs will recommence from Monday 13th September. We are going to be consulting with the children to find out what clubs they would like to see over the year. Our initial selection has gone out this week and includes Netball, Cross Country, Gymnastics and Judo. Thank you to Miss Eggleston for organising these.

Website & Home Learning

Over the next few weeks, our website will start to fill with new content. The 'Curriculum' and 'Year Group Pages' sections in particular will have exciting new content which we will alert you to shortly. Should your child be isolating or off school but not ill, we will provide Home Learning via Microsoft Teams and the class email. Please be aware that we will no longer be using Satchel One this term as it is not necessary to provide Home Learning to the same numbers of pupils.

Events

We are currently putting together a full list of dates for your diary. These will appear on the website calendar next week and be listed in the October newsletter. Parents evening will be on Wednesday 13th and Thursday 14th of October. Merton PTFA have put out a full list of planned events and we encourage you to support these wherever possible as the funds raised impact so positively on the children in school.



Year 3 collected plums from our woods, this week they are making plumb crumble!

Assemblies

As mentioned, assemblies have returned! The format for these will roughly follow the plan below:

Mon—Exploring World events linked to our Vision

Tue/Thur—Teacher led themes linked to pupil well-being and behaviour.

Wed—Singing and Music

Fri—Celebration of Curriculum and Learning

Reading

We ask that you continue to read with your child at least four times a week and complete their reading log (or support them in doing so). We will shortly be putting out a letter supporting this process and it remains one of the simplest ways to make the biggest of differences to your child's future.

Open Afternoon for Prospective Parents

Thursday 23rd September 1:30-2:30pm

Wednesday 10th November 1:30-2:30pm



Our Buzzy bees and Ladybirds are now full time and have already settled really well into school life!





Key Stage 2 Art