



Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,
Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn term. We have been so busy already this year and look forward to many more exciting learning opportunities.

Year 4 Visit to Carding Mill Valley



On Tuesday 22nd October, Year 4 enjoyed a visit to Carding Mill Valley where they studied the features of a river valley and completed a river study and walked up some very steep hills!

Food Bank Friday Collection



Thank you to everyone who donated to our recent Food Bank Friday collection on 4th October. We collected 267 items.



Year 3 Class Assembly

Well done to Year 3 for their Stone Age class assembly on Thursday 17th October. We enjoyed sharing your learning with you. Thanks to all parents and carers who came along too.

Children in Need

To raise money for Children in Need, on Friday 15th November, children are invited to pay £1 to come to school in their pyjamas.



Year 4 SPARKS Fire Safety workshop



On Monday 21st October, Year 4 learned all about fire safety with a SPARKS workshop through west Midlands Fire Service

Diwali Celebrations



On Friday 25th October, we celebrated Diwali across school with workshops and activities. Many children enjoyed dressing up in celebration clothes too. At Merridale, we enjoy sharing and learning about each other's special celebrations.

Reading Challenge

Each half term, we select a reading challenge winner from each class to receive a special reward for their reading efforts and achievement. Well done to this half term's winners—you regularly meet our reading challenge—to read for at least 20 minutes per day, at least 5 days per week.



Mini Medics

On Thursday 10th October 16 children and their parents/carers learned all about emergency first aid through the Mini Medics training from Adult Education.





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Book Swap

We *love* to read so on Thursday 24th October, we held a Book Swap where children were invited to swap their books with their friends and class mates.



Year 1 Church Visit

On Thursday 24th October, Year 1 enjoyed their visit to St Chad and St Marks' Church. They learned all about the building and important Christian artefacts.



Attendance and Punctuality

We continue to strive for our whole school attendance to stay at or above 96%! Well done to all of the children who have achieved this so far this year.

For the school year so far (September to October)

Whole school: 95.1%

Reception: 91.7%

Year 1: 92.1%

Year 2: 96.9%

Year 3: 95.1%

Year 4: 95.6%

Year 5: 96%

Year 6: 97.8%

The class with the highest attendance at the end of this term will enjoy a special treat.

Can I remind you of the importance of children attending school every day unless they are unwell. If your child is ill, please telephone the school office to inform them on the first day of absence.

Can I remind you that children can come straight into the school building between 8.40am and 8.50am where they will be supervised by school staff. From 8.50am, children must enter school through the main office at the front of the building and they will be classed as late.

All children must be collected by an adult from school at 3.15pm unless they have permission to walk home alone. I appreciate your support in this.

Our attendance policy states that we are unable to authorise any absence for family holiday, trips or visits. If you wish to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see Mr Lane. Patterns of poor attendance and punctuality will be followed-up by the school's educational welfare officer to look at ways of reducing these instances. If you require any support with these areas, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Term Dates

Monday 4th November 5.45pm: Diversity performance at Aldersley for invited KS2 pupils and their parents/carers

Friday 8th November: INSET Day—school closed to pupils

WB 11th November: Anti-Bullying/E-safety week

Thursday 14th November 9.15am: Year 4 class assembly. Parents, carers and family invited to attend.

Thursday 14th November 8.45am: Nurse drop in session for parents and carers

Friday 15th November: Year 6 second Borth payment due (£30)

Friday 15th November: Year 5 and 6 visit to Grand Theatre

Friday 15th November: Pyjama Day for Children in Need

Monday 18th—Thursday 21st November 3.15-4pm: Book Fair in school (Year 3 classroom)

Wednesday 20th November 3.15-5pm: MESSY CHURCH in the school hall. All welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Thursday 28th November: Year 1 Visit to Bantock House Museum

Tuesday 3rd and Wednesday 4th December 2pm: Reception, Year 1 & 2 Christmas Play performance for parents, carers and family.

Wednesday 11th December 3.15-5pm: MESSY CHURCH in the school hall. All welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

Thursday 12th December 8.45am: Nurse drop in session for parents and carers

Friday 13th December: School Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 13th December 2pm: Christmas Enterprise Sale for parents, carers and family

WB 16th December: No after school clubs or tuition this week

Tuesday 17th December 10am: Christingle Service at St Chad and St Mark's Church

Thursday 19th December: Year 1-6 Cinema visit

Thursday 19th December: Whole school Christmas Disco (afternoon): Children pay £2 entry plus treat bag

Friday 20th December 3.15pm: School closes for Christmas holidays

Monday 6th January: INSET Day—school closed to pupils

Tuesday 7th January: School re-opens to pupils for the Spring term.

Friday 17th January: Year 2 visit to Wolverhampton Art Gallery

Thursday 23rd January: Year 6 Archives Visit

Friday 24th January: Year 6 3rd Borth payment due (£25)

Thursday 30th January 9.15am: Year 5 Class assembly—parents and carers invited to attend

Friday 7th February: FOOD BANK FRIDAY

Wednesday 12th February 3.30-8pm: Whole School Parent Consultations

Friday 14th February 3.15pm: School closes for half term

Monday 24th February: INSET day—school closed to pupils

Tuesday 25th February: School open to pupils