



125

**MERTON COURT**  
PREP • SIDCUP

*Celebrating 125 years of experience, expertise & excellence*

## **J1 Newsletter** **Autumn 1 2024**

Welcome to J1. We trust you have all had a wonderful holiday and we look forward to a good term first together.

Your child's Key Person is their form teacher – Miss Amphlett for children in J1A and Miss Hall for children in J1H. They will be supported by Mrs Clarke (J1H) and Mrs Learmouth (J1A).

Please note that the school day begins at 8.45am. Children can be dropped off at the Rectory Lane or Knoll Road entrance between 8:15am and 8:45am. All other entry to the school after 8:45am will need to go through the school office at Knoll Road.

### **Homework**

Homework will be set each week on a Friday. Please assist the children to complete it and then return it by the following Monday.

### **Reading**

We will initially send reading home on Tuesdays and Fridays; this may be a book, a game or flash cards. Please return the book bag the following day and comment in the Reading Record Book so that we can monitor your child's progress, and we can give them further appropriate reading material.

High Frequency words (Tricky Words) will be sent out alongside reading as and when we learn them in class.

### **Home School Diary**

We will be sending a Home School Diary to strengthen our parent partnership links and develop positive interaction between home and school. Please include any photographs, tickets, hand drawn pictures, or events that your child has been to during the weekend or during the school holidays. Your child will use their Home

School Diary as part of their 'circle time' sessions each Monday morning, to give them the opportunity to talk about their weekend activities.

### **Snacks**

Please would you send in two healthy, nut-free snacks for your child (for morning and afternoon) such as fruit, vegetable sticks or a plain biscuit and clean and refill their water bottles daily.

### **Uniform**

There are several new routines for us all to get used to, please check below to see which days uniform and kit are needed:

**Mon, Tues, Wed & Thurs:** PE Kit (Swimming kits will be needed for Mondays).

**Fri:** Full School Uniform.

**Waterproof jackets, trousers and wellies (Forest School)** Please send these in by Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September and they will be kept in school.

**Plimsolls:** These will be kept in school for dance lessons.

**Swimming:** We ask that earrings are not worn on Swimming and PE days; however, they may be worn on other days (studs only).

**Spare Uniform:** Please provide a change of uniform including underwear, socks and a carrier bag, which may be left in their barrel bag.

**Nail Varnish:** A polite reminder that nail varnish is not part of the school uniform.

**Full Winter Uniform will need to be worn by Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September for school photographs.**

### **Labels**

Please make sure **all** uniform and equipment is clearly named, including socks and underwear on swimming days, as well as ribbons on girls' hats. This may

be an activity you would like to do with your child to ensure they recognise their personal belongings.

### **Asthma Pumps and Auto Injector pens**

If your child requires an Asthma Pump or an Auto Injector Pen please would you make sure that they are still in date and that they are clearly labelled before your child brings them into school. An 'Administration of Medicine' form must be completed for all prescribed medicine.

### **Clubs Registration**

This will take place on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September. If your child would like to register for one of the clubs, please send the correct registration fee in a clearly marked envelope with your child's name on it, no sooner than Friday. A little word of warning – the clubs tend to fill up quite quickly, so your child may not get into all the clubs he/she was hoping for.

### **Letterland Evening (Adults only)**

We would like to invite you to join us on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October for a Letterland and Handwriting information evening – further details to follow.

### **Festival of Speech**

We look forward to welcoming your children to take part in this year's individual Festival of Speech which will take place on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. The children will be encouraged to learn and perform a poem of their choice. Please note that individual festival entries are optional and will be seen by a judging panel and other parents. This can be quite daunting for the children, please remember to practise with your child at home and talk them through the process in order for them to feel prepared on the day. This event will be followed by a whole class performance on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October. If you have any questions regarding the festival process, please ask a member of the J1 team.

### **Teacher e-mails**

Should you need to contact us, our email addresses are as follows:

Miss Amphlett –

[j.amphlett@mertoncourtprep.co.uk](mailto:j.amphlett@mertoncourtprep.co.uk)

Miss Hall –

[h.hall@mertoncourtprep.co.uk](mailto:h.hall@mertoncourtprep.co.uk)

Should you need to contact us with urgent information it is better to contact the School Office.

### **Tooled Up**

Tooled Up is a very useful resource that may help you answer some of those tricky questions that pop up while you are at home. We encourage you to become familiar with the website: [www.tooledupeducation.com/register](http://www.tooledupeducation.com/register)

School pin number: MCP0809

### **Diary of Events**

**Clubs Registration** Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September  
**125 Flag Raising and Tree Planting Ceremony** Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September 3.15pm  
**J1 Parents' Meet and Greet** Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September at 2:15pm in the J1 classroom  
**School Photographs** Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September (full winter uniform)  
**FOMC AGM** Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 7:30pm in the School Hall  
**Prospective Parents Open Morning** Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 9.15-12.00  
**Harvest Festival Service** Friday 27<sup>th</sup> September (compulsory for J1 children) at St Johns Church  
**Letterland Evening** Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 6pm (adults only)  
**Space Workshop** Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October  
**Festival of Speech and Drama (Individual entries)** Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October  
**Festival of Speech and Drama (class entries)** – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October  
**English Week** Monday 7<sup>th</sup>- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October  
**Book Character Dressing Up Day** – Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October  
**Half Term:** 14<sup>th</sup> October – 1<sup>st</sup> November

Please continue to check the Merton Court website and Parent Mail regularly as they contain all the diary dates and finer details for the term and year ahead, the J1 Google Drive link will be sent out via Parent Mail.

Kind regards

The J1 Team.

