

J1 Newsletter Summer 1 2025

Welcome back, we hope you had a great Easter break and are ready to start the last term in J1!

Maths Term

This term, our whole school focus is 'Question Everything'. We will be continuing our learning about neurodiversity and linking it to how we can look after our amazing brains. During Maths week we will be visited by a magician for a special workshop to help us learn that not everything is as it seems and to always stay curious. J1 will be using the CLPE text "10 Things I Can Do To Help My World" to help explore how our brains can help us to care for the world in different ways. We are looking forward to sharing some of these with you in our J1 assembly.

Homework

This term we will be sending home maths games on a Friday to be returned with your child's bookbag on Monday – they are a fun way of revising the number concepts that we deal with in class. Please ensure that they are returned on time so that we can send them out for the next child.

Numeracy

We are focusing on teen numbers, addition, and subtraction through fun, hands-on activities that help the children use their maths skills in real-life situations. While children are beginning to take part in more written maths activities, our main focus remains on building their mathematical understanding and thinking skills, rather than simply completing sums. We will

also be introducing a wider range of coins as we begin learning about money, including making purchases and giving change. The children are working on number bonds to ten and becoming familiar with key vocabulary such as add, plus, more, minus, take away, less, and equals. They've loved becoming Maths Ninjas—using their arms to show these symbols—and we've been counting to 20 (and beyond!) with the help of our Ten Town characters.

Reading and Writing

We will continue to send reading books home twice a week. Please remember to initial or leave a short comment in your child's reading record to show they have read with you. Regular reading helps build great habits as they prepare for J2. At this stage, children are decoding well, and we are now encouraging them to notice punctuation, read with expression, and talk about what they've read to show understanding. They should also be working on using capital letters at the start of sentences and for names, finger spaces between words, and full stops at the end of sentences. Please also encourage them to use their cursive handwriting and begin retelling stories in their own words to strengthen their comprehension.

Letterland

Our objective this term is for the children to hear and say the sounds in four and five phoneme (sound) words so that they can decode and build them quickly and fluently, for example, they should now be working on words such as c-l-a-p, b-u-m-p and d-r-o-p. You can help at home by segmenting words into phonemes for

your child to blend and saying words for your child to segment into phonemes.

School Uniform

Summer PE kit should now be worn on Monday-Thursday with full uniform being worn on Friday. If it is cool towards the beginning of the term, children may still wear their red tracksuits.

School baseball caps **must** be worn to school Monday-Thursday and be in the children's bags on Friday when they wear the felt cap/straw boater. Please note that girls' hair accessories should be school colours. As the weather gets warmer, please ensure that sunscreen is applied to your child before they come to school. If you would like sunscreen to be re-applied during the day, then please bring in a clearly labelled bottle to remain at school and complete the attached permission slip.

Individual and Form Photographs

The photographer will be in school on Monday 12th May and Tuesday 13th May. All children should, by then, be wearing their full Summer uniform, including blazers. The girls should have their Summer dresses, white socks and red shoes. The boys should have their yellow polo shirts, grey shorts and grey school socks.

Tooled Up

We encourage you to become familiar with the website, it may help you to address some of those tricky questions:

www.tooledupeducation.com/register

School pin number: MCP0809

Photography Competition

This year the theme for the Photography competition is 'Celebration'. More information to follow via ParentMail.

Dates of Events

Cuppa and Cake Celebration
Wednesday 23rd April, 3pm in the Jubilee Garden.

Clubs Registration Thursday 24th April

BANK HOLIDAY Monday 5th May

Maths Week Tuesday 6th May – Friday 9th May

J1 School Assembly Thursday 8th May (Full School Uniform)

Magic Workshop Thursday 8th May

Book Fair Thursday 8th May, 3pm

J1 Coffee Morning Friday 9th May 8.45am

Maths Hat Day Friday 9th May 9.30am

125 May Ball (Some tickets still available) Saturday 10th May 7pm – 12pm

School Photographs - Individual and Class Monday 12th May

Whole School Photograph Tuesday 13th May

125 Thanksgiving Service Friday 16th May, 2:15pm at St Johns Church
(NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB)

HALF TERM 24th May – 1st June

Please look at the school website regularly for updates -

www.mertoncourtprep.co.uk

We look forward to a successful term, please feel free to contact us should you have any queries.

The J1 Team.

"To inspire a passion for learning, through excellent teaching and outstanding personal achievement."

– Aims & Ethos, Merton Court School.