



125

MERTON COURT
PREP • SIDCUP

Celebrating 125 years of experience, expertise & excellence

J1 Newsletter **Autumn 1 2025**

Nurture

Welcome to J1! We hope you had a wonderful holiday and look forward to a great first term together.

Your child's Key Person is their form teacher – Miss Hall (J1H) and Miss Thatcher (J1T) - supported by Mrs Clarke (J1H) and Mrs Reynolds (J1T), as well as Miss Robinson (Tues/Wed) and Miss Downs (Thurs/Fri).

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 - 8:45am. Arrivals after 8:45am should go through the school office at Knoll Road.

Exercise

Uniform

Please see the daily uniform and kit requirements listed below:

Mon - Thurs: PE Kit (Swimming kits will be needed for Mondays).

Fri: Full School Uniform.

Please send waterproof jackets, trousers and wellies in a named bag for Forest School by Monday 8th September to be kept in school. Plimsolls should also be provided and stay in school for dance.

Earrings should not be worn on Swimming or PE days (studs only at other times). Please provide a full spare uniform, including underwear, socks and a carrier bag, in their barrel bag. Nail varnish is not part of the uniform.

Full Winter Uniform will need to be worn on Monday 15th September for school photographs.

Labels

Please label **all** belongings clearly, including socks, underwear on swimming days and ribbons on girls' hats. You may wish to do this with your child to help them recognise their personal belongings.

Asthma Pumps and Auto Injector pens

If your child uses an Asthma Pump or Auto Injector Pen, please ensure it's in date, clearly labelled, and accompanied by an 'Administration of Medicine' form, these are required for any prescribed medication.

Stimulate

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

Reading will go home on Tuesdays and Fridays and may include a book, game or flashcards. Please read/work on these with your child and return book bags the next day with a note in the Reading Record so we can track progress and provide appropriate material. High Frequency (Tricky) Words will be sent as we introduce them in class to be learnt/memorised at home.

Talk

Home School Diary

We will be sending home Home School Diaries to help strengthen links between home and school. These will usually go out before a school holiday and should be returned when we return to school. Parents are welcome to request a diary at any point during the term if there is a special occasion they would like to include. We invite you to add photographs, tickets, drawings or short notes about activities from the holidays. Your child will share these during 'circle time' at the start of each half term. Please add to this diary and return on Monday 8th September.

Love

Snacks

Please provide two healthy, nut-free snacks for your child (e.g. fruit, vegetable sticks, plain biscuit) and clean and refill their water bottles daily.

Celebrations

Following on from our Parentmail of 1st September a gentle reminder that items brought in to celebrate birthdays/religious festivals must be non-edible treats only to share with their classmates.

Environment

Letterland Evening (An Adult/Parent Event)

We would like to invite you to join us on Tuesday 30th September for a Letterland and Handwriting information evening – further details to follow.

Festival of Speech

Your children are invited to participate in the individual Festival of Speech on Thursday 2nd October, where they may learn and perform a poem of their choice. Individual entries are optional and will be observed by a judging panel and other parents. We encourage you to practise at home to help your child feel prepared. The following afternoon, Friday 3rd October, there will be a whole-class performance and we warmly invite parents to come and watch. Please contact a member of the J1 team with any questions.

Teacher e-mails

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

Miss Hall –

h.hall@mertoncourtprep.co.uk

Miss Thatcher –

Lj.thatcher@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 helpful resource for answering tricky questions at home. We encourage you to register at www.tooledupeducation.com/register using the school pin: MCP0809.

Diary of Events

Clubs Registration Friday 5th September
J1 Parents' Meet and Greet Friday 12th September at 2:15pm in the J1 classroom
School Photographs Monday 15th September (full winter uniform)
FOMC AGM Wednesday 17th September 7:30pm in the School Hall
Prospective Parents Open Morning Saturday 20th September 9.15-12.00
Parent Zoom – Mr Price Explains our Forthcoming ISI Inspection Wednesday 24th September (more info to follow)
Harvest Festival Service Friday 26th September (compulsory for J1 children) at St Johns Church 9am
Dinosaur Workshop (EY/J1) Tuesday 30th September
Letterland Evening for Carers/Parents Tuesday 30th September 6pm
Festival of Speech and Drama (Individual entries) Thursday 2nd October
Festival of Speech and Drama (class entries) – Friday 3rd October
English Week Monday 6th- Friday 10th October
Flu Immunisation Thursday 9th October (complete online form)
Harry Potter Dressing Up Day – Friday 11th October
Half Term: 18th October – 2nd November

Please continue to check the Merton Court website, Parent Mail and Google Drive regularly for updates and more information. A J1 Google Drive link will be sent via Parent Mail.

Kind regards

The J1 Team.



"Merton Court – a transformational school...where opportunities make all the difference."

– Aims & Ethos, Merton Court School.