



J1 Newsletter

Summer 1 2026

Nurture

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

Exercise

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, please bring in a clearly labelled bottle to remain at school and complete the attached permission slip.

We ask if you could kindly supply your child with a roll-on sunscreen so that this can easily self-applied encouraging further independence.

Individual and Form Photographs

The photographer will be in school on Monday 11th 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.

Stimulate

Maths and Games Term

This term we will be linking Maths with Games and looking closely at how mathematics plays a vital part in sport around the world. Each week we will be having an assembly highlighting a different British sportsperson, as well as the weekly class assemblies that will be exploring

national achievements in sport around the world. The children will also be taking part in a Maths Hat competition where we encourage them to link Maths to sport in their creations.

As we are linking Maths with sport this term, we will also be having a Games week where children will have the opportunity to try new sporting activities that they may not have experienced before.

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.

Talk

Reading/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 by saying words for your child to segment into phonemes.

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.

Love

Allergies

At Merton Court Prep we pride ourselves on knowing our children well and ensuring 'the best possible start to their learning journey'. This includes keeping them safe whilst in school by being aware of all allergies, medical needs and dietary requirements. With that being said, we would like to kindly remind you that our school is a nut free zone. This includes food items such as hummus, pesto and Nutella spread. Please do always check the packaging on any product regardless of your own child's allergies as these can affect those around them.

As some of you may know we do have six Epi-Pens located around the school for emergency usage if we were ever to need them.

We work hard to source well balanced home cooked meals daily for the children, with all our produce locally sourced. Please familiarise yourself with our school menus on the website.

As well as lunch time we also encourage you to evaluate the food items that you provide your child with for breaktime snack and keep these within a healthy variety.

J1 Assembly

This half term we will be hosting our first year group assembly linking football in Brazil to Maths. We will be sending your child's assembly lines home on Friday 24th April to be learnt as soon as possible and by Friday 1st May the latest. Practise these a couple of times a day with your child, in the drive to and from school, in the bathtub or just before bed each night. It is important for them to remember the line independently as well as feel confident enough in what they have to say to be able to project their voices so that they can be heard. We look forward to sharing our assembly with you on Friday 8th May.

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

School pin number: MCP0809

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

Diary of Events

Wednesday 22nd April - Peter Pan Workshop EY-J3

Thursday 23rd April - Clubs Registration

Monday 27th – Friday 1st – Games Week

Friday 1st May – We are the World Dressing Up Day

Saturday 2nd May – FOMC May Ball

Monday 4th May - BANK HOLIDAY

Tuesday 6th May – Friday 9th May - Maths Week

Thursday 7th May - J1 School Assembly (Full School Uniform)

Friday 8th May - J1 Coffee Morning 8.45am, Maths Hat Day & Book Fair.

Monday 11th May - School Photographs - Individual and Class

Whole School Photograph (Full Summer Uniform)

Friday 15th May – J1 Visit by the Dentist.

Wednesday 20th May – Prospective Parents Open Day.

Friday 22nd May – School Rubiks Cube Competition.

HALF TERM 25th May – 31st May

Please look at the school website regularly for updates -

www.mertoncourtprep.co.uk and contact the school office to sign up to Parent Cal for all of our school diary events to be added to your phone Calander.

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

The J1 Team.

"Merton Court – More than a just a school.

A Unique place where opportunities make all the difference...where tradition, integrity, standards and family values really do matter."

– Aims & Ethos, Merton Court School.

