MERTON COURT PREP · SIDCUP
CO-EDUCATIONAL DAY PREPARATORY SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN AGED 3-11
WHERE OPPORTUNITIES MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE

EY NEWSLETTER (2) AUTUMN TERM 2026

Nurture

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn Term. We hope you all had an enjoyable break and are ready for the exciting Christmas build up!

We have already had a good start to the term, exploring our new topic 'Minibeasts'! The children have loved discovering all the fascinating creatures living right under our noses!

Over the coming weeks, our learning will shift to focus on the seasonal changes we are noticing, as well as the special celebrations that happen at this time of year. We will be exploring the transition from Autumn to Winter, and how different people and cultures mark this time with various festivals.

Of course, as we get closer to the end of term, we will be diving into the magic and excitement of Christmas, which will be our final topic before the holidays.

It is set to be a fun, busy and meaningful end to the term!

Stimulation

Letterland
Thank you to those who attended our Letterland and Handwriting evening, we hope that it was beneficial for you. As you are aware, the children have begun their first adventures into Letterland and this term we will be consolidating their knowledge of Sammy Snake, Annie Apple, Talking Tess, Peter Puppy,
Impy Ink and Noisy Nick. We will also be introducing them to Robber Red, Munching Mike, Dippy Duck and Hairy Hat Man.

Ten Town
Over the next few weeks the children are set to meet the next group of numbers in Ten Town, these are: Thelma Three (3), Freddie Four (4) and Fiona Five (5).

'Busy Boxes' and 'Self-Care Boxes'
This half term we will be introducing our 'Busy Boxes' and 'Self-Care Boxes'. The children will take these home on a Wednesday and they should be returned the following Monday. A letter will be attached explaining how both work, however, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask.

The children have settled well in Early Years and are now becoming confident in separating from parents/carers. A whole-class area of focus this term is for the children to become independent with self-care. Guiding your child through daily tasks e.g. getting dressed, brushing teeth and putting on socks/shoes will enable your child to develop their self-esteem and confidence.

Exercise

Snacks
A gentle reminder that all snacks brought in to school should be healthy and contain no nuts. In order to make it easier for children at snack time please ensure they have two separate pots for their snacks if they are staying all day.

Christmas Production
EY will be participating in our Junior production on **Thursday 3rd December** and **Friday 4th December.** The children will also need a pair of black plimsolls. Most children have a pair in school which they can use, if not please send in a clearly named pair as soon as possible. We are looking forward to a very exciting production; further details to follow soon regarding tickets.

Love

Uniform

As the weather turns colder, please would you ensure that your child has a pair of mittens or gloves at school along with one extra layer of clothing such as an old fleece or jumper to go under their waterproofs for Forest School.
We would also request that (if they don't already) they have a red school ski hat (clearly named).

A gentle reminder that girl's long hair should be tied up using red hair bands and small bows only.

Please could children also bring in spare clothing daily in case of any accidents, these can be left in their school bags.

Talk

Look How I Have Grown

Many thanks for all of the crayons that have been returned, it is lovely to see how independent and grown up the children are becoming. Please do ask any staff member for more and we can put them in your child's bag. The children love sharing these with their friends.

Environment

Car park etiquette

Please drive **slowly** and **carefully** on school premises. In the afternoons, children may well have games or clubs on the school fields and we need to be mindful of their safety.
Our 'drop off lane' should be used to do just that; please do not block it by parking - however briefly. If your child is not old enough or able to exit the car by themselves, please drive into the carpark, find a space and then walk them to their appropriate gate.
Please remember to park considerately. The disabled parking bays should only be used by those with mobility issues or a blue badge.
Many thanks for your continued help with this.

We look forward to sharing a busy and exciting term with you all.

Kind regards
Miss Amphlett, Miss Thatcher and the Early Years Team.

Diary of events:

Bonfire Night – Friday 6th November 6:00pm
Parents' Evening – Monday 9th November
Prospective Parents' Open Day – Wednesday 18th November 9.15am-2.00pm
Christmas Bazaar – Friday 27th November (Further details to follow)
Christmas Production – Thursday 3rd December at 9am and Friday 4th December 9am and 2pm
Christmas Lunch – Tuesday 8th December – Christmas hats to be worn – No hat, No lunch! 😊
Christmas Jumper Day & Santa Fun Run– Friday 11th December - Donation of £2 to our chosen charity.
Children's Christmas Party – Monday 14th December, children may come dressed in their party clothes.
End of Term
Term ends at 12 noon for **all** children on Wednesday 16th December. Please note that EY children do not attend prizegiving.



"Inspiring a passion for learning."

– Aims & Ethos, Merton Court School