

FRIDAY 1ST MARCH 2024

MERRYLANDS NEWS

SPRING TERM AT MERRYLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Open-minded

Inquisitive

Never Give Up

Attendance

School Attendance Target: 97.00%

This week's Attendance: 93.39%

Remember.... If your child is absent, a call must be made to the School Office EVERY school day that your child is absent and must be reported by phone 01268 417893, via email admin@merrylands-pri.essex.sch.uk or ParentMail. Please do not send a message via Seesaw or Tapestry.

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back everyone - we hope you all had a great half term.

We look forward to next Thursday when children and staff will be taking part in World Book Day dressing up as their favourite book character. There will also be an art competition where children use a potato to create a book character or book scene. Prizes will be awarded for the best potato in each class.

The new demountable buildings are complete and are now in use. Due to RAAC, the Autism Support Centre lost a large area of its workspace and the ASC is now up and running in one of these buildings. Thank you to the ASC team in making this transition happen so smoothly.

Many Thanks

Star of the Week

Acorn Class: Kareem O

Sunflower: Brianna O

Daisy Class: Lottie-Mae R

Daffodil Class: Tife A

Ladybird Class: Evie F

Dragonfly Class: Henry L

Butterfly Class: Lenny H

Sycamore Class: Brooke M

Oak Class: Joris J

Maple Class: Noah R

Lake Class: Darshik A

Ocean Class: Teddy K

River Class: Kajus G

Amazon Class: Jacob S

Snowdonia Class: Lily-Mae P

Eagle Class: Atarah S

Falcon Class: Evie G

Adventurer Class: Deborah A

Explorer Class: Dolcie M



BERLESDUNA ACADEMY TRUST – JOB VACANCIES

BERLESDUNA – FINANCE MANAGER closing date 22nd March
CHERRY TREE – CLASS TEACHER closing date 6th March
CHERRY TREE – LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 1st March
CHERRY TREE – MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 1st March
DOWNHAM – MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 12th March
DOWNHAM – SEN LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 12th March
DOWNHAM – SCHOOL BUSINESS MANAGER closing date 12th March
FAIRHOUSE – LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT/SEN SUPPORT closing date 6th March
MERRYLANDS – SPORTS COACH closing date 1st March
MERRYLANDS – CLEANER closing date 1st March
MERRYLANDS – NURSERY ASSISTANT closing date 1st March
MERRYLANDS – MIDDAY ASSISTANT closing date 14th March
WILLOWS – LEARNING SUPPORT ASSISTANT closing date 1st March
WILLOWS – CLASS TEACHER (FIXED TERM) – closing date 22nd March

For more information and to apply for any of our roles, please follow the link to our website [Vacancies – Berlesduna Academy Trust](#)



Did you know?

Earth's oxygen is produced by the ocean.

Makaton Sign

Our new Makaton sign is "sit"



To Sit

Upcoming Diary Dates

07.03.24 - World Book Day - Book character dress up day

08.03.24, 15.03.24, 22.03.24 - Nursery Parent Meetings / Stay and Play - Details to follow

15.03.24 - Red Nose Day (wear red - non-uniform) Donations welcome via ScoPay

19.03.24 and 26.03.24 - Maple and Oak Class Spring Term Parents Evening 3:30pm - 6:00pm

21.03.24 - World Poetry Day

22.03.24 ASC Parent / Carer Afternoon - 2:00pm - 3:00pm

Details to follow

26.03.24 - Trust KS1 and KS2 Science Challenge

Venue: Felmore

27.03.24 - In Class Portraits - Happy Days

27.03.24 - SEN and ASC Parent / Carer Coffee morning

Details to Follow

29.03.24 - 14.04.24 - Easter Holidays



Art Competition

It's time to get creative and use a potato to create a book character or book scene. There will be prizes for the best potato in each class.



Potatoes need to be in your child's class for:

Thursday 7th March 2024.

Dress up as your favourite book character

Thursday 7th March 2024



Lunch at a glance....

Week 1		Week 2		Week 3	
Monday	Tuesday	Monday	Tuesday	Monday	Tuesday
Main Meals French Bread Cheese & Tomato Pizza with Pasta Jacket Potato	Main Meals Chicken Fajita Wrap or Quorn Wrap with Potato Wedges Jacket Potato	Main Meals Bacon or Cheese Macaroni Jacket Potato	Main Meals Chicken Nuggets or Vegetable Nuggets with Chips & Tomato Sauce Jacket Potato	Main Meals Chicken Burger or Quorn Burger with Chips & Sauce Jacket Potato	Main Meals Butchers Sausages or Veggie Sausages with Mash, Yorkshire Pudding & Gravy Jacket Potato
Vegetables Seasonal Vegetables	Vegetables Sweetcorn	Vegetables Sweetcorn	Vegetables Beans	Vegetables Beans	Vegetables Beans
Dessert Chocolate Cake & Custard	Dessert Flapjack	Dessert Doritos	Dessert Home-made Cake & Custard	Dessert Doritos	Dessert Flapjack
Wednesday	Thursday	Wednesday	Thursday	Wednesday	Thursday
Main Meals Homemade Mince Beef Pie or Vegetable Pie with Mash & Gravy Jacket Potato	Main Meals Meatballs or Veggie Meatballs with Tomato Sauce & Fusilli Pasta Jacket Potato	Main Meals Butchers Roast Turkey or Roast Quorn Fillet with Roast Potatoes and Yorkshire Pudding Jacket Potato	Main Meals Beef Bolognese or Vegetable Bolognese with Fusilli Pasta Jacket Potato	Main Meals Homemade Chicken Pie or Vegetable Pie, Roast Potato & Gravy Jacket Potato	Main Meals Sticky BBQ Chicken or Sticky BBQ Quorn Pieces with Rice Jacket Potato
Vegetables Peas	Vegetables Seasonal Vegetables	Vegetables Carrots & Peas	Vegetables Mixed Vegetables	Vegetables Carrots	Vegetables Carrots
Dessert Fruit Jelly	Dessert Ice Cream	Dessert Fruit Jelly	Dessert Flapjack	Dessert Fruit Burst Jelly	Dessert Homemade Marble Cake & Custard
Friday	Saturday	Friday	Saturday	Friday	Saturday
Main Meals Fish Fingers or Cheddar Whirl with Chips Jacket Potato	Main Meals Battered Fish Fillet or Plain Omelette with Waffles Jacket Potato	Main Meals Fish Fingers or Cheddar Whirl with Waffles Jacket Potato	Main Meals Fish Fingers or Cheddar Whirl with Waffles Jacket Potato	Main Meals Fish Fingers or Cheddar Whirl with Waffles Jacket Potato	Main Meals Fish Fingers or Cheddar Whirl with Waffles Jacket Potato
Vegetables Peas	Vegetables Spaghetti Hoops	Vegetables Spaghetti Hoops	Vegetables Spaghetti Hoops	Vegetables Spaghetti Hoops	Vegetables Spaghetti Hoops
Dessert Ice Cream	Dessert Artic Roll	Dessert Artic Roll	Dessert Artic Roll	Dessert Artic Roll	Dessert Artic Roll

An unlimited selection of freshly prepared healthy salad, yoghurts and fresh fruit are available daily.



You're a bad man Mr Gum

by Andy Stanton



Eagle have chosen to recommend this book because it has us laughing every time we read it. It's a super silly nonsense book that always brightens our day! We would recommend this to anybody that wants a funny book to read.



Tag Rugby Tournament—14.02.24

A day of mixed emotions. It was great to hear from the organisers in their introductory talk, that as we were at the Official County Finals, we were in the top 15 of over 280 schools that compete in Essex.

In our first 4 games the team played some of the best rugby I have ever seen them play and we convincingly won 3 games and drew 1, qualifying with a top spot. Next, we were onto the Super 10's. Alas it was not meant to be. Our first game was against a team that I rated arguably the best team there that day. We lost 6-5 with our opponents scoring in the last few seconds of the game. The team were crestfallen for a few minutes with their first ever loss from 22 games this season. But they were soon raring to go and determined to win the next games. Unfortunately we lost the following 3 games as well with scores of 7-8 and 7-6, each time with the opponents scoring in the last few seconds. Each time the Merrylands team gave it 100%.

A special shout out to our very own pocket rocket Sophie B, who was a beacon of determination and leadership throughout the whole day.

As I said to the team, if I had told them back at the beginning of September they would be in the top 10 in Essex, they would have taken it. They should be very proud of what they have achieved.

Now we move on, to the next game and the next.



PHYSICALEDUCATION



Skills School

What you need: A ball



Get Set 4
Education

How to play:

Can you complete the following skills?

- Pass the ball 10 times around your waist in one direction then 10 times in the other direction
- Pass the ball in a figure of eight through your legs. 10 times in one direction, then 10 times in the other direction.
- Pass the ball hand to hand. Can you do this above your head, then to one side of your body, then the other? Can you do this down low by your knees?
- Start with the ball behind your back, throw it over your head and then catch it in front of your body.
- Start with the ball in front of you, throw it over your head and catch it behind you.

Top tips:

- Use wide fingers and keep your eyes on the ball.



www.getset4education.co.uk

Sportsperson of the Half Term...

Dina Asher-Smith



Who is Dina Asher-Smith?

Dina Asher-Smith was born in London on the 4th December 1995. She is a British sprinter who has represented Great Britain in 100m, 200m and the 4 x 100m relay. At the age of eight, she went to a running club at her primary school with her friend where she was entered into a cross country race - she later turned to sprinting which she enjoyed more.

What has Dina achieved?

In 2013, Dina was nominated for the BBC Young Sports Personality of the Year. It was because of this that she devoted herself more to professional athletics. Dina is currently the fastest woman in British history, holding the record for 100 and 200 metres. She has won many medals including 2 Olympic bronze medals, a world championship gold and 4 European championship golds. In February 2017 she broke her foot but she did not give up, after 6 months she helped her relay team to win a silver medal at the world championships.

