

Summer Term Number 5  
 Week ending  
 4<sup>th</sup> Oct 2024



Dear Parents and Governors

**“High levels of pastoral support at the heart of the school community” (Ofsted, April 2024)**

**KEY DATES**

DATE	EVENT
Mon 30 <sup>th</sup> Sep	Harvest Collection Continues
Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Y3 & Y4 class trip to Wimbedon Bookfest
Weds 9 <sup>th</sup> Oct	School photos – No PE kits
<b>Thurs 10<sup>th</sup> Oct</b>	<b>Parents evening – School closes at 1pm for Rec – Y6</b>
Weds 16 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Flu Vaccinations for Rec – Y6
Thurs 17 <sup>th</sup> Oct	PTA Film Night
Thurs 17 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Harvest delivered to FISH (Friend’s of St. Helier)
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Year 1 class assembly
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Show Racism the Red Card (wear it red)
Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Oct	PTA Spooky Cakes sold after school (in lieu of tuckshop this week)
Thurs 24 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Maths Week Dress up day
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> Oct	INSET DAY
	<b>HALF TERM – 28<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER – 1<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER</b>

**HEADTEACHER’S MESSAGE:**

This week we started the first of our class assemblies. Silver class shared an informative and entertaining explanation of how and why Harvest is important. Thank you for the harvest donations that we have received so far. This year we are splitting them between the Wimbledon Foodbank and our FISH (Friends in St Helier). FISH is a group of elderly local residents who meet up for company and friendship. Our children regularly visit them and spend time talking to the members. Later this month, Year 6 will visit to drop off some donations to our FISH community. Thank you for helping – we appreciate with prices going up everywhere, sharing and giving are even more important.

**HUMMINGBIRD WINNERS – Well done!**  
**BRONZE: Sophie A, Elizabeth, Nika, Teyana**  
**SILVER: Ria, Danilo, Oriley**  
**GOLD: Johannes, Roman**  
**HUMMINGBIRD: Boe**  
**BRONZE 2: Alicia, Adel**  
**HUMMINGBIRD 2: Sagun**  
**SILVER 3: Faraz**  
**PLATINUM 3: Nomana**



Comet  
1004

 Firecrown  
897

 Rufous  
921

 Xantus  
883

 Zafiro  
774





### Learner of the week

Class	Name	Reason
Yellow	Aisha Drame	Her enthusiasm in all her learning this week. Well Done!
Red	Elizabeth Sokoli	For her amazing home learning project about 'Bears around the world'. Well done, Elizabeth.
Green	Kija Barbour	Fir an excellent poem about Autumn leaves.
Blue	Anayah Babar	For excellent presentation of her work in Science lesson.
Purple	Bortslav Kostev	For writing an excellent recount using figurative language, in Literacy.
Silver	Cleo Kislisbury	For super narrative writing, using a range of creative skills.
Gold	Rhiley Yeo	For great work in maths, talking through answers and developing his reasoning.

Save Learners of the Week

### High 5 of the Week

Class	Name	Reason
Yellow Class	Frankie Bowen	Respect and Responsibility- in his learning and when playing with his friends. Good Job!
Red Class	Ellie Campbell	Respect - always showing respect towards her friends and adults. Well done, Ellie.
Green Class	Sam Alan Lee Putt	Respect- for always listening to others when they are speaking, and showing respect.
Blue Class	Aleksandra Zajkowska	For reading loudly and with great prosody in our Whole Class Reading lesson.
Purple Class	Annabel Sisson	Responsibility - for always being ready to begin lessons.
Silver Class	Saoirse Thompson	Challenge - for having the confidence to samba dance in our class assembly rehearsals.
Gold Class	Zara Akuoko-Sarpong	Respect - shown in her discussion of a new class text for literacy

Save High 5

### READING KINDLE WINNERS

Every child in Y1-Y6 who has 5 adult signatures Wednesday to Wednesday, has their name entered into a raffle. Three winners are selected in assembly to win our Kindles for a week. This week's winners are:

- Y1 & Y2 – Kija
- Y3 & Y4 – Ayeza
- Y5 & Y6 - Zainab

Well done everyone and keep reading! **Mrs Danaher, Literacy Leader**



### MATHS TIMES TABLE ROCK STARS CHAMPIONS

Each week in assembly, we celebrate children on the TT Rockstars leaders' board. Children in Year 2-6 compete in this competition. **All children In Y2-6 are expected to complete a minimum of 30 minuter PER week and this is checked every Wednesday ready for our celebration assembly on Thursday.** This week's winners are:

Improved Speed	Name
1 <sup>st</sup>	Ethan
2 <sup>nd</sup>	William
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mason S

Improved Accuracy	Name
1 <sup>st</sup>	Theo-James
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Layla
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Robyn

Most Correct Answers:	Name
1 <sup>st</sup>	Vihaan
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Aurora
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Rhiley



Well done everyone! **Mrs Green, Maths Learning Leader**

## MOBILE PHONES

Mobile phones should not be used on school grounds. This especially includes taking photos and filming as it is a safeguarding concern. Please ensure your phone is kept out of sight while you are on the premises.

## MESSAGES TO THE OFFICE

We would like to remind parents that if there are ANY changes to your child's collection arrangements, these need to be communicated with the office as early as possible. Often there is only one admin staff member in the office after lunchtime. **After 3pm, any messages cannot be guaranteed to be with the class teacher before 3.10pm.**

## TREATS IN SCHOOL

We kindly ask that you do not bring birthday treats to school, including the playground. With many children having allergies and our commitment to being a healthy school, we want to ensure the safety and well-being of all students.

## COAT IN SCHOOL EVERYDAY

As the weather changes and temperatures drop, we want to remind everyone about the importance of keeping our children warm and dry. Please ensure your child brings a warm, waterproof coat to school each day.



## APPOINTMENTS

If your child has a medical appointment, or has any other commitment during school hours, please provide evidence of this **before** the event. Please do not inform us or send in the letter on the day of the event. We need time to update the register, notify staff, and adjust school meal plans accordingly.

All routine GP and Dental appointments will not be authorised and need to be made out of school hours.

Thank you for your understanding.

## COMMUNICATION FROM SCHOOL

All communications from the school office are sent via email. To ensure you don't miss any important updates about your child or school activities, please check your emails regularly. If you have changed your email address, notify the school office immediately. Do not reply to emails sent through Parent Pay, as these do not reach the school office. For any inquiries, use the email address [info@morden.merton.sch.uk](mailto:info@morden.merton.sch.uk).

## NO DOGS IN SCHOOL

No dogs, even carried ones, are allowed on school premises or near any entrances.

## MORDEN MARVELS

This week we enjoyed baking cookies and lots of arts and crafts. Despite the rain we managed to get outside and enjoy the playground and trim trails all to ourselves. Next week we are planning a treasure hunt next week.

If you would like to book a place at Morden Marvels, please let the office know.



Does your child have Asthma and attend a Merton primary school?

Would you like to learn about the quality of the air that your child is experiencing day to day?

THEN THIS PROJECT IS FOR YOU!

# MERTON ASTHMA PILOT

We will be combining each child's air quality monitoring data with details of their asthma to see if there are any changes that could improve their asthma care.

If interested, please contact:

**PEARL BUADY**  
(Specialist Community Public Health Nurse – School Nurse)  
ccht.mertonasthmapilot@nhs.net  
07415606455



Please scan QR code for more details



At the National College, our **WakeUpWednesday** guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formally delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit [nationalcollege.com](http://nationalcollege.com).

## 10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators USING AND REVIEWING PARENTAL CONTROLS

Phones and computers are essential parts of children's lives, but with unfettered internet access comes a multitude of risks. While not foolproof, parental controls can help with this: filtering out inappropriate content, limiting the ability to spend real money, capping screen time and generally making devices safer for young people.

- ### 1 KNOW THE TYPES

While parental control software can apply to an entire device, it also pays to know about options on individual apps and websites. TikTok, for example, has Restricted Mode for limiting unsuitable videos, while Snapchat lets you keep an eye on who a child has been talking to. Check the settings of any new app young users want and review your options.
- ### 2 COVER ALL DEVICES

Knowing what parental controls cover is crucial, as remaining unaware can run the risk of blind spots in the device's safety measures. Controls on a phone will apply whenever a child's on that device, for instance – but you'll want to ensure that parental controls are set up across any laptops, tablets and potentially other phones too. Remember, buying a new device may require you to set everything up again.
- ### 3 DON'T NEGLECT SHARED TECH

While children often have their own devices, if you have a shared family computer or tablet, for example, you'll need to make sure that's not a weak point in your safety measures. Parental controls for your router, that cover everything connected to your Wi-Fi, are one option – or you can just be thorough with each device and online accounts. Just ensure that unprotected laptops, phones and tablets are password locked.
- ### 4 CONSIDER TIME CONTROLS

Even safe internet content can be harmful if it's viewed in excess. Not only are certain apps addictive enough to distract from other duties, but late-night usage can badly disrupt sleep, which is vital for adolescent brain development. Most parental controls offer some kind of time limit – either blocking access at certain hours or capping the number of minutes it can be used per day – so be sure to consider these.
- ### 5 BLOCK APP SPENDING

Seemingly free apps can sometimes include microtransactions: purchases that can be made using real money. While plenty of developers treat these fairly, some companies attempt to manipulate children into paying for additional features or content, which can soon add up to hundreds of pounds if a child gets carried over. Thankfully, iOS and Android's settings allow you to block in-app purchases, preventing any huge bills.
- ### 6 NO CONTROLS ARE PERFECT

Parental controls can be very useful, but they're far from infallible. Some unwise content can and unfortunately will slip through the net, so remember that setting up these measures isn't a substitute for taking an active interest in young people's digital lives. Talk to them, and make sure they're aware of the risks of the internet as well as its benefits.
- ### 7 MIND THE GAPS

There'll undoubtedly be some gaps in parental controls, no matter how thorough you intend to be. For example, if you use router-level parental controls, be in mind that those won't cover WiFi outside the home. For that reason, it's important to keep an open dialogue with children about the many unpalatable aspects of social media and the web.
- ### 8 KEEP THINGS SECURE

Some children can react poorly to parental controls and feel tempted to circumvent them. It's important to ensure that the passwords to these settings remain unknown to children, otherwise they can easily modify the restrictions without you knowing. Similarly, make sure your phone isn't left unlocked and unattended.
- ### 9 REVIEW CONTROLS REGULARLY

Parental controls shouldn't be a 'set and forget' deal. Not only can parental software as you provide you with a frequent overview of a child's digital life – to see you spot any warning signs – but companies often add new features, and some of these may be useful to enable (or disable). Regularly checking in ensures that if a child has found a way to wiggle out of the controls, you'll be the first to know.
- ### 10 KNOW WHEN TO LET UP

The parental controls you install on a computer for a seven-year-old probably wouldn't be appropriate for a child of 16 – and as young people approach adulthood, bubble wrapping the internet can do more harm than good. Consider relaxing parental controls as children get older, so they can learn to manage the risks of the internet themselves, without so many training wheels.

**Meet Our Expert**  
Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist and the former deputy editor of technology and internet culture website Alpha. Now freelance, he has contributed articles to publications including the *New Statesman*, *CNET*, the *Evening Standard*, *Wired*, *Rock Paper Shotgun*, *Glamoza*, *Pocket Gamer*, *Stuff*, *IT Pro*, *Macworld*, *Techno* and *Trustpilot Reviews*.



**#WakeUpWednesday**

**The National College**

Share your ready-made message below



The graphic features the Easyfundraising logo at the top left. A speech bubble on the left contains the text "Have you seen this...?". To the right, a smartphone displays a "Support our school" message with a QR code and a list of retailers including Amazon, eBay, Next, M&S, and others. Below the phone, the text "Support our school for free" is followed by a yellow "Sign up" button. At the bottom, there are three social media sharing buttons: Facebook, Twitter, and WhatsApp.



*P. Blow, Headteacher*