Issue 18 23rd January 2026

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Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week everyone at Merebrook has really enjoyed **Science week**! Our **Early Years** children are discovering the wonders of science through hands on exploration and discovery! From future medics to budding engineers, our youngest learners are asking questions, investigating, and developing their curiosity about the world around them. In **Year 1** we have some future electricians and engineers following their lessons exploring circuits, testing connections, and designing bridges. And finally, in **Year 2**, children have been exploring buoyancy through a fantastic investigation linked to the story 'Lost and Found'! What great learning opportunities for everyone!

Also this week, our **Year 2 children enjoyed a wonderful visit to the local library at Westcroft**, where they were immersed in stories and discovered the magic of reading. We look forward to our Year 1 children having this same experience later next half term.

Photographs of all of the above can be seen on our school Facebook page. Please remember to **follow 'Merebrook Infant School'** for all of the latest news!

Next week, we invite **Year 1 Parents and Carers into school for our celebration of work event on Monday at 2:40pm**. On **Wednesday, we invite Year 2 Parents and Carers into school for our Biscuits and Books event at 2:15pm**. Please enter school via the side hall door for these events.

Have a good weekend!

Mrs White

Executive Headteacher

Requests for SEND referrals

We are currently experiencing a very high number of requests for staff to complete assessment referral forms. In many cases, these forms are being sent to school without any prior discussion with the class teacher, and often for children who are not on the SEND register. **We want to be able to provide the most useful and up-to-date information to support with these referrals.** Therefore, to help us manage this process fairly and ensure that information is completed accurately:

- **Please speak with your child's class teacher before sending any forms into school.** A conversation allows us to understand the concerns and agree the best next steps.
- **We can only complete digital (Word) versions of forms**, not handwritten or PDF copies.
- **A clear timeframe is needed.** External services such as CAMHS previously allowed four weeks for completion, and we will be working to a similar timescale. We will, of course, complete forms sooner where possible.
- If the forms have been requested by a GP, then we need the **GP email address** to send the completed form back to.



Please be aware that school staff are currently receiving a large volume of these requests, and completing forms without the necessary context often leads to unnecessary work when referrals do not progress. If you receive an outcome from a referral, **please ensure you share this with school**, so that we can support your child appropriately and avoid unnecessary repeat referrals.

Thank you for your understanding and for helping us manage teacher workload while ensuring the best support for our pupils.

Golden Book

Wagtails: Ollie and Archie

Robins: Jaya and Toby

Starlings: Oli and Isla

Woodpeckers: Poppy and Harry

Kestrels: Jessica and Afnaan

Finches: Zselkye and Daria



Merebrook

ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

5 DIMENSIONS TRUST

Everyday in school makes a difference to your child's future!

Gates open at 8:30a.m. every day and shut at 8:40a.m. If arriving late, the children must enter through the main reception and sign in. They will be marked as late.

The School Day is 8:40-3:10pm

If your child is late, signed out early or absent, they are missing valuable learning opportunities.

LOST MINUTES = LOST LEARNING





Every child EVERY DAY



Spring Term dates

These dates are for both Merebrook and Emerson Valley unless otherwise indicated. NEW EVENTS IN RED.

19th – 23rd January 2026	**Science Week**
23rd January 2026	**Axolotls Parks Trust trip**
26th January 2026	**Young Voice choir to Birmingham**
28th January 2026	**Year 2 Biscuits with books** parents invited from 2:15 pm Preloved Uniform sale at EVS after school
29th January 2026	**Year 5 trip to Silverstone**
2nd February 2026	**Year 3 celebration of work** Parents invited into school at 3:25pm
4th February 2026	**Year 4 celebration of work** Parents invited into school at 2:45pm
5th February 2026	**Year 6 celebration of work** Parents invited into school at 3:25pm
6th February 2026	**Year 3 Pizza and pyjama party** 5:30-8:30pm
12th February 2026	Friends of EVS meeting online at 6:45pm. All welcome.
3rd March 2026	**Snapdragons to Campbell Park**
4th March 2026	**Cherry Blossoms to Campbell Park**
5th March 2026	**World Book Day**
6th March 2026	**Sunflowers to Campbell Park**
10th and 11th March 2026	**Parent Consultations from 3:40pm**
11th March 2026	Friends of EVS Mother's Day Shop
13th March 2026	**Bluebells to Campbell Park**
17th March 2026	**Robins to Westcroft library**
18th March 2026	**Kestrels to Westcroft library**
20th March 2026	**Red nose day:** non-uniform day **Year 5 pizza party and sleepover** from 5:30pm
25th March 2026	**Year 5 performance to parents** 2:30pm
27th March 2026	**Rocksteady concert to parents** 2pm