Issue 1 5th September 2025

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Newsletter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year at Merebrook! I hope that everyone had an enjoyable summer break and had at least a little sunshine! It has been great to see children happy to be back at school. Everyone has settled into their new classes so quickly and children have already started to master their new classroom routines. Next week, we look forward to welcoming our new Early Years children into school, and then our school community is complete!

After **35 years of dedicated service in schools**, we are saying a huge thank you to **Mrs Jolliffe** as she retires from her role as a teaching assistant. We are delighted that she will continue to support our children as a volunteer with reading. Please join with us in celebrating Mrs Jolliffe's incredible contribution and welcoming her in this new chapter!

As well as new children, **we also welcome Mrs Rusnakova to our school**. Mrs Rusnakova will be teaching across the school on Thursday and will be in Starling Class on a Friday. This week she has been getting to know two new schools, as she is working at Emerson Valley for the remainder of the week.

We are delighted with the work that has taken place at school over the summer break. I am sure that you have noticed the new render and painting at the front of the school. Watch this space for a new design over the coming months! Over the summer, **our school website has also been updated** with new content and photographs. The website address is still the same. Have a look at the wonderful photographs of our lovely school community by clicking here.

In our weekly newsletters, there will be a list of dates for both Emerson Valley and Merebrook Schools. We aim to give Parents and Carers as much notice as possible and in the newsletter next Friday there will be a full list of dates and key events for the remainder of the term. For now, I would like to remind you of our upcoming **'Meet the Teacher' meetings** which will take place after school on Monday 15th September for Year 2 children and on Wednesday 17th September for Year 1 children.

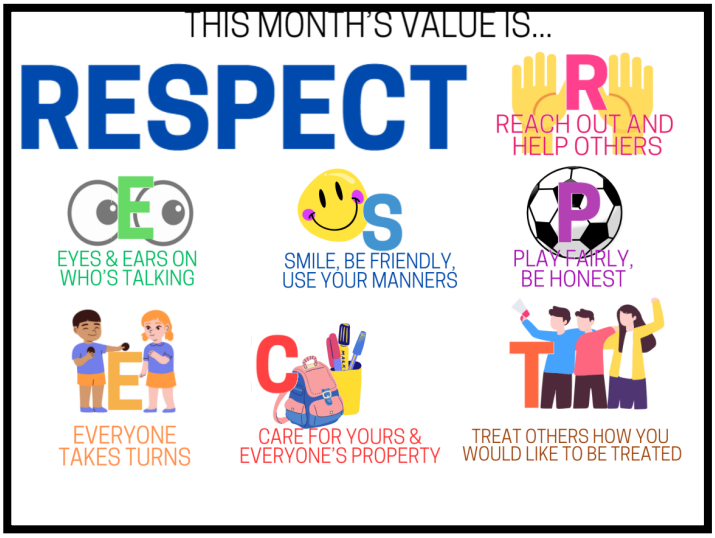
As a reminder, please ensure that your child comes into school in their PE kit on PE days. Days for PE this half term can be seen below.

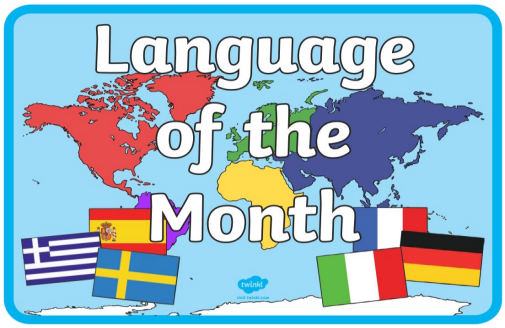
As we head into autumn, we are already seeing lots of changeable weather. **Please ensure that your child has a waterproof coat in school every day** so that children can make the most of being outside whenever possible.

Thank you for your support in getting children in to school on time every day. **Please remember the gates are open from 8:30am to 8:40am every morning.**

Have an enjoyable weekend!

PE days	
Robins (Year 1)	Monday and Thursday
Kestrels (Year 1)	Wednesday and Thursday
Starlings (Year 2)	Thursday and Friday
Finch (Year 2)	Tuesday and Thursday





ENGLISH

Golden Book

Robins: Eleanor and Toby

Kestrels: Lydia and Carla

Starlings: Emma and Feliks

Finches: Lael and Killian



Autumn Term 2025

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

8th September 2025	**Year 6 Meet the Teacher** 3:35-4:00pm
9th September 2025	**Year 5 Meet the Teacher** 3:35-4:00pm
10th September 2025	**Year 4 Meet the Teacher** 3:35-4:00pm
11th September 2025	**Year 3 Meet the Teacher** 3:35-4:00pm
15th September 2025	**Year 2 Meet the Teacher** 3:15-3:45pm
17th September 2024	**Year 1 Meet the Teacher** 3:15-3:45pm



Nurture

Christ the Cornerstone Church

Wednesdays 16:30 –19:00 24th Sept – 3rd Dec

We will be holding an open evening on the 17th Sept from 16:30-19:00
*Where you can pop in and meet us , ask any questions you may have, see the resources and enjoy a cuppa. *Please note if you are unable to attend on the 17th you are still be able to sign up for the course.*

Children are rewarding, stimulating and fun, but looking after them can be stressful and challenging!
These 10 sessions fit together like a puzzle to help deal with the challenges so you can have a calmer, happier life.
The nurture programme created by the Centre for Emotional Health uses these four building blocks of emotionally healthy relationships.

- Self-awareness
- Appropriate expectations
- Empathy
- Positive discipline

Please scan email nicola.skelton@milton-keynes.gov.uk to sign up

Milton Keynes City Council

Follow us on facebook:

Sunshine Family Centre, Merebrook Infant School, Furzton, MK4 1EZ. Tel: 01908 508566

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10:00-11:00 **Story, Songs and Rhymes** Join the Sunshine team at Westcroft Library	**10:00-11:30** **Stay and Play** A play session for under 5's with indoor and outdoor play. Includes a healthy snack and songs and rhymes.	**10:00-11:00** **Messy Play** Lots of opportunities to join in with sensory and creative play. A change of clothes is advised.	**9.30-10.45** **Baby Group** A relaxed session including songs and rhymes. From newborn to non-walkers. **11:15-12:00** **Socatots** Fun *free* football session for walkers to 4 years.	**9.30-10.30** **Walk** Join us for a walk to the local parks **10:30-12:00** **Drop in Café** Hot drinks and snacks available. Everyone welcome!
10:00-12:00 **ESOL** English course for speakers of other languages. **Run by MK College** Contact the centre to book.	**12:00-1:00** **Lunch Club** Join us for a free lunch! Please contact the centre to book. Everyone welcome!	**1:00-2:00** Join the Sunshine team for **Story, Songs and Rhymes** at The Hive, Whitehouse.	**10:00-1:00** **Citizen's Advice** Fortnightly appointments. Book at: Shenley Brook End Parish Council - Citizens Advice Milton Keynes (miltonkeynescab.org.uk)	**10:00-12:00** **Music Bugs** Contact michelle@musicbugs.co.uk to book.
Community Larder **at The Hive Community Centre, Whitehouse and our new Café** Supported by Sunshine **2:00-4:00** ***More info at:*** www.sofea.uk.com Help reduce food waste	**Parenting courses** **Nurture Workshop** **& LIPS course (speech and language)** Contact the centre for more information.	**YMCA Youth Club** **At Sunshine** **3:30-5:30**11-13 years. **6:30-8:30**14-18 years.	**12:30-2:30** **Creative Play: music and song peri- natal mental health session for mums in Milton Keynes.** Scan for details	**Sensory room available Monday and Friday** **9:00-3:00** Contact the centre to book

For families who live in Furzton, Emerson Valley, Shenley Lodge, Shenley Church End, Shenley Wood, Tattenhoe, Tattenhoe Park, Loughton and Loughton Lodge, Crownhill, Kingsmead, Whitehouse, Grange Farm, Oxley Park, Westcroft, Oakhill and Medbourne.

Merebrook and Emerson Valley Schools

Term Dates 2025/2026

Autumn Term 2025	
INSET day – school closed	**Monday 1st September 2025**
INSET day – school closed	**Tuesday 2nd September 2025**
Open on the morning of:	Wednesday 3rd September 2025
Closed at the end of the afternoon of:	Friday 24th October 2025
Half term	Monday 27th October – Friday 31st October 2025
INSET day – school closed	**Monday 3rd November 2025**
Open on the morning of:	Tuesday 4th November 2025
Closed at the end of the afternoon of:	Friday 19th December 2025
Spring Term 2026	
Open on the morning of:	Monday 5th January 2026
Closed at the end of the afternoon of:	Friday 13th February 2026
Half term	Monday 16th – Friday 20th February 2026
Open on the morning of:	Monday 23rd February 2026
Closed at the end of the afternoon of:	Friday 27th March 2026
Summer Term 2026	
Open on the morning of:	Monday 13th April 2026
Closed at the end of the afternoon of:	Friday 22nd May 2026
Half term	Monday 25th May – Friday 29th May 2026
INSET day – school closed	**Monday 1st June 2026**
Open on the morning of:	Tuesday 2nd June 2026
Closed at the end of the afternoon of:	Friday 17th July 2026
INSET day – school closed	**Monday 20th July 2026**