



INFORM



www.emersonvalley.org.uk

parents@emersonvalley.org.uk

(01908) 507914

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we move further into autumn, the weather is becoming very changeable. Where possible, children will be outside at break and lunchtimes and for PE lessons. There are a number of children that are coming into school without a coat. **Please ensure that your child brings a waterproof coat into school every day**, so that they are able to go outside for fresh air whilst at school.

This week a group of **Year 4 girls went to a Netball festival** on Monday at Shenley Brook End School. The girls learnt some new skills, including defending, teamwork and shooting before playing some mini games at the end of the session. Well done to the following children that took part: Amelie M, Izza A, Taya S, Giovanna D, Maddie A, Saly S, Sofia P.

Next week our School Council representatives will be delivering our Harvest collection to the MK Food bank. **Please support this initiative by sending your child in to school on Monday with a can of food (sweet or savoury) that will contribute towards this collection.**

In school we will be marking world **Mental Health Day** on Tuesday with a special assembly led by our SENCo, Mrs Protheroe. All classes will learn about different strategies to help improve their wellbeing. Exercise is one of the activities that supports a healthy mind and it's been great to see that the number of children using the **walking bus** this term has really increased. This stroll across the bridge is a short burst of exercise for those taking part. If you wish your child to join this every morning, or on a more casual basis, just make sure that they are ready to leave the bottom of the bridge outside Merebrook School at 8:40am in the morning. This initiative also helps us to reduce the congestion in our local area at drop off time. We have once again signed up to have the **Child Road Safety bollards** outside our school. They should be delivered today and will be with us until 10th November. **Please take the time to park further away from school, avoiding driveways and road markings, to ensure the safety of your own child and everybody in our school community.**

If you have a child due to start school for the first time next September, or a child due to move into year 3 or year 7 at this time, please see page 2 of this newsletter for details of how to apply for a place. **The deadline for year 6 parents to apply for a place for Secondary school is 31st October 2023 and we have been informed by MK Council that nearly half of year 6 parents have yet to make this application.**

Have an enjoyable weekend,

Mrs White
Executive Headteacher

BBC 500 words competition

The BBC are running their 500 words competition again this year for children aged 5-11. The theme is 'Write a story you would like to read.' There are great prizes including having your story read by a celebrity and lots of books. If your child enjoys writing, this could be the competition for them, particularly with half term just around the corner. The competition opened on the 26th September 2023 and closes on 10th November 2023. All the details and how to enter are on the website <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/500-words>

Happy writing!



GOLD AWARDS

Year 3: Cobey 3JT, Louie 3EM, Harper S 3JP, Oscar 3JR

Year 4: Giovanna 4NB, Nouman 4CM, Harris 4PH, Izza 4BM

Year 5: Poppy 5AR, Ben 5KH, Evie 5LF, Tamarakuro 5LS

Year 6: Charlie 6GB, Kajal 6DC, Noah 6RR, Casey 6AM

PE awards: Denis 4CM, Desmond 4BM



Starting Infant or Junior School in September 2024

Was your child born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020? You need to apply now for their school place.
Was your child born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017? You need to apply for their Year 3 place now.

The Citizens Portal opens on 1 September 2023 for parents and carers to apply online for a primary or junior school place. The closing date is 15th January 2024 and all applications must be made before the closing date to receive a school place offer on 16 April 2024 (national offer day). This information only applies if you want to apply for your child to start school for the first time (children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020) or infant school children moving up to junior school in September 2024 (children attending an infant school who were born between 1 September 2016 and 31 August, 2017). [Apply online here.](#)



MEREVALLEY FEDERATION



OPEN MORNING FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS AND CARERS

28th September 2023
9:30am at Merebrook School and 10:15am at Emerson Valley School



2nd November 2023:
9:30am at Merebrook School and 10:15am at Emerson Valley School

Is your child due to start school in Reception, or are they moving into Year 3 in September 2024?

We are two schools with one shared vision. We welcome parents to visit our schools, meet our Senior Leaders and see our fantastic school sites. We encourage you to visit both schools to see all of our Primary provision.

Our Executive Headteacher will walk with you from Merebrook to Emerson Valley if you would like to visit both schools.

Please make a call to one of our school offices if you would like to book a space on either day.

www.merebrookschool.co.uk tel: (01908) 522876

www.emersonvalley.org.uk tel: (01908) 507914



COMMUNITY, PRIDE, ASPIRE.

Apply online from
1 September 2023 to 31 October 2023

You must apply by
31 October 2023
or you will
have limited choice

Moving up to secondary school in September 2024

As your child is now in Year 6 it is time for you to apply for a secondary school place for September 2024.

You can apply online and find out more information on the council's website at [Starting secondary/upper school in September 2024 | Milton Keynes City Council \(milton-keynes.gov.uk\)](#)

Please read carefully the [Guide for Parents and Carers](#) on our website. To help you understand the likelihood of securing a place at one of your preferred schools, you should make particular note of the 'key facts' section for each school which tells you the cut off point for places offered last year.

Make sure you read the oversubscription criteria for each school that you want to apply for as many schools are oversubscribed each year.

Details of open events for all secondary schools in Milton Keynes are also included in the guide.

Parents and carers can express a preference for four schools.

If you pay your council tax to Milton Keynes Council, apply on our website. If you pay your council tax to another local authority you must apply through that local authority even if you want to apply for a Milton Keynes school.

To access support with making an application, face to face drop-in sessions are available at Milton Keynes Central Library on the following dates between 10.00am - 2.00pm

- 20 September
- 11 October
- 25 October
- 13 December
- 27 September
- 18 October
- 6 December
- 10 January

Following date will start from 11.30am

- 4 October

Find out more at:

[Starting secondary/upper school in September 2024 | Milton Keynes City Council \(milton-keynes.gov.uk\)](#)

Apply here



MK Milton Keynes City Council

M19283 - August 2023



Merevalley Federation: Autumn Term 2023



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

10th October 2023	Year 1 celebration of work time to be confirmed. Parents and Carers invited into school at 2:40pm
11th October 2023	Year 2 History day: Florence and Mary to the Rescue! Year 2 celebration of work at 2:40pm. Parents and Carers invited into school.
16th October 2023	Year 6 celebration of work at 3:25pm. Parents and Carers invited into school.
17th October 2023	Year 5 celebration of work at 3:25pm. Parents and Carers invited into school.
18th October 2023	Year 3 celebration of work at 3:25pm. Parents and Carers invited into school. Year 1 Local area walk (weather permitting)
19th October 2023	Year 4 celebration of work at 2:45pm. Parents and Carers invited into school.
20th October 2023	Last day of this half term.
30th October 2023	INSET day. No children in school.
31st October 2023	Children return to school following half term break
1st November 2023	Friends of EVS Disco after school
2nd November 2023	Prospective EYFS and Year 3 parents open mornings. Book with school office
3rd November 2023	Individual and sibling school photographs for Emerson Valley children
6th November 2023	Parents consultations 3:30-6:00pm
8th November 2023	Parents consultations 4:00-7:00pm
15th November 2023	Individual and sibling photographs for Merebrook children
22nd December 2023	Last day of the autumn term.

TERM DATES 2023-2024

Autumn Term	5th September 2023 – 22nd December 2023
Spring Term	8th January 2024 – 28th March 2024
Summer Term	15th April 2024 – 19th July 2024