



INFORM



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Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of this very busy term I would like to start my final newsletter of 2023 by thanking **all of you for your participation and your positive engagement with the school and your child's learning** throughout this busy autumn term. The year group showcases and performances have been really well attended and children have really enjoyed the opportunity to share their talents with our school community!

Please take a look at page 3 of this newsletter for key dates in the Spring term. This new term is only 11 weeks, so there is lots to squeeze in!

I would also like to thank our **Friends of EVS** who have continued with their fundraising efforts for our school. This week over 600 presents were purchased by children at EVS, which raised over £1000 for our school community. Thank you to the many parents and carers that made this event possible—it really is one of the children's favourites! During the next half term break in February, we will finally see the results of their hard work as 4 outdoor gazebos will be installed on our school field. These will provide outdoor learning spaces for all year groups and important shaded areas for the warmer summer months.

On Wednesday you should have received a letter regarding the **Governing Board's proposal for Merebrook and Emerson Valley Schools to become academies and join the 5 Dimensions Trust.** Please take time to consider the FAQs sent with this, and respond to the consultation before 12th January 2024 if you have any comments or questions.

Well done to our **overall house point winners this term Jupiter.** Over the course of this term, 12,797 points have been collectively earned by everyone in Jupiter. What a fantastic achievement!

Today we say goodbye to Mr Mortimer-Fox and we all wish him lots of luck in his new role. In the new term we welcome Mrs Gemma Smith to teach 5LF on Fridays, and Mrs Jenny Brookes as a Teaching Assistant based in Year 3.

Children return to school for the start of the spring term on **Monday 8th January 2024.**

Mrs White
Executive Headteacher



GOLD AWARDS

Year 3: Takuma 3JT, Oscar 3EM, Joel 3JP, Lena 3JR

Year 4: Hannah 4CM, Yousaf 4PH, Scarlett 4NB, Bella 4BM

Year 5: Millie 5AR, Kritika 5LF, Xenia 5LS, Naomi 5KH

Year 6: Joshua 6RR, Aysha 6DC, Paris 6AM, Nancy 6GB

PE awards: Veronica 3EM, Ebuka 5LS, Lorena 6AM, Olivia 3JR

Music Awards: Cole 4CM, Jackson 6GB



School Council tree planting

On Friday last week we had Councillor Saleena Raja come into school with Wayne Palmer to plant 2 more oak trees on our school field. Our School Councillors and 2 Year 6 Junior Park Rangers supported them with this and they thoroughly enjoyed taking part and getting muddy! Hopefully by the summer when we are on the field again, we'll see a small growth improvement. Interesting fact: Oak trees take up to 40 years to fully grow!



Save the Children
**CHRISTMAS
JUMPER DAY**

Thank you for your donations. **We raised £270 across the Federation for this worthwhile cause!**

Our value for JANUARY is...

Quality

People have different qualities:

enthusiastic
resilient
generous
independent
kind
happy
sensible
honest
outspoken
motivated
positive
reflective
confident

You also may need to show neat, **quality** work in your lessons with good presentation.



You may be excellent in a certain sport, therefore you will be a **quality** player.



Visiting the local community

From Paris (6AM) and Nikoleta (6GB):

On Wednesday the School Council reps visited Hungerford House care home. We read our favourite books to the residents and then chatted with them. Mr Mortimer-Fox challenged us to find out as much as we could about them, it was great fun!



Merevalley Federation: Spring term 2024

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



8th January 2024	All children return to school
16th January 2024	Year 6 parents SATS information evening at 5pm
17th January 2024	EYFS and new Merebrook parents Reading & Phonics workshop at 8:55am
24th & 26th January 2024	Year 5 classes Parks Trust trip
29th January 2024	Year 6 to Bletchley Park
30th January 2024	Young Voices Choir to the O2
5th February 2024	Children's Mental Health week
6th February 2024	Sibling photographs taken at Merebrook Safer Internet Day
7th February 2024	Year 1 celebration of work at 2:45pm Year 4 celebration of work at 3:35pm
8th February 2024	SENCo coffee afternoon at Merebrook
12th February 2024	Year 6 celebration of work at 2:45p.m
14th February 2024	Year 2 celebration of work at 2:45pm Year 3 celebration of work at 3:25pm
15th February 2024	Random Acts of Kindness Day Year 5 celebration of work at 3:25pm
16th February 2024	INSET day. School closed to pupils.
19th—23rd February 2024	Half term break
26th February 2024	Year 3 and Year 4 Reading workshop 3:30-4:15pm
27th February 2024	EYFS celebration of work afternoon 1:30pm
4th —8th March 2024	Year 6 Mock SATS week
4th March 2024	Year 5 and Year 6 Reading workshop 3:30-4:15pm
6th March 2024	Karen Littlewood author visit to Merebrook Friends of EVS Mother's Day shop
7th March 2024	World Book Day
11th—15th March 2024	Science Week
18th March 2024	Parents' consultations 3:30-6:00pm
20th March 2024	Parents' consultations 4:00-7:00pm
21st March 2024	Friends of EVS Discos after school

TERM DATES 2023-2024

Spring Term	8th January 2024 – 28th March 2024
Summer Term	15th April 2024– 19th July 2024