

END OF YEAR

Newsletter Edition

Friday 25th July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another busy and successful school year, I wanted to take this opportunity to reflect on all that we have achieved together and to thank you for your continued support.

This year has been filled with learning, growth and a wonderful sense of community. Our pupils have worked incredibly hard, not just in their academic studies but also in developing their confidence, creativity and kindness. From classroom learning to school trips, performances, sporting events and themed days, it has been a joy to see our children thrive and enjoy their primary school experience.

I am immensely proud of our staff team, whose dedication and care make such a difference every day. Their commitment ensures that every child feels valued, supported and challenged to be the best they can be.

To our Year 6 pupils who are preparing to move on to secondary school; congratulations on everything you have accomplished. You leave us with fond memories and we are confident you will continue to shine in your next chapter.

I would also like to thank you - our families - for your ongoing encouragement, involvement and trust. The strong partnership between home and school is what makes our community so special.

We say goodbye to a few members of staff this year and we wish them well in their next adventures. I am pleased to share that we have not needed to recruit any class teachers for September as our wonderful team will remain.

Finally, I hope that you all enjoy a safe, restful and happy summer holiday. We look forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Wednesday 3rd September** refreshed and ready for a new year of learning.

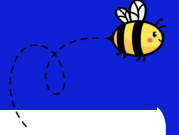
We kindly ask all parents to take a few moments to read the following pages of this newsletter, as they contain essential updates and reminders. Inside, you'll find information about attendance, upcoming PTA events, exciting classroom projects, uniform expectations and important changes to our arrival procedures aimed at improving student safety for next year. Your attention to these details helps us create a supportive and well-organised environment for all students.

Kindest regards, Ms. Chapman



ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL

2025-2026



From September, we will only have one gate open at drop off and pick up times. Essentially, this is to keep our site as secure as possible during these extremely busy periods of the school day. I am sure you will fully support school with safeguarding all of our pupils and families. Also, a few extra steps can't be a bad thing!

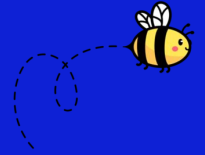


Entrance and Exit

Entrance after 08:45. Access to the school office during the day.

ATTENDANCE

2025-2026



We all know that good attendance has a direct impact on good outcomes. As a school we are trying to support all our pupils and families to attend school everyday. From September we will be running a number of incentives to support our vision that 'Attendance Matters'. Please help us with our mission to make our attendance the best in Blackpool.

- The best weekly class attendance earns the class a milkshake
- The best termly class attendance earns the class a free lunch (eg. McDonalds), a trip to Chester Zoo or an ice-cream van at school.
- For every full week in school, each pupil will receive a raffle ticket. Tickets will be drawn at the end of each term. Available prizes are a stunt scooter, VR headset, Kindle and Xbox.



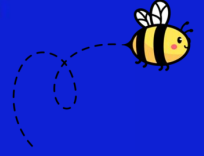
Attendance Ladder

How close is your child to 100%?

0 days off school	100%	Perfection
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%	Excellent
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%	Good
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%	Slight Concern
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%	Concerned
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%	Very Concerned

EXCITING PROJECTS

2025-2026



The Studio: We're excited to share that our school will soon be opening a brand new space called **The Studio** – a dedicated, specialist learning area for **Art and Design**. This inspiring environment has been thoughtfully designed to foster creativity, exploration, and hands-on learning. The Studio will provide students with enhanced opportunities to develop their artistic skills using a wide range of materials and techniques. We can't wait to see the incredible work that will be created in this dynamic new space!

The Studio



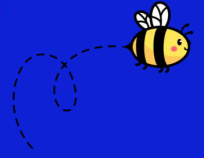
The Innovation Lab



In addition to The Studio, we're thrilled to announce the launch of our new **Innovation Lab** – a dynamic space dedicated to **STEM and Science learning**. This cutting-edge environment will empower students to explore science, technology, engineering, and mathematics through hands-on experiments, collaborative projects, and real-world problem-solving. The Innovation Lab is designed to spark curiosity, encourage innovation, and support the development of critical thinking skills that are essential for the future.

EXCITING PROJECTS

2025-2026



We're also delighted to share some exciting news about our school library. After relocating and redesigning the space, we have **tripled its size**, creating a vibrant and welcoming environment that reflects the importance of reading in our school. Following a student vote, our new library will be called **The Reading Realms** – a name that captures the imagination and adventure found in books. We look forward to officially opening The Reading Realms to our **parental community** in the next academic year, and can't wait for you to experience this inspiring space alongside your children.

The Reading Realms

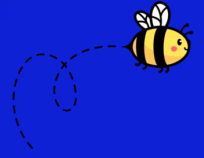


We're proud to share that we are working towards becoming a **Blackpool and The Fylde College Partner School**. This exciting partnership will open up new opportunities for our **parental community**, giving you access to **fully funded training and courses** delivered right here at **Mereside Primary School**. Whether you're looking to gain new skills, explore career options, or return to education, this initiative is designed to support your personal and professional growth. We look forward to sharing more details with you in **September**.



EXCITING PROJECTS

2025-2026



We're excited to share that our EYFS will continue to deliver the **Curiosity Approach** an inspiring way of working that draws on the best early years practice from around the world. Rooted in curiosity, awe and wonder, this approach focuses on creating calm, beautiful spaces filled with open-ended, natural resources that spark imagination, exploration, and independent learning. We look forward to creating magical environments where your children can thrive and discover the joy of learning every day.



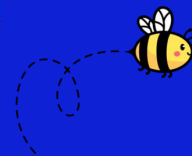
Class Dojo will have important announcements and updates about your child's learning journey throughout the week.

Next year will see Mereside Primary Academy become part of the British Beekeeping Association. We will have our own bee hives and we will be producing our own honey for our school and the local community. Bees are crucial for global food security and eco-system health. I hope you will be as excited as we are for this exciting project. Please keep your 'Beedy Eyes' open for more information in the coming months.



EXCITING PROJECTS

2025-2026



TRIPS and VISITS

This academic year we have been successful in attaining a grant from the Clore Duffield foundation. We are one of six schools in the country that have been awarded this grant. This grant will mean that all pupils from Reception to year 6 will be able to access 6 off site trips to support their learning in class.

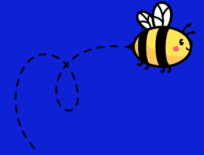
There will be no cost to our families for any of these trips! More information will be shared about the trips for your child's class during the meet the teacher sessions in September. For each individual trip, information will be shared about dates and times. As a reminder, behaviour of all pupils needs to model Safe, Kind and Ready in order for them to represent school out on these trips.

In the meantime, please see the table below for the trips we applied for and the ones that are already organised.

If you would be interested in volunteering to support school trips, please let Mrs Lydon know in September.

R	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
Bring yer Wellies	Bowland Wild Boar Park	Judges Lodgings	Hindu Temple	Lakeland Oasis	Gurdwara	Blackpool Tower & Circus, Showtown
Panto	Panto	Panto	Elf	Elf	Theatre TBC	Theatre TBC
Blackpool Tower & Circus	Blackpool Tower & Circus	Brockhole	Ribchester Roman	OAA adventure day	Manchester Science and Industry Museum	Spitfire Centre
Farmer Parris	Showtown	Blackpool Tower & Circus	Grundy Art Gallery	Showtown, Blackpool Tower and circus	OAA adventure day	Liverpool Gallery Visit
Showtown	Blackpool Zoo	Mosque	Manchester University Museum	Liverpool World Museum	Jodrell Bank	Beach School Visit
Mereside Windmill	Synagogue	Beach visit	Skipton Castle	Church Visit	Showtown, Blackpool Tower and circus	TBC - London visit (dependent of date)

THANKYOU AND FAREWELL



Ms. Walpole: "I have made the difficult decision to semi-retire so that I have more time to relax and look after myself following my operation last year. I will still be supporting children with their education part-time, in a variety of schools and roles, so I am looking forward to being able to get back working in September, but in a less demanding role. I have enjoyed getting to know the families at Mereside and have many delightful memories of the children and their parents/carers. I will also miss the wonderful, hardworking staff at Mereside, who work tirelessly to give the children a great school experience. I am sorry to go, but I am moving into the next stage of my life 'old age'" Thanks Jane

Ms. Wilkinson: As we come to the end of the school year, we would like to say a heartfelt thank you and goodbye to Ms. Wilkinson, who has been our wonderful Reception class teacher this year. Ms. Wilkinson has brought warmth, creativity and care to her classroom, helping our youngest learners grow in confidence and curiosity. We are so grateful for all she has contributed to the Mereside community and wish her every success and happiness in her next chapter. She will be greatly missed by children, families and staff alike.

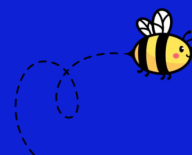
Mr. Tomes: We would also like to extend a warm thank you and farewell to Mr. Tomes, who has been a valued member of our team for many years. Throughout his time at Mereside, Mr. Tomes has played a key role in supporting PE across the school, inspiring children to enjoy physical activity and helping to build staff confidence in delivering high-quality PE lessons. His dedication, energy and passion for sport have made a lasting impact on both pupils and colleagues. We wish him all the very best in his next adventure – he will always be part of the Mereside family.

Miss Brit: We'd also like to say a big thank you and goodbye to Ms Brit, who has supported us with dance lessons and show preparations over the past year. Her creativity, enthusiasm, and dedication have brought so much joy to our pupils, helping them express themselves through movement and shine on stage during performances. Ms Brit has played a special role in building confidence and teamwork through dance, and her energy will be greatly missed. We wish her all the very best for the future and thank her for the positive impact she's made at Mereside

Miss. Mathews: We'd like to give a special thank you and farewell to Ms Mathews, our wonderful Nursery class teacher. Her enthusiasm, warmth, and kindness have created a nurturing and joyful environment where our youngest children have felt safe, happy and excited to learn. Ms Mathews has brought such positivity to Mereside, and her caring nature has left a lasting impression on both children and families. We are incredibly grateful for all she has done and wish her every happiness and success in her next chapter.

Miss. Holmes We would also like to say a heartfelt thank you to Ms. Holmes, who has been a dedicated and valued HLTA supporting classes across the school. Her flexibility, calm presence and commitment to helping children succeed have made a real difference wherever she has worked. Whether stepping into classrooms, leading learning, or supporting pupils one-on-one, Ms Holmes has always brought care and professionalism to her role. We are truly grateful for all her hard work and wish her all the very best for the future.

THANKYOU AND FAREWELL



Miss. Smith: We'd also like to say a big thank you and farewell to Ms. Smith, who has supported our school through her role as PPA cover, working with children across different classes and areas of the curriculum. Her flexibility, dedication, and positive approach have made her a valued part of our team, and she has built lovely relationships with pupils across the school. Whether teaching in the classroom or supporting wider school life, Ms. Smith has always brought enthusiasm and care to her work. We wish her all the very best in her next steps and thank her for everything she's contributed to Mereside.

Mrs. Tucker: We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks and best wishes to Ms. Tucker, who has been a teaching assistant working across the school. Her calm, supportive nature and dedication to helping children thrive have made a lasting impact in every classroom she's been part of. Whether working one-to-one, in small groups, or supporting whole-class learning, Ms. Tucker has always brought kindness, patience and professionalism to her role. She will be truly missed by staff and pupils alike, and we wish her every success and happiness in the future.

Miss. Simpson: We would like to give a very special thank you and farewell to Ms. Simpson, who has been a fantastic teaching assistant in our Early Years and Reception class for a number of years. Her gentle, caring approach and deep understanding of how young children learn have made her a treasured part of our early years team. Ms. Simpson has supported countless children during their first steps into school life, helping them feel safe, valued, and ready to learn. She will be greatly missed by staff, children, and families alike, and we wish her every happiness in the future.

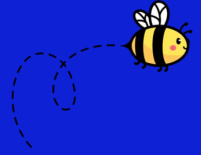
Mrs Hall and Mrs. Dean: who has supported us as a teaching assistant prior to their own maternity covers. Their kindness and positive attitude have been greatly appreciated across the school.

Mrs Maddiss-Griffiths (Chloe): Our heartfelt thanks to Mrs Maddiss-Griffiths whose 1 year contract with us is coming to an end from the Charity work through School Home Support Services. Her support, hard work and dedication to our families has been amazing this year and we will miss her very much. Wishing Chloe all the very best wherever her path now takes her.

Students: As the school year comes to a close, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you to all our students for their hard work and enthusiasm. A special farewell goes to our Year 6 cohort as they prepare to leave Mereside and begin their exciting journey at high school. We also send our best wishes to children moving on to specialist provision and those who are relocating out of the area. Wherever your path takes you next, we are proud of all you have achieved and wish you every success for the future.

UNIFORM

2025-2026



At Mereside Primary Academy, we believe that wearing school uniform plays an important role in creating a positive, focused and inclusive learning environment. When children wear uniform, it helps them feel part of our school community, removes distractions and supports a strong sense of equality and belonging. It also allows every child to start the day on an equal footing, ready to learn and succeed.

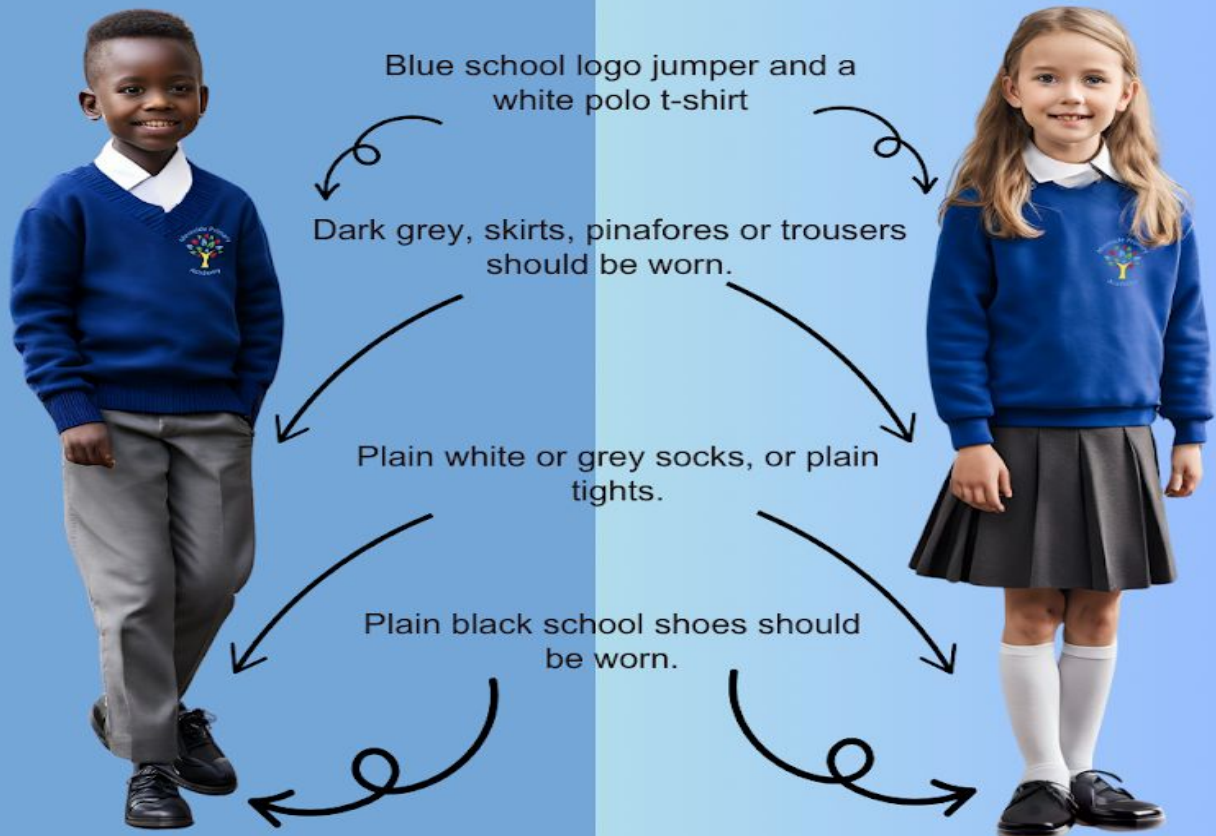
To support our high expectations across the school, we want to remind families that **non-uniform days will now only take place for special, themed events that are planned in advance** such as for World Book Day and Christmas Jumper Day. This ensures consistency and maintains the purposeful atmosphere that benefits all learners.

From September onwards children will **no longer wear non-uniform on their birthdays**. Instead, we will celebrate birthdays in a special way with announcements across school and recognition in class. This change helps us maintain high standards while still making each child feel valued on their special day.

We thank you for your continued support in helping us create the best possible environment for all children to thrive.

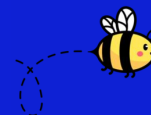
Mereside Uniform Be Ready to Learn

School Uniform



PTFA EVENTS

2025-2026

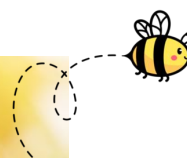


PTA ANNOUNCEMENT

Our newly formed PTA have their first fundraising event all planned. For the first two weeks of September we are asking pupils and families to donate 2Ps. We are going to try and make a MILE of 2Ps.

Please try and support this event with all monies raised going back to our pupils.

Look under your sofas, look in your cars, raid your piggy banks or keep your eyes peeled for 2Ps on your way to school. Every 2P counts.



PTA FUNDRAISER



Our first PTA fundraising event starts week commencing 1st September 2025. Pupils and families will have two weeks to donate 2Ps to school. We are going to try and make a MILE of 2Ps.

FIRST TWO WEEKS OF SEPTEMBER
Mereside Primary Academy



A mile of 2Ps

