

NEWSLETTER

Learning Together, Achieving Together

Friday 23rd May 2025



A brilliant week at Mereside!

Parent Teacher Association - we are looking to start our own PTA for the school which will benefit all members of our community. We would like to increase parental engagement and involvement and would like to encourage those parents who feel like they would like to be part of the team to complete this expression of interest form: [PTA Link](#). We will then arrange a coffee morning to discuss this exciting initiative further in the coming weeks.

A special surprise - on Monday 2nd of June we have Phil Earle coming to visit Mereside for an Author visit and book signing. The school will pay for each child from Year 3 - Year 6 to have their own copy of his new book. We are all very excited to have such a special visitor!



Half term holidays - I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a lovely half term holidays with your families. School re opens on **Monday 2nd of June** where we look forward to welcoming all the children back to the Summer Term

Kindest regards, Ms. Chapman

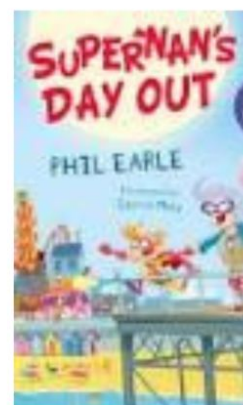
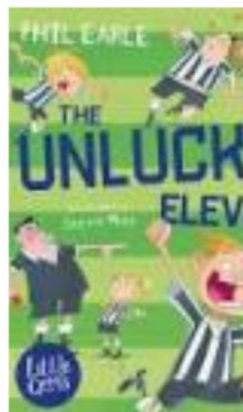
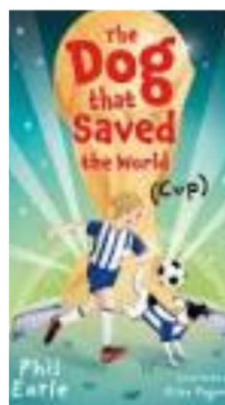
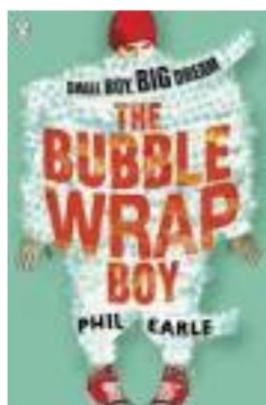
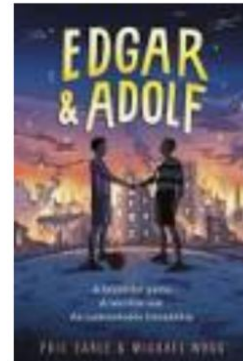
ATTENDANCE MATTERS!

Whole School 91.7%

Rec	80%	2R	94%	3B	89%	5M	92%
1M	93%	2P	88%	4D	93%	5D	93%
1G	90%	3D	93%	4B	99%	6B	92%

Every child ✓
In school ✓
On time ✓
Every day ✓

WE ARE VERY LUCKY TO HAVE THE AMAZING, AWARD WINNING AUTHOR PHIL EARLE COMING TO SCHOOL TO TELL US ALL ABOUT HIS NEW BOOK 'DAWN OF THE ADONIS'. PHIL WILL BE JOINING US ON MONDAY 2ND JUNE. WE ARE VERY LUCKY AND EXCITED TO BE ABLE TO SHARE THIS WITH THE CHILDREN.



THE MERESIDE WAY

Above and Beyond!

Rayna 3D Sophie 3D Archie 4B Amber 2R, Oscar 1G, Reggie 1G,
Cillian Rec, Kaiden Rec, Dottie Rec, ILona Rec, Sallie Rec, Mason Rec,
Ruya 5D, Daniel 5D, Jasmine 5D, **Scarlett 2P**, Rico 2P, Lillie 2P, Archie
2P, Sophie 3D, IJ 4B, Maggie 5M

Wow! So many purple stars this week! Well done to all the children listed above for being recognised as being above and beyond in school this week.

Important Reminders

Please do remember to provide your child with a water bottle each day so they can stay properly hydrated throughout the day and during this hot spell.



Year 1

Starts Monday 9th of June



**Phonics
Screening Check**

OUR STARS OF THE WEEK



Reception	Della-Rae for working so hard in her phonics sessions and keeping on trying when finding things tricky.
1M	Alankritha for super effort in phonics.
1G	Roux for trying really hard with his sounding out.
2R	Imogen - For always doing the right thing. She works super hard all the time and will always help others who may need it.
2P	Karlson- For excellent work whilst learning all about Time in Maths!
3B	Luke – for showing fantastic bowling skills in PE and for being a kind and caring friend to everyone in 3B, always looking out for those who need a helping hand.
3D	Rayna- for always showing the Mereside way, doing her best and being kind.
4B	Poppy for her creativity and care in her work across all areas of the curriculum. This week she has produced a beautiful yellow brick road reflecting the 8 fold path from Buddhism. Her art work always shines through and shows a real love for learning. Well done.
4D	IJ for being an outstanding member of 4D, always doing the right thing, following the Mereside way and being a kind and caring member of the class.
5M	Lacey - For having a brilliant week in class and showing resilience in times of confrontation! Keep up the good work!
5D	Charley - for always going above and beyond in everything she does!
6B	Lucas - for always representing the school and exemplary behaviour.



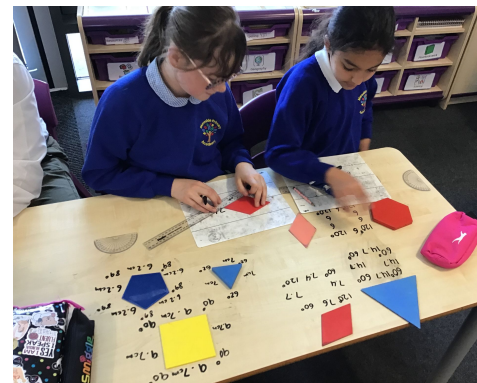
CURRICULUM SPOTLIGHT

Year 5

We have had a brilliant week in year 5! The children have been reading *The Lost Happy Endings*, and this week they have written prequels to the story. In maths, the children have started their new unit of shape and angles, and have been measuring them with protractors.

The children have loved computing! They have started a unit on Micro:Bits and have been using their programming skills to design their own images.

To celebrate how hard the children have worked this half term, we also had our reward afternoon! 5D celebrated with a movie afternoon, whilst 5M played sports outside.





Children are thoroughly enjoying their phonics lessons. They love working with Fred the frog and are making fantastic progress! Here is some information on what children are learning in each group...

Red Group

In this group, we are able to confidently use and apply all of our Set 1 single sounds to read words.

We should be able to read words with 'Special Friends' and 4-sound words with 'Fred Talk.'

We are beginning to read some words 'speedily' containing sounds from Set 1, including words with 'Special Friends'.

We are beginning to learn about 'nonsense words', these are pretend words that have no meaning but are decodable.

We are beginning to learn the Set 2 sounds. We will read longer words containing these 'Special Friends'.

We are also expected to use our 'Fred Fingers' to help us spell words.

Green Group

In this group, we are able to confidently use and apply all of our Set 1 single sounds to read words.

We are beginning to read some words 'speedily' containing sounds from Set 1, including words with 'Special Friends'.

We are able to read 4 and 5 sound words 'speedily'.

We can confidently read 'nonsense words', these are pretend words that have no meaning but are decodable.

We are learning all Set 2 sounds and can read longer words with up to 5 sounds, including 'Special Friends' from Set 1 and 2.

We are also expected to use our 'Fred Fingers' to help us spell words.

Purple Group

In this group, we are able to confidently use and apply all of our Set 1 and 2 sounds to read words.

We are able to read words 'speedily' containing sounds from Set 1 and 2, including words with 'Special Friends'.

We are focussing on reading words with the first six Set 2 sounds: ay, ee, igh, ow, oo, oo.

We can confidently read 'nonsense words', these are pretend words that have no meaning but are decodable.

We are learning all Set 2 sounds and can read longer words with up to 5 sounds, including 'Special Friends' from Set 1 and 2.

We are also expected to use our 'Fred Fingers' to help us spell words.

Pink Group

In this group, we are able to confidently use and apply all of our Set 1 and 2 sounds to read words.

We are able to read longer words 'speedily' containing sounds from Set 1 and all of Set 2, including words with 'Special Friends'.

We can confidently read 'nonsense words', these are pretend words that have no meaning but are decodable.

We are learning all Set 2 sounds and we can apply our knowledge of these to read words.

We are also expected to use our 'Fred Fingers' to help us spell words.



Orange Group



We can read previously taught words, confidently, containing Set 1 and Set 2 sounds speedily.

We are showing confidence with reading words containing the first six Set 3 sounds:

ea, oi, a-e, i-e, o-e, u-e.

We learning our Set 3 sounds and learning to identify these sounds in longer words.

We can confidently read 'nonsense words', these are pretend words that have no meaning but are decodable.

We are also expected to use our 'Fred Fingers' to help us spell words.



Yellow Group



We can read previously taught words, confidently, containing Set 1 and Set 2 sounds speedily.

We are confident reading words containing the first six Set 3 sounds speedily:

ea, oi, a-e, i-e, o-e, u-e.

We learning our Set 3 sounds and learning to identify these sounds in longer words.

We can confidently read 'nonsense words', these are pretend words that have no meaning but are decodable.

We are also expected to use our 'Fred Fingers' to help us spell words.



Blue Group



We can read previously taught words, confidently, containing Set 1 and Set 2 sounds speedily.

We are confident reading words containing all the Set 3 sounds speedily:

ea, oi, a-e, i-e, o-e, u-e, aw, are, ur, er, ow, ai, oa, ew, ire, ear, ure, au, ie, e-e, oe, ph, wh, y, ue, kn, tious, tion, cious.

We can read up to 70 words per minute, attempting to read with intonation and to show comprehension of the text that is being read.

We can confidently read 'nonsense words', these are pretend words that have no meaning but are decodable.



Grey Group



We can read previously taught words, confidently, containing Set 1 and Set 2 sounds speedily.

We are confident reading words, including multi-syllabic words containing all the Set 3 sounds speedily:

ea, oi, a-e, i-e, o-e, u-e, aw, are, ur, er, ow, ai, oa, ew, ire, ear, ure, au, ie, e-e, oe, ph, wh, y, ue, kn, tious, tion, cious.

We can read up to 90 words per minute, attempting to read with intonation and to show comprehension of the text that is being read.

We can confidently read 'nonsense words', these are pretend words that have no meaning but are decodable.



Children who are starting out on phonics are learning how to read sounds.



Set 1a



In this group, we are still learning how to read the following sounds and apply this to our reading:
m, a, s, d, t, i, n, p, g, o

We are learning how to blend words containing these sounds;

c/a/t = cat d/o/g = dog h/a/t = hat

We do **not** focus on letter names, only the sounds.



Set 1b



In this group, we are still learning how to read the following sounds and apply this to our reading:
c, k, u, b, f,

We are confident with these sounds and we are able to blend words with these sounds;
m, a, s, d, t, i, n, p, g, o

We are learning how to blend words containing these sounds;

b/u/s = bus k/i/t = kit f/u/n = fun

We do **not** focus on letter names, only the sounds.



Set 1c



In this group, we are still learning how to read the following sounds and apply this to our reading:
e, l, h, r, j, v, y, w, z, x

We are confident with these sounds and we are able to blend words with these sounds;
m, a, s, d, t, i, n, p, g, o, c, k, u, b, f,

We are learning how to blend words containing these sounds;

b/o/x = box j/i/g = jig l/e/t = let

We do **not** focus on letter names, only the sounds.



Ditty



In this group, we are able to confidently use and apply all of our Set 1 single sounds to read words speedily.

We are learning to use our 'Special Friends' to read longer words.

We are focussing solely on the following sounds:
ch, sh, th, ck, ng, nk, ff, ll, ss, qu

f/i/ll = fill qu/i/l/t = quilt ch/i/ck = chick sh/i/p = ship

READING CORNER

In our continued drive to promote the love of reading at Mereside Primary Academy, this half term we would like you and your child to create a 'Reading River'!

Reading Rivers support children in not only recalling and reflecting on all the things they have read but also offer teachers insights into what children are reading for pleasure when not in school and providing a great opportunity for sharing that love of reading. Reading Rivers show the journey of reading over a set time, in this case, the half-term.

Essentially, it is a personalised list, in the shape of a river's journey, with all the things you read marked along it. What extra information you add to it is up to you! You can add details to your Reading River through writing, drawing or using pictures and labels (see examples for ideas). As well as the story or non-fiction books you might read, you may also include things from the following list of ideas:

- Newspapers and magazines -
- Road signs, maps
- Cereal boxes, menus - Instructions and manuals -
- Online reading, gaming menus, social media
- E-books or audio books
- Cards



You might add where you read these things or what you learn from them. Please bring in your creations after the half term break.

The choice is yours! Be inventive, creative, read lots, have fun! Miss Dootson will have prizes for the most creative and full reading rivers... and they will be on display in the library!



READING ★ CORNER ★



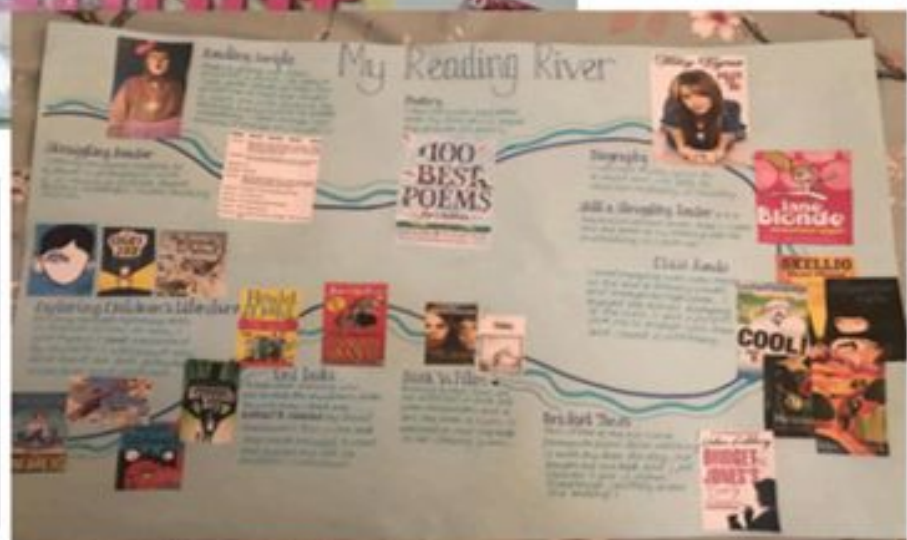
Here are some examples of 'Reading Rivers'. They can contain as much information as you want or just the titles of the things you have read.

You can include drawings and pictures if you choose or it could just be based on a written account.



Google 'Reading Rivers' for more information and examples.

It can be colourful, bright and imaginative but don't forget the information about what you've read!



School Events 2024-25

May 2025

Mon 5th	Bank Holiday (School closed)
Mon 12th / Thurs 13th	Y6 SATs week. (National testing)
Mon 26th - Fri 30th	Half Term holidays (School closed)

June 2025

Mon 2nd	School Re Opens
Mon 9th	Y4 Multiplication Check (National testing)
Mon 9th	Y1 Phonics Screening starts (National testing)
Mon 16th - Fri 20th	Blackpool Youth Games (Variety of sports competitions)
Fri 20th	World Music Day

July 2025

Wed 2nd	Parents Quiz Night
tbc	High School Transition Day (Year 6)
tbc	Moving Up Day
Thurs 10th	End of Year Reports
Mon 21st	Nursery Graduation
Tues 22nd	Whole School Awards Ceremony

July 2025

Wed 23rd	Y5/6 Production 2.00pm
Thurs 24th	Y5/6 Production 9.30am
Thurs 24th	Y6 Leavers Event tbc
Fri 25th	School Closes at 1.30pm

We have an exciting opportunity to become part of our school community through the formation of a Parent-Teacher Association (PTA)



Gauging Interest in Forming a PTA

As we explore the possibility of establishing a PTA at Mereside Primary Academy, we are keen to gauge the interest and enthusiasm among our parents and carers. A PTA can play a significant role in enhancing the educational experience of our students by fostering collaboration between parents, teachers, and the school community.

The Purpose and Benefits of a PTA.

A PTA could offer numerous benefits, including:

- **Supporting School Initiatives:** By working together, a PTA can help raise funds for school resources, extracurricular activities, and special projects.
- **Strengthening Community Ties:** Building a strong school community by facilitating communication and collaboration between parents and staff.
- **Providing a Voice:** Offering a platform for parents to voice their ideas and concerns regarding school policies and initiatives.

Expressing Your Interest

- **Express Your Interest in the PTA:** We invite you to indicate your interest in joining our PTA by completing this expression of interest form: <https://forms.gle/P5J9MMMaVhWE8nZL9> a copy will also be sent out via MCAS so please look out for this.
- **Information Session:** Based on the responses, we may organise an informal meeting or coffee morning to discuss the formation of the PTA further.
- **Stay Informed:** Keep an eye out for updates regarding the next steps in this exciting initiative.

We believe that with your support, we can create a vibrant and impactful PTA that benefits all members of our school community. If you have any questions or would like more information, please feel free to contact **Mrs Taylor-Royston** or **Mrs Lydon** by email at **admin@mereside.fcat.org.uk** or telephone **01253 761531**.

Thank you for considering this opportunity to enhance our school community. We look forward to your feedback and involvement.

FUNDED BY
YOUR WARD
CLLRS

MERESIDE AFTERSCHOOL FOREST SESSION

FAMILY
FRIENDLY
SESSIONS

EVERY TUESDAY STARTING FROM
7TH MAY TO 15TH JULY

15:15AM TO 4:45PM

MEETING AT MERESIDE PARK
(///GATHER.EXPORT.SPRINT)

Suitable for children aged 2-13.

TERM TIME ONLY!

ACTIVITIES:

- Bush craft skills
- Den building
- Woodworking
- Arts and Crafts
- Outdoor games
- Storytelling
- & More

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