Year 6 Coffee Morning

Tuesday 7th September 2026

Meet the team

Teachers:

Mrs Earl-Spencer and Mrs Davies

Additional adults:

Mrs Annie

Mrs Khan

Miss Ashleigh

Miss Grant (Student teacher)

School Start and Finish times

- Drop off is 8:45 - 9:00 a.m.
- Class registration at 9:00 a.m.
- Pick up is at 3:15 p.m.
- The children are dismissed from outside of the school office.
- If they are walking home alone, we must have written permission for this year.

School Day

Uniform: White polo shirt, dark grey trousers/skirt or shorts and school jumper. Grey pinafores and school summer dresses are also acceptable uniform. Summer dresses can be worn from after the Easter holidays until October half term.

PE Kit: House coloured t-shirt, black shorts, trainers; black jogger bottoms for cold weather. Children should arrive in school wearing their PE kit on their PE days which are Monday (inside) and Wednesday (outside). These days may change each term and you will be informed about the new days in the termly newsletter.

Pencil Case: These are not compulsory as all the stationary needs will be provided for all children in school. If you wish to provide a pencil case, and your child is in Key Stage 2, please make sure they are sensible with just the equipment they will need.

Packed Lunch: If you wish to send your child with a packed lunch then please ensure that you provide healthy options only; such as sandwich, pasta, fruit, cheese, and so on. For safety reasons, please follow guidelines for pre-cutting grapes.

We area 'Nut Aware' school therefore: **nuts or nut products are not allowed in school (including chocolate spread and sesame seeds).** The following are also **NOT** allowed: fizzy drinks, glass bottles, chocolate bars or chocolate covered biscuits.

Snack: A piece of fruit or vegetable can be brought in for break time.

Water: All children should bring a water bottle to school to make sure they stay hydrated throughout the day. It is advisable that this is cleaned and refreshed daily.

Homework!

Homework this year is going to be sent out on Google Classroom. We will have a refresher on how to use it. A paper copy is always available on request.

It will be assigned on a Friday and must be turned in by the following Wednesday

Weekly: Maths, grammar and reading.

Reading: As part of their homework, your child should be reading for at least 20 minutes every night and a comment about their reading made in their homework diaries. Reading diaries will be checked on Fridays.

TTRS: We also ask children to spend a bit of time practising their times tables using their school Times Tables Rockstars account. They will need to go on at least once a week but they are encouraged to do more. They will get a house point every time they do.

Projects: Your child will still be receiving optional home learning tasks if they would like to do further learning about this term’s topics.

Reading

Reading diaries have now been given out. They need to be in school every day so that we can monitor the children's reading and to pick up any messages from you.

Children have the opportunity to take home books from the class reading corner.

Children will also have fortnightly visits to the school library. Books borrowed from the library must be returned before another can be taken out. Any lost books must be replaced.

Children should be reading to themselves and reading aloud to an adult- even in KS2! If your child is reluctant, try reading aloud to them and then asking them questions about what they have heard.

Helpful websites

TTRS

Rollama

BBC BITESIZE

CGP revision books

- We will be organising an order for CGP SATs revision books.
- As a school we get these a lot cheaper than the shops.
- We will send out more information about them.

Key dates

Please check the school website for term dates.

INSET days:

- Wednesday 2nd September 2026
- Monday 2nd November 2026
- Friday 4th December 2026
- Monday 22nd February 2027
- Thursday 22nd July 2027

- Bookfest - 25.9.26
- PGL - 27.9.26 - 30.9.26
- Gunnersbury Park - 6.10.26
- Imperial War Museum - 11.11.26
- SATs week - 10th May - 13th May 2027

SATS

- W.B. 10th May 2027
- Reading paper
- Maths (arithmetic and 2 reasoning)
- Spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPaG)
- These tests will be marked externally.
- Children must be in school this week-no holidays can be taken and no absence will be granted.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

The school has a dedicated email for Mental Health and Wellbeing. Please use this email to contact Mrs Earl-Spencer or speak to your child's class teacher if you have any worries or queries about your child's mental health and wellbeing.

mentalhealthlead@josephhood.merton.sch.uk

On the school website you can find a tab dedicated to resources and support for both your mental health and your child's. Here you can also find our half-termly newsletters as well as our work with the NHS Wellbeing Service.

NHS Education Wellbeing Service	Mental Health and Wellbeing Newsletters	Resources for parents/carers	Resources for children and young people

Mobile Phones

In KS2 your children will start to want to have their own phone, if they do not already. While we agree that phones are an excellent way of helping children to keep themselves safe and become more independent, we are seeing a worrying rise with online issues.

Recently, EE, a major telecom provider, recommended that primary-aged children should use 'dumb phones' instead of smartphones.

These basic phones allow for calls and texts but do not have access to the internet, apps, or social media. EE's advice highlights concerns about the impact of excessive screen time, cyberbullying, and exposure to inappropriate content on young children.

As a school, we agree with this idea and would like to recommend this as an option to parents to help tackle these issues.

Transferring to Secondary School

Guidance for Parents & Carers

Pan-London Co-ordination

- All London boroughs and some of the surrounding boroughs participate
- Around 90,000 children applying across London; over 20,000 apply to schools outside their own borough
- Parents receive no more than one offer on 1 March

The strong performance of Merton secondary schools

- Attainment is above national averages
- All Merton secondary schools are judged to be good or outstanding by Ofsted
- Increasingly, parents are naming a Merton school as the one they most want their child to attend
- Find out more about Merton schools by visiting their websites
- Further details of each school’s open evening events can be found on school websites

Making Applications

- Maximise the chance of being offered a school you are happy with by using all six preferences
- Include Merton schools and any out-borough schools on the same application
- Obtain school prospectuses and visit school websites to find out about school open evenings
- Consider your likely chances of success. Pay attention to each school’s criteria and how places have been offered in the past

Making applications continued

- Use your preferences as a wish list but make sure some are realistic. If you do not get one of your higher preferences, you automatically go on the waiting list
- Apply online and ensure your application is submitted by the closing date (31 October)
- Don’t use false a address. Any information on your application will be checked

Deadlines

- 31 October is a national closing date
- Changes of address can be considered up to 12 December
- Deadlines for supplementary forms or test registrations may be different – check with the schools you are applying for

How the Offer Process Works

- Schools do not know your preference order
- Applications are ranked solely according to the admissions criteria for the school
- If you are eligible for more than one school, the higher preference of these will be offered
- Those who are not eligible for any of their preferences will receive an alternative offer

After Offer Day

- If you don’t get your first preference school, don’t panic
- Read the outcome text fully
- Don’t reject an offer without an alternative school place secured
- Remain on waiting lists
- Appeal for preferred schools

2023 In Numbers

- 67% of Merton parents received a first preference offer
- 89% received one of their top three preferences
- 95% received one of their six preferences
- 99% of Merton parents made their application using the online system

Help & Support

- Information about the admissions process is available from your home authority website. For Merton this can be found at www.merton.gov.uk/admissions
- Detailed enquiries which cannot be answered from the website information can be made to Merton on 020 8274 4906 or admissions@merton.gov.uk

JOHO
ZSL
LONDON ZOO
THE CITY
BT TOWER
OLD BAILEY
RECENTS PARK
SCIENCE MUSEUM
NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM
BUCKINGHAM PALACE
GREEN PARK
ST JAMES'S PARK
CHOCY DO DA
JOSEPH HOOD'S VALUES TREE
WORKING HARD
GOOD CONCENTRATION
ALWAYS BEING POLITE
TRYING YOUR BEST IN YOUR WORK
BEING KIND
ACHIEVING WELL
GOOD MANNERS
GOOD BODY LANGUAGE
GREAT LISTENING
NEVER GIVING UP
ALWAYS SMILING
HELPING OTHERS
TAKING TURNS
BEING A GOOD FRIEND
GOOD BEHAVIOUR
READ WINNIE THE POOH
YOUR GREATNESS IS NOT WHAT YOU HAVE, BUT WHAT YOU GIVE.
STORIES

Questions