



# LLS News

28/02/2025



Dear families

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring Term.

If you have already registered your interest in attending you will know that the date of our Transition Information Sharing Session for parents and carers of Year 7 upwards has been changed to Wednesday 5th March. The session will take place from 10.30-12.30 in the Isobel Family Centre. There is still time to register so if you are able to attend on Wednesday please kindly use [this link](#) to register your interest. We look forward to seeing you there.

World Book Day takes place this Thursday 6th March and we are excited to invite pupils to dress up as their favourite story character.

£1 book tokens have been sent home today and can be found in the home-school diaries.

We have lots of exciting activities planned for the whole week including sensory storytelling with Andy Copps, tactile book exploration with ClearVision and book-themed Music and Art lessons.

Pictures will follow over the next couple of weeks.

Have a lovely weekend.



## Events and dates to remember

### Spring Term Dates

**Wednesday 5th March**

Transition Information Sharing Session for parents and carers

**Thursday 6th March**

World Book Day

**Friday 21st March**

Red Nose Day

**Thursday 3rd April**

Last day for pupils

**Friday 4th April**

Planning and Preparation Day 2 for staff (no pupils)



## Physiotherapy Team Parent & Carer Feedback Survey

Please can you take 5-10 minutes to complete the survey via QR code below to help the physiotherapy team work towards improving their service. It is greatly appreciated. Thank you, PT team.



### Stars of the Week

**Tiago** for working very hard during Innowalk this week. Great effort, Tiago!

**James** for communicating by using his Ipad that he enjoyed swimming.

**Aisha** for being enthusiastic in the fitness suite and encouraging others.



### Kindness Award

**U'nite** for being able to serve her dinner with adult support.

**David** for following instructions and being able to match items to the correct shelves when unpacking.



## Learning at Linden in Early Years

Play is a fundamental part of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). It helps children develop skills in many areas, including communication, language, physical development, and social skills.

Sensory play is any activity that stimulates our senses – touch, sight, hearing, smell and taste. It helps children interact with and make sense of the world that surrounds them.



As part of specialist Music sessions, Tambourine class have been exploring a new musical story and instruments from around the world.



One of the most powerful ways of supporting a young child's imagination is to be a co-player and follow child into their fantasy worlds. By supporting children's imaginative play, you can help them to discover different ways to communicate, through gestures, actions and words, gradually extending their vocabulary and helping them to foster varied speech.

Maracas class has been exploring the book 'The Stickman'. This week Stickman was in a cold environment. They spent time exploring different size sticks and counting them and then had lots of fun touching and exploring the cold wet ice and helping Stickman escape from it .



## Braille 200

To celebrate 200 years of braille a braille learner will share their braille journey each week. Everyone has a different and unique lesson tailored to their own personalised learning goal each week.

Lillie has been learning braille since she was in the primary department. She has now learnt Grade 2 contracted braille. She has achieved the AQA Unit Award Scheme in UEB contracted braille in Secondary.

She uses braille everyday and is practising her reading. Lillie is using a Brailnote Touch Plus confidently. Well done Lillie for your hard work and challenging yourself.

## Fabulous Fundraisers

Adrienne and Emma are just £84 away from reaching their fundraising target for Great Ormond Street Hospital. As they cross the finishing line of their 100km in February challenge please help them reach their target by

clicking on the link to sponsor them:

<https://www.justgiving.com/team/linden>



## Term Dates 2025/26

### Autumn Term 2025

Inset Day 1 - first day for staff (no pupils) - Monday 1st September 2025

First day for pupils - Tuesday 2nd September 2025

Inset Day 2 (no pupils) - Friday 19th September 2025

Inset day 3 (no pupils) - Friday 24th October 2025

Half-Term Holiday - Monday 27th October 2025–Friday 31st October 2025

Last day for pupils - Thursday 18th December 2025

Planning & Preparation Day - Friday 19th December 2025

### Spring Term 2026

First day for pupils - Monday 5th January 2026

Half-Term Holiday - Monday 16th February 2026–Friday 20th February 2026

Inset Day 4 (no pupils) - Monday 23rd February 2026

Last day for pupils - Friday 27th March 2026

### Summer Term 2026

First day for pupils - Monday 13th April 2026

May Day Bank Holiday - Monday 4th May 2026

Half-Term Holiday - Monday 25th May 2026–Friday 29th May 2026

Inset Day 5 (no pupils) - Monday 1st June 2026

Last day for pupils - Thursday 16th July 2026

Planning and Preparation Day - Friday 17th July 2026

Planning and Preparation Day - Monday 20th July 2026

**Update on Merton's review of  
day opportunities for adults  
with learning disabilities and autism**

With Gill Moore, Merton's Head of the Integrated Learning  
Disabilities Service,  
and Andy Ottaway-Searle, Head of Direct Provision

Merton Council have been reviewing the future of day  
opportunities for adults with learning disabilities and autism  
in the borough, which includes day centres run by the  
Council, services purchased from care providers and  
activities in the community.

Hear the latest information and next steps.

**Tuesday 4 March 2025, 10am to 12pm**

Online via Zoom

OR

For family carers without digital access: see it LIVE on a  
screen at our offices at the Chaucer Centre.

You MUST book at least 4 days ahead of the meeting to see the live  
screening at our offices.

Click the link to book your spot at the online meeting:

<https://bit.ly/4qXyTIO>

Or book here to watch the online meeting live on a screen at our offices if  
you cannot access Zoom:

[af.admin@mertonmencap.org.uk](mailto:af.admin@mertonmencap.org.uk) / 07929 670645

**THIS SESSION IS FOR FAMILY CARERS ONLY**

✓ For more information or to register with Adults First and receive news of all our events, just ring  
020 3963 0597 or email or [af.admin@mertonmencap.org.uk](mailto:af.admin@mertonmencap.org.uk).

Merton Mencap. Registered Office Address: The Chaucer Centre, Canterbury Road, Morden, Surrey SM4 6PX.  
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On Saturday 15th March we are hosting a Blind and Partially Sighted Football Open Taster Session at Fulham FC Training ground... free to attend.

10:45-11:45am

This is in Partnership with VICTA and British Blind Sport.

Please do come and give it a go! And please share with anyone else who may be interested. Click the link below to book: <https://soccerschools.fulhamfc.com/soccerschools/courses/courses.htm?coursesSearch=search&coursePeriodId=&typeId=92&regionId=&venueId=&gender=>