

## March 2025

A busy term is almost coming to an end. It always feels good to reach the Easter, as it means that the dark days and cold weather are hopefully beyond us, and we can look forward to brightness, flowers and warmth.

Our children can look back on what they have achieved this term with a great deal of pride. Often, post-Christmas, it takes a while for pupils to warm back up into their learning – however we were straight into the swing of things from Day 1.

There are many highlights – some of which will appear in this newsletter.

On behalf of everyone at St Meryl, we wish all our families a joyful, relaxing, and safe holiday. Whether you're celebrating a holy holiday or simply indulging in a few chocolate treats and some well-deserved rest, we hope your days are filled with fun, laughter, and togetherness. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Wednesday, 23rd April, as we embark on an even busier Summer Term!

### Year 2 Great Fire of London Workshop

Last week, Year 2 stepped into the past and found themselves in the heart of **London during the Great Fire of 1666!** The children were fully immersed in history, discovering fascinating facts and impressing everyone with their knowledge. They took part in exciting activities, bringing the past to life in amazing ways! Take a look at some snapshots from their morning adventure. A huge thank you to the adults who helped make this experience unforgettable. And don't worry—everyone made it safely back to the present day!



### Book Week

What an amazing week we all had earlier this month. Beginning with a special assembly from Miss Pomfret, we all learnt that we would be studying the book "Hermelin", a tale of a detective mouse.

Pupils created some amazing writing – in the form of letters, descriptions, alternate endings and newspaper reports.

There were also opportunities for buddy reading, take part in choosing "The Masked Reader", dressing up as a mouse or detective (or both!) on World Book Day and listen to a number of stories in the teacher read-around.

A thoroughly enjoyable week, and thank you to Miss Pomfret for organising such a wonderful experience for the pupils.

In the following week, we had our book fair – and I am delighted to announce that we raised a staggering £701.59! As you know, the school takes a percentage of these takings to spend on books for our library. A huge THANK YOU to all families who purchased books.



Year 2 and 3 begin their investigations in Book Week.



### Stars of the Week

Well done to these Stars for the month of March.

|                  |                                               |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| <b>Reception</b> | AaroHi, Hadassah and Beau                     |
| <b>Y1</b>        | Bryan, Lacey and Henry                        |
| <b>Y2</b>        | Rayan, Diya and Sav                           |
| <b>Y3</b>        | Dhyan, Minha and Mathias                      |
| <b>Y4</b>        | Amelia L, Whole Class, Mr Knight and Nicholas |
| <b>Y5</b>        | Whole Class, Phoebe M, Lewis Me and Nathan    |
| <b>Y6</b>        | Whole Class, Alice, Leo and Richard           |

### Bike Ability

Year 5 braved the elements this term, and learnt the vital skills of being able to cycle on our roads. The instructors were very impressed with the positive and determined attitudes that the pupils showed. Pupils will be presented with their awards and certificates in celebration assembly. Well done to of those children who took part.



### PTA Mother's Day Sale and Disco

For Mother's Day this year, pupils had the opportunity to buy some treats for their mums. Thank you to the PTA for organizing this – the money raised will be well used! We have raised so much money this year that we are still counting. Thank you also to the PTA for organizing a successful disco. The children loved it!

### Snacks

Recently, we've noticed an increase in unhealthy snacks being brought to school for breaks and lunchtimes. As part of our ongoing effort to foster a healthier environment, we encourage parents and caregivers to send in their children with nutritious options like fruits and vegetables. Please do not put sweets and chocolates in your child's lunchbox.

### Star Readers

Thank you to the parents who read and responded to last month's comments about reading. We really do appreciate your support. A big "well done" to the following Star Readers:

|                  |                                                                                                                                       |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Reception</b> | Sophie, Felicity, Jessica, Shine, Jake, Allexx, James, Muraad, AaroHi and Vivaan                                                      |
| <b>Year 1</b>    | Alex, Alina, Anaaya, Amanda, Bryan, Eleanor, Emma, Harry, Henry, Isabella-Rose, Lacey, Leticia, Linus, Micah, Riley and Romman        |
| <b>Year 2</b>    | Rayan, Harry, Henry C, Safiyah, Valenciaa, Diya, Henry K, Drew, William, Edward, Savv, Arjun, Rosie, Timeea, Ariana, Laura and Andrew |
| <b>Year 3</b>    | Iqra, Megan, Minha, Estera, Dorteia, Arthur, Chloe, Taylor and Aaron                                                                  |
| <b>Year 4</b>    | Teo, Amelie, Tilly, Amelia L, Siya, Oliver, Sidharth, Amelia P, Krish, Lilly, Jessica, Mufaad and Harry                               |
| <b>Year 5</b>    | Diana, Edward, Filip, Laila, Lewis Mc, Lewis Me, Lucas, Marcus, Victoria and Annabel                                                  |
| <b>Year 6</b>    | Leo, Darius, Lauma, Alex, Alice, Kevin, Callum, Leah, Lynn, Gracie, Aarush, Hritvi and Janmita                                        |

### STEM KNEX Challenge 2025

Also earlier this month was the Go Construct KNEX Challenge, which Years 5 and 6 took part in. Their challenge this year was to build an amusement park ride. There were some fantastic creations! Well done to you all, and thank you to the parent helpers.



### **100% Attendance for the March and the Spring Term**

Here are this month's healthy people! What a truly magnificent effort.

|                                                                           |                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Nursery</b>                                                            | Isla, Lois, Joaquin, Beau, Leander, Hudson, Evie, Atharv, Christodia, George and Mattias                                            |
| <b>Reception</b>                                                          | Sophie, Rocco, Eva, Cora, Jessica, Kheandraa, James, Aarohi, Vivaan, Felicity, Dhyan, Melissa, Kashi, Allex, Hadassah and Aiden     |
| <b>Year 1</b>                                                             | Linus, Alina, Emma, Alex, Isabella-Rose, Riva, Harry, Amanda, Leticia, Eleanor, Henry, Sophie, Micah and Henley                     |
| <b>Year 2</b>                                                             | Rayan, Harry, Luca, Agnes, Henry C, Valenciaa, Diya, Henry K, Philip, Edward, Arjun, Ege, Rosie, Timeea, Ralphie, Laura and Andrew  |
| <b>Year 3</b>                                                             | Jaxon, Caleb, Radu, Minha, Dhyan, Zohaib, Emily, Dorteia, Alecia, Chloe, Taylor, Mathias, Nicolas and Aaron                         |
| <b>Year 4</b>                                                             | Dominic, Teo, Amelie, Harry, Siya, Tilly, Arthur, Ruby, Nicholas, Oliver, Sidharth, Lucia, Amelia P, Krish, Rokas, Maxx and Jessica |
| <b>Year 5</b>                                                             | Marley-Joe, Phoebe B, Victoria, Diana, Vienna, Annabel, Frankie, Emilee, Lewis Mc, Lewis Me, Lucas, Abigail, Edward and Willow      |
| <b>Year 6</b>                                                             | Leo, Darius, Richard, Lauma, Alex, Anayah, Indi, Alice, Ruth, Janmita and Kevin                                                     |
| <b>Monthly Class Trophy for Best Attendance:</b><br><b>Year 4 – 97.5%</b> |                                                                                                                                     |

### **Your Opinion Matters!**

On INSET Day in April, staff will be meeting to discuss, change and plan the way that we do homework – to make it more relevant and accessible to everyone.

We would appreciate your views on homework, and you can provide these by going to the link below:

[St Meryl School Homework Survey](#)

Thank you.

### **Our Nature Ark has Arrived!**

Earlier this month, the Eco-Warriors and Eco-Councillors assembled the Nature Ark - part of the prize which they won just before Christmas.

We are anticipating that we have plenty of growth and maybe a few small animals taking up residence in the weeks to come.



### **Cheerleading Assembly**

What a performance from our cheerleading club this morning, The audience loved it so much, they asked for an encore performance!

A big thank you to Ellie and Mrs Nicholas for teaching them on Thursday lunchtimes. They have learnt so much in so little time!



### Writers Corner

This month, Writers Corner features a non-fiction text reporting on the Blue Whale. It was chosen because of the strong, descriptive language used. It also is very informative!

#### Blue Whales

Blue whales are large mammals. Blue whales have smooth, springy skin. Blue whales are 30 metres long. Blue whales have baleen plates instead of teeth. Blue whales are strong, have sharp flippers and have a blowhole to breathe out air.

#### Habitat

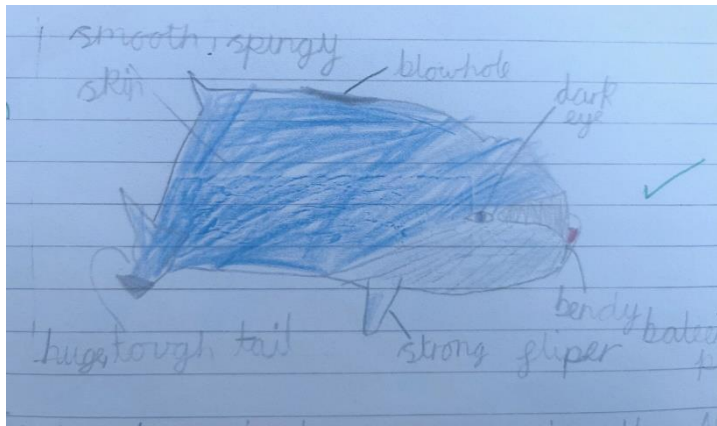
Blue whales live in oceans in the North or South Pole. If it's winter in the North the travel to the equator because it's warmer.

#### Food

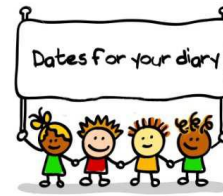
Blue whales are carnivores, but don't worry because they don't eat people. Instead they eat krill. Blue whales eat 30 million krill in a day.

#### Interesting Facts

Baby blue whales are 7 metres long and drink 6 litres of milk a day. Blue whales are bigger than the largest dinosaur.



**By EP, Year 2**



- Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April – Last day of term – finish at 2:00pm
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – INSET Day
- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – First day of Summer Term for pupils
- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – St George's Day (Wear a rose/ red and white)
- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – Year 5 and 6 Swimming lessons begin
- Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – Football Festival at Bushey Manor
- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April – PTA Zumba session for parents
- Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April – School photographer in for class photos

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### Our Vision

At our school we will provide a safe and stimulating learning environment which challenges all learners and promotes outstanding achievement.

We encourage all members of our learning family to be open, honest and accepting of others.

We seek to instil a thirst for and love of life-long learning in everyone who is a part of this family.

Everyone at our school works as a team; supporting, encouraging and caring for all who join us on their learning journey.