

September 2025

Welcome to the first newsletter of the new academic year! September is always a busy month, but our pupils have settled in brilliantly and are already showing some fantastic examples of learning. As the days get shorter and the weather turns cooler, it is the excitement and warmth of learning that will keep us all inspired and motivated throughout the term!

I am pleased to officially welcome 2 new members of staff for this year - Mr McConville is our new Year 6 teacher, and Mrs Mehta our new PPA teacher – covering Years 1, 4 and 5. Welcome to both of you. We are happy to have you both as members of the St Meryl community!

A very warm welcome also to all our new pupils this year, whether you are starting in Early Years or joining us from another school. You have settled in wonderfully (there are less tears so far!), and we are delighted to have you as part of the St Meryl community.

It is hard to believe that we have nearly completed our first month at school, but we are already looking forward to all the exciting learning and adventures that lie ahead this year.

St Meryl Stars

Well done to this month's Stars of the Week, chosen by their classmates.

Reception	Ali and Esmee-Star
Year 1	Anokhi, Reva and Aarohi
Year 2	Ryan, Henley and Harry
Year 3	Arjun, Ralphie and Mia
Year 4	Megan, Cara-Rose and Radu
Year 5	Dominic, Arthur and Reyhaneh
Year 6	Marcus, Sophia and Marley-Joe

Jeans for Genes

We raised £179.50 for Jeans for Genes this year. Thank you to all of those pupils and families who donated – it is a fantastic cause that the money is going towards. As the Jeans for Genes foundations say: *"Our ambition is that every individual, and their families, can access the right support at times when it's needed most."*

Times Tables Rock Stars begins at St Meryl!

Launched in mid-September pupils have now played their first "gig", have created their first heatmap (more to come on this), and have completed our very first "Battle of the Bands". Pupils are given half an hour a day (or after school) to answer as many times tables questions correctly as they could. Year 5 ran out the winners - amassing 8,339 correct answers during the week. Congratulations to them!

There have also been 7 pupils achieving "Gone Green" certificates - meaning that they can answer any times tables question in under 4 seconds.

It has been a very positive start to the year with this new resource.



Well done, Year 5 – our first winners



Our first pupils who have "Gone Green" – answering every times table in under 4 seconds for each.

Welcome back to Twig and Branch!



Our "School Pets" have grown up over the summer holidays, and they are happy to be back at school with us all.

Thank you to Miss Taylor and sons who looked after them all through the holidays. They are well fed! They happily sit outside the staffroom in their enclosure, often playing hide and seek from the everybody. Some children are even brave enough to hold them!

Star Readers

Well done to all of these wonderful children who have been reading regularly at home this month.

Reception	Yusuf, Isla, Lois, Joaquin, Beau, Leander, Hudson, Evelyn, Myilah, Esmee-Star, Rosie P, Atharv, Helena, Mattias and Jakub
Year 1	Sophie, Rocco, Jake, Kheandraa, Aarohe, Vivaan, Felicity, Anokhi, Allex, Eva, James and Fredrick
Year 2	Linus, Alina, Emma, Alex, Romman, Harry, Amanda, Leticia, Anaaya, Henry and Beau
Year 3	Agnes, Aubrey, Drew and Timeea
Year 4	Megan, Ellis, Emily, Dortehea, Chloe, Taylor and Cara-Rose
Year 5	Amelie, Henry, Oliver, Reyhaneh, Sidharth and Tilly
Year 6	Marley-Joe, Diana, Vienna, Annabel, Zahra J, Lewis Mc, Lewis Me, Lucas, Nathan, Zahra S and Aarya

Attendance

Congratulations to the following pupils who were at school every day throughout September. Keep up the good work, St Meryl!

Nursery	Jessica, Grace, Dolores, Oaklee, David, Zayd, Maddison, Hussein, Isabel, Meera, Noah, Naaria and Sakina
Reception	Filip, Maisam, Yusuf, Isla, Celine, Lois, Joaquin, Beau, Leander, Ali, Abbas, Hudson, Maryam, Ayla, Myilah, Rosie P, Atharv, Hasri, Jack and Mattias
Year 1	Sophie, Matin, Rocco, Eva, Irina, Cora, Jake, Sidiqa, Kheandraa, Aarohe, Vivaan, Amber, Anokhi, Shine, Melissa, Fredrick, Kashi, Allex and Muraad
Year 2	Linus, Ryan, Ruby-Rose, Alina, Emma, Alexander, Romman, Harry, Riley, Leticia, Anaaya, Eleanor, Aurelio-John, Henry, Sophia, Nitya, Lacey and Henley
Year 3	Mahdi, Rayan, Harry, Agnes, Eva, Henry C, Liam, Sarah, Valenciaa, Diya, Henry K, Drew, Philip, William, Aubrey, Edward, Veera, Timeea, Ariana, Ralphie, Laura and Andrew
Year 4	Aida, Iqra, Pandora, Jaxon, Daniel, Caleb, Radu, Luca, Zohaib, Emily, Dortehea, Taksh, Chloe, Taylor, Mathias, J'Mai, Nicolas and Aaron
Year 5	Dominic, Teo, Mason, Henry, Reyhaneh, Safa, Amelie, Amelia L, Siya, Tilly, Nicholas, Oliver, Rokas, Lilly, Maxx and Mufaad
Year 6	Diana, Vienna, Annabel, Sophia, Frankie, Lewis Mc, Lewis Me, Lucas, Chloe, Laila, Poppy, Marcus, Zahra, Edward and Willow
Whole School:	95.7%
Best Class:	Year 2 – 97.6%



A Plea - Scooters and Bikes on the Playground

I do say this at the beginning of every year, however it is becoming more and more noticeable that some pupils are riding bikes and scooters on the playground both before and after school.

Please remember that bikes and scooters should not be ridden on the playground. Riding in these areas can be dangerous and may lead to accidents, which we all want to avoid. There have been some potentially dangerous situations narrowly avoided already. We appreciate your cooperation in keeping our playground a safe space for everyone.

Parent Governor Vacancies

We currently have two vacancies for Parent Governors on our Governing Body. Parent Governors play a vital role in supporting the leadership of the school, representing the views of parents and helping to shape the strategic direction of the school. If you are interested in contributing to the life of the school in this way, further details about the role and how to apply will be sent out shortly. We warmly encourage parents to consider putting themselves forward.

Writers Corner

Sidharth (Year 5) has written a fantastic piece of descriptive writing last week!

"Among the rarest in Sweden is the Fargrik. Standing more than 8 feet tall, this Swedish icon is known for its vibrant colour (normally reported at the great, icy mountains), the great legend was first told in 1884. It is known to roll into a spherical shape and defend itself if needed. His exquisite patterns attract people to take pictures, and normally has been reported by hikers. People can mistake this beast for a tree, due to its special camouflage and shape-shifting skills. The Fargrik at first glimpse is a very spherical and colourful creature, standing on two stout legs, a very long nose and iconic spikey stones along its back. It is not normally aggressive."

What a fantastic piece, Sidharth! Thank you.



Our School Choir meet for their first rehearsal.

Head Pupils and House Captains

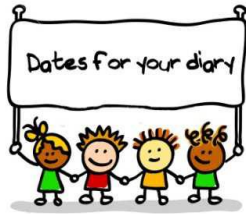
I am pleased to announce that Frankie and Phoebe B have been awarded positions of Head Boy and Head Girl this year. They have begun their roles in a really positive way – they even co-led their first tour of the school to a visitor last week. Following this, our House Captains presented their manifestos to the school and the following pupils were elected: Willow (Green), Zahra J (Yellow), Lewis Mc and Poppy (Red – there was a tied vote!) and Diana (Blue). The House Captains last week began their duties by judging the tidiest cloakroom, as well as adding up the house points for the last 2 weeks. A really positive start by our new leaders so far.



There were some VERY well written manifestos this year.

Uniform Reminder

A reminder to children not to wear hoop earrings to school. We also ask that children do not wear smart watches to school. For more details on our uniform policy, please go to [this link](#).



A reminder that Class Assemblies will be beginning soon. The first begins on the 2nd of October. Class assemblies will happen mostly on Thursdays. Please see below:

Thursday 2nd October – Year 4
Thursday 9th October – Year 5
Thursday 16th October – Year 1
Thursday 23rd October – Year 2
Thursday 6th November – Year 6
Wednesday 12th November – Year 3
Wednesday 19th November – Reception

Other dates:

- Fri 17th October – PTA Halloween Disco
- Thurs 23rd October – Year 2 Class Assembly
 - Harvest Assembly 10am
 - Interim Reports go out
- Friday 24th October – INSET Day
- Mon 27th October – 31st October – Half Term
- Autumn term parent/teacher consultations -
Mon 10th November 3.30pm-6.30pm and
Tues 11th November 4.00pm-7.00pm
- Saturday 29th November – Christmas Fair
(details to follow)
- Tues 9th and Wed 10th December - Christmas Shows
- Wednesday 17th December – Christmas Lunch
- Wednesday 17th December – Pantomime
(West End in Schools) – Beauty and the Beast
- Friday 19th December, 2pm – Last Day of Term

Head Teacher

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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.