

# Miers Court Matters

Issue 15

20.03.26

## Upcoming event

27.03.26 - Break the rules day

30.03.26 - Egyptian day  
Year 3

31.03.26 - Roman Day  
Year 2

02.04.26 - Last day of term

## Note from Mrs Fordyce

We reach the end of another busy week in school where the children have had lots of fun learning and getting outside in the sun. Playtime and lunchtime has seen them on the field which has been fantastic. Summer is on the way !

As you know we put a lot of time and effort into ensuring that our reading and phonics curriculum meet the needs of our children and that they are all enjoying the learning opportunities and the books that are on offer to them. Reading is fundamental to their learning in all areas and the early phonics test that they complete in Year 1 makes sure that we know what comes next for them as they move to Year 2. This week we had an external advisor spend the day with us on Wednesday to see the reading and phonics provision that we offer and she was very pleased with what she saw.

As you know we are having a big drive on punctuality - please ensure your children are in school and ready to learn in plenty of time each day as this enables them to make a calm and settled start without rushing or catching up on anything that has already been taught. Thank you so much for your support with this.

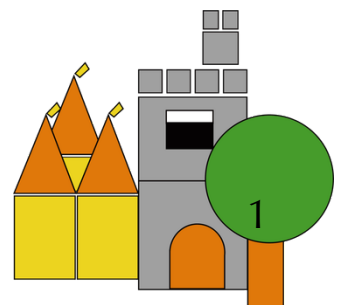
**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

## Celebration Corner!

Congratulations to Amelia, Ellie-Mae, Florence, Harry and Jack in year R, Kamilah, Isla, Archie, Arthur, Grace, Logan, Owne, Olive, Elsie, Ezzy, ishamarie, Ruby McG, Ruby McC, Sienna, Hugo, Lane, Liberty, Daisy, Callum, Kiran and Leo, Arlo, Beau, Keira, Ava-Mae, Harry and Summer in year 2, Iuila, Owen, Frankie, George and Riley in year 4, Mano and Joseph in year 5 for receiving 50 Dojo points

Congratulations to Parker in year 4, Amelia and Cain in year 5 for receiving 75 Dojo points

## Attendance



# Reading Update



## Reading updates

Spotlight on ... Fluency

You may have heard staff talking about the children's 'fluency' when they are reading, or you may have seen them make comments related to this in the children's reading journals.

This is a really important skill that we aim to develop as part of the children's overall reading competency. So here is some more information about this.

### What is fluency?

Reading fluency is the ability to read text accurately, quickly, and with proper expression (prosody), acting as a bridge between word recognition and comprehension. Fluent readers do not need to consciously decode each word, allowing them to focus on understanding meaning, rather than focusing on the act of reading itself.

Key components of reading fluency include:

Accuracy: Correctly recognising and decoding words.

Automaticity: Fast, effortless word recognition that doesn't rely on conscious attention.

Prosody: Reading with appropriate phrasing, intonation, and expression that reflects the text's meaning.



### Why does this matter?

Fluency is vital because it shifts cognitive energy away from decoding and towards comprehension. Of course, learning to decode accurately remains the principle skill when learning to read but as children build their competency with decoding, so fluency begins to develop alongside this. Once decoding is secure, so improving fluency then becomes even more of a focus as it allows children to focus on the overall message of a text. It is not merely about reading fast; it is about reading at an appropriate pace to support understanding.

### What can you do at home to support this?

- Continue to read as much as possible with your child outside of school. Even 5 minutes a day makes a big difference!
- Finger Tracking: Encourage children to follow the text with their finger to improve focus and word tracking.
- Encourage Expression: Remind children to make their voice sound like the characters and to pause at punctuation marks.
- Encourage your child to reread a sentence or a section, if they have found it tricky on their first attempt. This will allow them to rehearse this section and make meaning from it.
- Choral Reading: Read aloud in unison with your child. This helps them match their speed to yours and provides support for tricky words.
- Echo Reading: Read a sentence aloud with expression, then have the child "echo" it back immediately, mimicking your intonation.
- Re-reading the same book, especially in eYfs and KS1 as these re-reads allow children to build their fluency and enjoy success, increasing their motivation and confidence as readers.

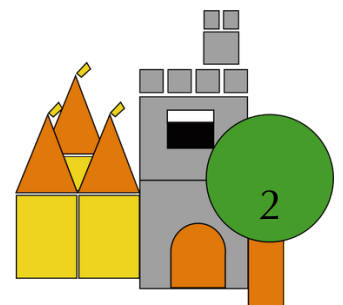
### How do we 'teach' this in school?

Repeated Reading: Reading the same short passage or book multiple times until it flows smoothly.

Modelling: Listening to a fluent reader (the teacher or LSA) to hear what proper expression and pacing sound like.

Choral or Echo Reading: Reading aloud at the same time as the adult, or repeating back phrases immediately after they are read.

Wide Reading: Reading a large variety of different texts during our whole class reading sessions, to increase exposure to new vocabulary and sentence structures.



# Safeguarding Corner

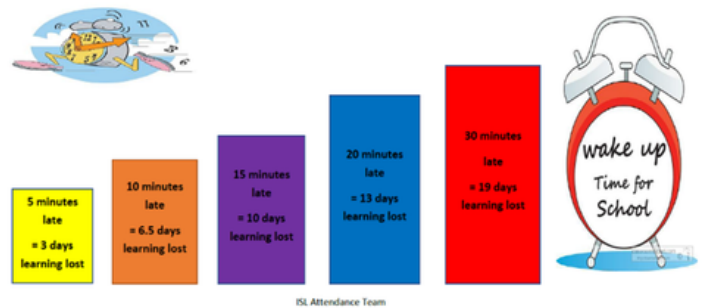


## Lateness and Attendance



## Impact of Lateness

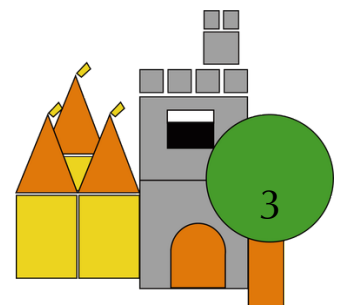
Being 15 minutes later each day is the same as missing 2 weeks of school



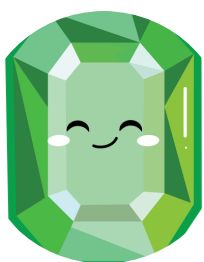
A reminder to ALL about the importance of being in school on time. Being late has a MASSIVE impact on a child's learning as they miss the start of the day or the start of the lesson. It can cause missed learning that they need to catch up on but most importantly the feeling of being unsettled right from the start of the day ! PLEASE try to ensure that children are in school on time every day. If a child misses the register then they are marked as late and these late codes are monitored.

A reminder that the gates open in the morning at 8.30 and close at 8.50.

Thank you



# House points



**Emerald**

152



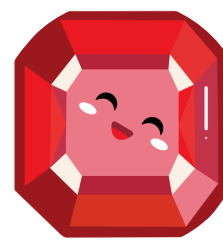
**Topaz**

126



**Sapphire**

117



**Ruby**

112

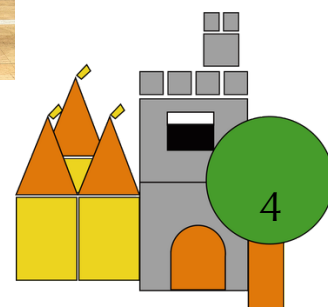


# MYG Netball



Our Year 6 pupils had a fantastic day representing the school at the Netball Mini Youth Games held at Medway Park. Across the day, they played an impressive eight matches, demonstrating excellent teamwork, communication and resilience - even when faced with some very tough competition! The team showed great determination and supported one another brilliantly from start to finish.

We finished 14th out of 29 schools. A huge well done to Miers Court!



# iRock Assembly



Today, we had the amazing experience of an iRock assembly. The children got to hear James play a variety of instruments and join in with some songs. **Allen, Scarlett, Jamie and Astrid** also got to form their very own band and played 'We Will Rock You' with the help of James - we were very impressed.

Information about how to apply for lessons has gone out via email and a flyer has gone out as well. If you would like your child to have lessons, please get in contact with them to set it up. Rock on!



# Year 6 Lion King

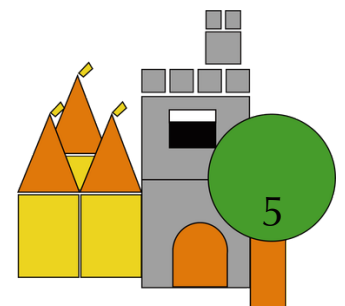


Our Year 6 pupils had a wonderful opportunity to visit The Howard School to watch a fantastic performance of The Lion King, performed by Year 7 and Year 8 students.

The show was brilliant, and it was clear to see how much our children enjoyed the experience. We were incredibly proud of how respectful and engaged they were throughout the performance – they were a fantastic audience and a real credit to our school.

A huge thank you to The Howard School for inviting us and hosting such a great event. It was also a lovely opportunity for some of our Year 6 boys to see their future secondary school.

We had a fantastic time!



ECO



Battery Recycling - This week we have **201** batteries, thank you. We submit our total to the Duracell website each week. We also collect empty, clean bread wrappers and used ink cartridges (domestic only, please), which we give to Gillingham Street Angels, who receive a small amount of money for them. This money is used to help fund the projects that they run, for example, the soup kitchen and food bank.



## Parking!



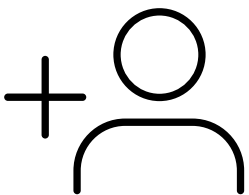
**Please can we remind our parents and carers of parking! We have had a numerous amounts of complaints from our neighbouring community regarding parents/carers dropping off, blocking driveays and parking dangerously on Harvesters Close and Silverspot Close.**

**Please be mindful of our neighbours when dropping of your children, School Streets are still in full force on Silverspot Close and any cars that are seen to be driving through Silverspot close between Monday-Thursday the hours of 8am - 9am and 3-4pm Fridays 8am - 9am, 12:45pm - 1:30pm and 3pm-4pm will be issued with a fine from Medway Council.**

## Dates for your Diary

**27.03.26 - Break the rules day**  
**30.03.26 - Egyptian Day Year 3**  
**31.03.26 - Roman day Year 2**

**02.04.26 - Last Day of term**  
**20.04.26 - Term 4 starts**



School website: <http://mierscourt-that.org.uk>  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/mierscourthat/](http://www.facebook.com/mierscourthat/)  
Instagram: [www.instagram.com/mierscourthat/](http://www.instagram.com/mierscourthat/)  
X: [www.x.com/mierscourthat/](http://www.x.com/mierscourthat/)

