



Newsletter

Message from the Headteacher

It's been an eventful first half term and I thank you for your continued support. I have ensured that parents are kept informed at all times and hope this does reassure. As a parent myself I do understand how important this is. I have been really impressed with how students have settled into our new routines at Merrill. The school feels calm, orderly and very different. Students are focussed on getting back into their learning and like the new curriculum booklets being used. Exclusions have reduced significantly. Staff are working incredibly hard to make the new systems work and I know this is appreciated.

This week I really enjoyed awarding ambassador badges to students in years 7 and 8 who have an excellent attitude to learning. Students have also received rewards for having the most positive points to negative.

Most of our students are arriving in school wearing masks but we are also giving them out to those that don't. We want to ensure everyone is safe in school and risks are lowered. Please check your child has their mask with them every day and that they wash them regularly. Masks need to be worn in all communal areas and on corridors but not outside. This is in accordance with current government guidance.

After half term I will be inviting all parents and carers to contribute to some work we are doing on further improvements to the Academy. Please check we have your correct contact details so you can participate.

We now have 2 uniform suppliers for you to use, so there should be no problems with getting our uniform quickly when you need to. In exceptional circumstances we can also provide help with purchasing uniform. Contact the school for details.

Students should wear a V-neck black jumper under their blazer if they wish to wear another layer during the winter months.

Please take care and stay safe

Miss Harlow
Headteacher



Dates for your diary...

Date	Event
23/10/20	Inset day 2
26-30 Oct	Half term
21 Dec- 01 Jan	Christmas
04/01/21	Inset day 3
15-19 Feb	Half term
01/04/21	Inset day 4
02/04/21	Good Friday
05 - 16 April	Easter
31 May - 4 June	Half term
22/07/21	Inset day 5
23/07/21	Summer holidays begin

Spooktacular Halloween Art

Competition winners:

Ruby, Hollie and Arina (joint entry)

Rhoneesha, Maja and Calisse



Head Boy and Girl:



Year 11 - New Head Boy and Head Girl

Congratulations to Dempsey and Wiktoria who are our new Head Boy and Head Girl.

It was a pleasure presenting them with their badges with Mr Beedle and Mrs Cameron. We are so proud of them.

School contact over half term

The school office will be closed over the October half term.

For reporting Covid 19 confirmed student cases, please email the details to:

schoolclosure@merrillacademy.derby.sch.uk

For non-urgent safeguarding concerns please use the reporting form by following this link:
<https://www.merrillacademy.derby.sch.uk/safeguarding-concerns>

For urgent concerns regarding a child's welfare please contact: Childrens Social Care on 01332 641172 or the Police.



Reminder:

From 2 November 2020 we go **cashless**.

All payments to school, including money for student lunches must be paid via **SIMS Pay**

Link to instructions:

<https://www.merrillacademy.derby.sch.uk/parents-carers/school-meals>



On Thursday 22 October, the top 20 students for positive points received a Halloween donut and chocolate milkshake delivered to their base by Ms Harlow – Headteacher.

Well done!



School Nursing Virtual 'Drop In'

Aged 13—19?

Want to speak to the School Nursing team?

You can speak to us through Attend Anywhere which is a video consultation system



Open
3—5 pm weekdays
(except bank holiday)

Merrill Academy have an additional school uniform supplier:

<https://www.uniformality.co.uk/schoolwear-150-c.asp>

UNIFORMALITY
Midlands Finest Uniform Suppliers

01332 677498

borrowwash@uniformality.co.uk