



# The Sherwood Newsletter

Resilience Equality Self-confidence Positivity Empathy Co-operation Tolerance

Friday 17th October 2025

**Article 15:** You have the right to meet with other children and to join groups and organisations, as long as this does not stop other people from enjoying their rights.

**Article 12:** You have the right to give your opinion and for adults to listen and take it seriously.

## Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to share that we have achieved the Primary Science Quality Mark, following a year of focus on the development of our Science provision. Please read the letter on the next page, which explains in more detail. Thank you to Miss Matharu and Miss Barcellona for leading on this project!

We hope you found our phonics workshop helpful last week. It was also great to see some of you at our coffee morning with governors yesterday. Do look out for further workshops and coffee mornings after half term.

I hope you have found parent / carer consultations informative and helpful this week. There is a further opportunity to attend on Monday 20th October. If you are not sure how to book, please contact our admin team.

This week we have been focusing on Democracy and children have been voting for the School Council representatives. Congratulations and well done to the successful candidates. You will have many opportunities to feed back your class's ideas on how to improve your experiences at school and the leadership team is looking forward to working with you. We are pleased to announce our new School Council representatives, listed below:



- 1 Rose - Mustafa
- 2 Sunflower - Zachary
- 3 Fir - Januksan
- 3 Willow - Eisa
- 4 Birch - Jake
- 4 Maple - Kayden
- 5 Beech - Jathush
- 5 Elm - Aarnavi
- 6 Chestnut -
- 6 Oak - Abinitha

## Our Voice counts...



We are looking for volunteers to help us with our **Christmas Fair**, which will take place after school in the hall on Friday 12th December. Please let the office team know if you can help!

Finally, children in Year 6 enjoyed Bikeability cycle training this week, learning aspects of the highway code and how to navigate the roads safely.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best Wishes, *Mrs Samouel*



Mrs A Samouel  
Headteacher



Miss K Matharu  
Assistant Head



- Resilience
- Equality
- Self-confidence
- Positivity
- Empathy
- Co-operation
- Tolerance



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Email: [adminoffice@Sherwood.merton.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@Sherwood.merton.sch.uk)

Tel: 020 8764 5100



# The Sherwood School

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## The Sherwood School Awarded Primary Science Quality Mark

The Sherwood School is proud to announce that it is one of 310 schools that has been awarded the **Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM)** this month, a nationally recognised accreditation that celebrates a commitment to developing excellence in science leadership, curriculum design, teaching and learning.

Led by the University of Hertfordshire, for over a decade the Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM) has been setting children on a path to a life filled with exciting possibilities and opportunities, by giving them access to a strong foundation in quality primary science education. Over 5,800 Quality Marks have now been awarded, impacting on the learning of over 1,000,000 children.

PSQM is a comprehensive, year-long professional development programme that equips primary science subject leaders with the knowledge, capability and support needed to raise the quality and profile of science across the whole school. At the heart of the programme is a structured development cycle that embeds critical reflection and promotes a culture of continuous improvement.

Helen Sizer, PSQM Director said: 'By achieving The Primary Science Quality Mark, a school has shown commitment to raising the profile and quality of science education through the development of effective science leadership, visionary curriculum design and excellent teaching practice which is positively impacting on children's learning across the school. Such success is only possible through the collective effort of the whole school community, and all those involved should be incredibly proud of this achievement and the positive difference this is making to children's learning and understanding of the world around them.'

**For more information, please contact:**

[PSQM@herts.ac.uk](mailto:PSQM@herts.ac.uk)





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Friday 3rd October 2025

## Autumn Term Calendar Dates

Event	Date	Time
Focus Week: 'The Fish Who Could Wish'	3-5 September	All day
Meet the Teacher Years 1-3	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> September	9.00 – 9.30 a.m.
Meet the Teacher Years 4-6	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> September	9.00 – 9.30 a.m.
Year 6 PGL Meeting for Parents / Carers	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> September	3.30 – 4.00p.m.
Genes for Jeans MUFTI Day	19 <sup>th</sup> September	All day
Growing Against Violence Workshops for Year 5 & 6 – So Social Media & Friend vs Friendly	19 <sup>th</sup> September	All Day
Year 6 Transition to High School Meetings	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> September	9a.m. & 5.00p.m.
Coffee Morning for Parents & Carers	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> September	9.00a.m. Main Hall
Focus Week: Harvest Festival	22-26 September	All week
European Day of Languages	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> September	All day
Focus: Black History Month	1st – 31st October	All October
Focus Week: Art & Black History	6 - 10 October	All week
4 Birch Swimming	6 – 17 October	2 Weeks
Year 2 (a.m.) and Year 5 (p.m.) Author Visit - New Wimbledon Theatre	7th October	a.m. and p.m.
Phonics & Early Reading Parent/Carer Workshop (EYFS & KS1)	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	3.30p.m. Main Hall
Year 6 Author Visit New Wimbledon Theatre	Friday 10th October	p.m.
Focus Week: Democracy & The Rule of Law	13 - 17 October	All week
Year 6 Bikeability Training	13-17 October	All week
Year 5 & 6 Football Competition	17th October	All day
<b>Half Term: 27 - 31 October</b>		
Focus Week: Kindness & Anti-bullying 'Choose Respect'	10-13 November	All week
4 Maple Swimming	3 – 14 November	2 Weeks
Year 6 PGL Residential	5 – 7 November	3 Days
'Children in Need' MUFTI Day	Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	All day
EYFS Christmas Seasonal Celebrations: precise dates to follow.	Week commencing 1 <sup>st</sup> December	
Key Stage 1 & 2 Christmas Seasonal Celebrations: dates to follow.	Week commencing 8 <sup>th</sup> December	
Open Afternoon	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	3.20 - 4.00p.m.
End of Term	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	2.15p.m.



# The Sherwood School

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## Star of the Week!

Friday 17th October 2025

### Week Beginning 6th October 2025

1 Rose	<b>Abinan</b>	He comes into the classroom with a big smile, is always ready to learn and enjoys working and challenging himself. He has written some brilliant sentences in English.
2 Sunflower	<b>Zariah</b>	She always contributes to class discussions and is ready to share her ideas, especially in Maths and English. She used artistic illustrations to retell the story 'Billy & the Beast'
3 Fir	<b>Jake</b>	He has been using the dienes brilliantly to add and subtract multiples of 10, showing great focus and determination. He has tried his best and hasn't given up - well done!
3 Willow	<b>Harley</b>	With encouragement, he is beginning to share his ideas and opinions with the whole class & likes answering questions during guided reading. He is kind and polite to all.
4 Birch	<b>Dhruvin</b>	for his consistent positive attitude to learning. He always comes in to school with a smile, a willingness to learn, and a desire to support his friends and classmates.
4 Maple	<b>Hailey</b>	She has really earned the 'RIGHT' to be our star of the week, thanks to how much she has embraced the role of being Maple's Rights Respecting Ambassador. Well done!
5 Beech	<b>Phoebe</b>	She is an amazing, hardworking, kind individual who consistently demonstrates dedication to her learning. She arrives early, focused & completing her early morning work.
5 Elm	<b>Aarnavi</b>	She is a role model for behaviour and attitude in the class. She takes a pride in her work & always presents it neatly. She is a very kind friend & helpful towards everyone.
6 Chestnut	<b>Ollie</b>	He is always ready & eager to take on new challenges, demonstrating curiosity and determination in all subjects. His excellent behaviour sets a great example for others.
6 Oak	<b>Riko</b>	He is an excellent role model at all times & always demonstrates our Sherwood Values. In lessons, he is focused and listens well, sharing his knowledge with the class.

### Week Beginning 13th October 2025

1 Rose	<b>Andreea</b>	She has been chosen for being such a positive, thoughtful and hardworking member of Year One. She comes into the classroom with a great attitude, always ready to learn.
2 Sunflower	<b>Catalina</b>	She went out of her way to welcome a new child into our class & became an author as she made an amazing book at home called 'The Little Fish and the Turtle' – Well done!
3 Fir	<b>Presley</b>	For showing fantastic creativity and resilience in English! He impressed us all by using a wonderful simile that brought his writing to life, making it exciting and descriptive.
3 Willow	<b>Eisa</b>	He is a Sherwood role model and is always Ready, Respectful & Safe. He loves learning and enjoys challenging himself in all lessons every single day - you are a star!
4 Birch	<b>All</b>	The whole of 4 Birch has been nominated due to their incredible effort and great behaviour during our swimming trips the past two weeks. They have walked safely and sensibly to swimming, showed respect for all the instructors and tried their hardest!
4 Maple	<b>India</b>	Every single day you confidently set an amazing example of what an outstanding member of our Sherwood community should be, always impeccably polite and kind.
5 Beech	<b>Johaun</b>	He is a fantastic role model for his classmates as he always gets on with his work quietly and sensibly, without ever complaining & always makes the right choices.
5 Elm	<b>Maryam</b>	She is a role model for organisation as she always brings her homework back to school early and consistently & remembers to practice her spellings. Well done!
6 Chestnut	<b>Kasmeeta</b>	She always shows kindness and patience, in everything she does, making our classroom a happier and more inclusive place. She also sets a fantastic example of others.
6 Oak	<b>Leya</b>	Since starting Year 6, she has grown in confidence and it is so great to see how she is now asking for help and is beginning to share her knowledge with the class. Keep it up!



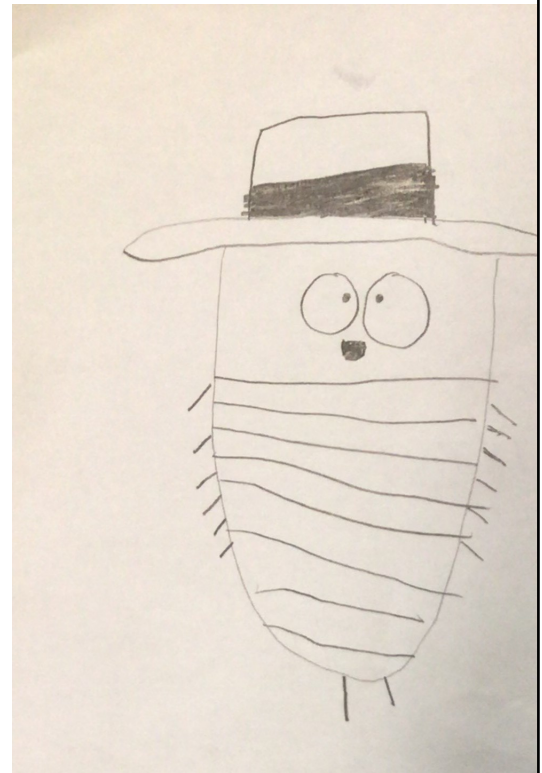
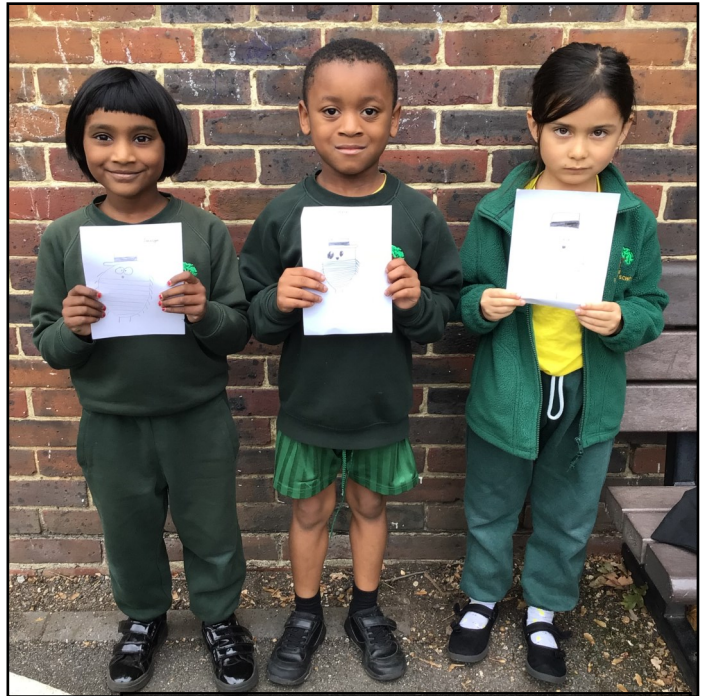
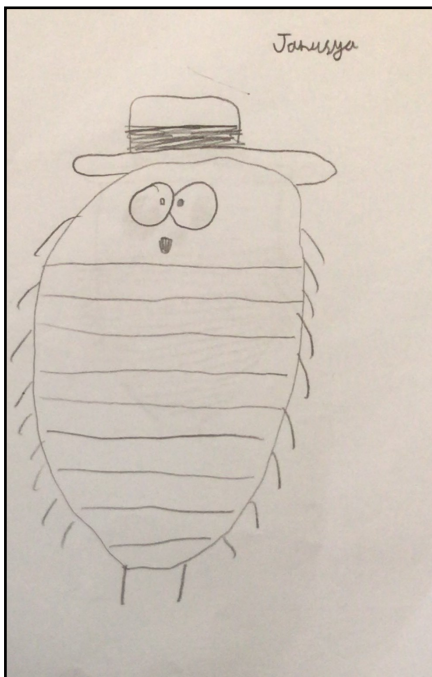
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## Year 2 Trip to the New Wimbledon Theatre

Last week children in year 2 visited Nadia Shireen at The New Wimbledon Theatre. In English, Year 2 have been learning about 'Billy and the Beast' which is one of Nadia's fantastic books. During the visit the children learnt about cool characters from another book and got the chance to become illustra-





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This week, our Year 5 School Council reps went to their first Merton Children's Parliament meeting at The Civic Centre.



These are important meetings where they can discuss changes and improvements they would like to make in their local area with pupils from other Merton schools.



Aarnavi & Jathush were great Sherwood role models and we are very proud of the contributions they made. They are looking forward to the next meeting in December.



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Year 6 had an exciting and inspiring trip to the theatre last week to watch MC Grammar perform live! The educational rapper brought books to life through music, rhythm, and rhyme, showing how fun and powerful reading can be. His energetic performance had everyone clapping and singing along (children and adults!) as well as thinking differently about literacy. It was a memorable experience that left our pupils buzzing with excitement and eager to pick up their next book!



We had a great time at New Wimbledon Theatre, it was a very enjoyable experience!!





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*This week, Year 5 presented a wonderful assembly all about Ancient Greece. The children impressed everyone with their knowledge of Greek history and culture, performing a creative rap about the gods & goddesses, sharing original myths and legends, and displaying some truly beautiful artwork inspired by Ancient Greece. It was a fantastic celebration of their learning and creativity—well done, Year 5!*



## AUTHOR SPECIAL EVENT

Elizabeth-Irene Baitie

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2025

13:00 - 14:00

Elizabeth-Irene Baitie is an award-winning children's and young adult author from Ghana. Her stories, set against vibrant Ghanaian backdrops, explore universal themes of courage, friendship, resilience, and identity. Through beloved books such as *Crossing the Stream* and *Flying Up the Mountain*, she has inspired readers across Africa, the UK, the US, and beyond. Her books have won international recognition, including the Macmillan Writers' Prize for Africa, the Burt Award for African Young Adult Literature, and the Children's Africana Book Award.



In this workshop, Elizabeth-Irene invites 7-12 year olds to come to create a shield of Courage including a time I was brave, someone who inspires me, a fear I want to overcome and my courage word, after hearing the inspiring tales of Ato and his friend in the books *Crossing the Stream* and *Flying up the Mountain*. Black History Month is all about celebrating these shields of courage and celebrating the people who bravely stood up against injustice and oppression in their day to day lives



Scan the QR code below to book your  
**FREE** Event with Elizabeth Irene





# WORRIED ABOUT THEM?

Our trained advisers can offer tailored support if you're worried about a change in your child's behaviour or emotions.

Contact YoungMinds Parents Helpline on  
**0808 802 5544.**

🌟 This free and confidential service is open to all parents and carers.

**YOUNGMINDS**  
Fighting for young people's mental health

@YoungMindsUK  
  
youngminds.org.uk

Scan QR code  
to find out how.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## What age range do you offer advice for?

We provide free, confidential advice to all parents and carers of young people aged 0-25.

## What kind of issues do you support with?

Our advisers are equipped to support you with anything that your child is going through. Including school avoidance, behavioural challenges, worry, ADHD, low mood and much more.

## Is there a long wait time on the calls?

We aim to answer our calls as quickly as possible. But if there is a queue you can select the option for a call back within two working days or chat with us online.

## What can you support me with?

Our service provides free, practical advice on how you can support your child's mental health. No matter what your child is going through, we are here to guide you when they need you the most.

## How can I access the helpline?

You can call our Parents Helpline for free on **0808 802 5544**, speak to us online by scanning the QR code on the back of this leaflet or learn more by visiting: [www.youngminds.org.uk/parents-helpline](http://www.youngminds.org.uk/parents-helpline)

## What happens when I contact you?

However you contact us, you will receive specific guidance from one of our expert advisers that will help you to understand your child's behaviour and give you practical advice on what to do next. All conversations are confidential.

**Please note** that we cannot advise on medication, counselling / therapy treatments or diagnose mental health conditions.



# IS YOUR CHILD GOING THROUGH A TOUGH TIME?

Call our Parents Helpline on  
**0808 802 5544**

or visit [youngminds.org.uk/parents-helpline](http://youngminds.org.uk/parents-helpline)

Free language translation and interpretation services are available.

## YOUNGMINDS



**15,000+** parents and carers supported last year

**89%** of helpline users felt more confident after a call

**"The person I spoke to was so helpful. She listened and signposted me to a wealth of other resources at a time when I was so distressed I had no idea which way to turn. For the first time, I felt as though there was someone out there for me – who could help me through all this." – Helpline caller**

# No matter what your child is going through, we're with you.

**Learn more**



# HEDGEHOG DISCOVERY AFTERNOON

BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY FOR AN ENGAGING MIX OF:

ARTS &  
CRAFTS

SHOWINGS OF THE  
AWARD-WINNING FILM  
'THE LITTLEST HOGLET'

INTERACTIVE  
LEARNING



JOIN US ON  
SUNDAY 26<sup>TH</sup>  
OCTOBER

BETWEEN  
1.30PM TO  
4.30PM

AT  
SHERWOOD  
PARK HALL,  
CR4 1JP



Mitcham  
Hedgehog  
Project



Find us on social media



[mitchamhedgehogproject@gmail.com](mailto:mitchamhedgehogproject@gmail.com)

This event is funded by our SpaceHive Crowdfund campaign  
[www.spacehive.com/help-the-hedgehogs-in-mitcham](http://www.spacehive.com/help-the-hedgehogs-in-mitcham)



## Goodbyes and Goodnights Parent/Carer Group

**Do you find it hard to get your child through the school/nursery gate?**

**Does your child struggle to separate from you?**

**Are you worried that things will get worse when your child transitions to the next school year in September?**

**Join our free, 4-session parent group to connect with other parents**

**What parents have said:**

**All sessions  
Mondays from  
10:30am - 12:00pm**

**22<sup>nd</sup> September  
29<sup>th</sup> September  
6<sup>th</sup> October  
13<sup>th</sup> October**

**Location:  
Wilson Hospital  
(Wellbeing Centre)  
Cranmer Road,  
Mitcham CR4 4TP**

Free on-site parking  
Transport links

*I think it went really well and think it should be easy access for all parents.*

*Useful tips, Q&A between other parents and the two facilitators*

**Scan the QR code or  
Click here to sign up**



*I didn't feel judged about what I was going through. The advice was broad but I felt like I could apply most of it to my son.*

**LIMITED SPACES  
AVAILABLE**



# MINI SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

September 2025



## SUMMER READING CHALLENGE EXTENDED



Great news for all our young readers – the Summer Reading Challenge has been extended until Saturday 20 September! This gives children a little extra time to enjoy their books and complete the challenge.

There's still plenty of opportunity to finish reading six books and collect the rest of the rewards too before collecting a medal and certificate!

Don't miss out on being added to the prize draw where we will be giving out big prizes as listed below:

- ◆ Nintendo Switch
- ◆ Samsung tablet
- ◆ New Wimbledon Theatre tickets to Robin Hood
- ◆ Family tickets to Christmas at Kew
- ◆ Merton Fireworks tickets
- ◆ Birthday party at Cannons Leisure Centre
- ◆ Family ticket to Chessington World of Adventures
- ◆ Scooter
- ◆ Flip out voucher
- ◆ Karaoke machine
- ◆ Instax camera
- ◆ Bocketts Farm tickets for two
- ◆ AFC Wimbledon gift bundle
- ◆ Polka theatre tickets to The Firework-Maker's Daughter
- ◆ Family board game bundle
- ◆ Go Ape adventure for two
- ◆ Deen City Farm animal encounter

## NATIONAL CODING WEEK

15 September - 21 September

Get ready to dive into National Coding Week, happening from Monday 15 September to Sunday 21 September - a UK-wide celebration of coding and digital literacy for all ages.

Whether you're a complete beginner or just curious about coding, this is your chance to explore the digital world in an inspiring, hands-on way.

Throughout the week, we're offering a variety of free Scratch coding and LEGO Spike sessions. It's a fantastic opportunity to sharpen your technology skills, unleash creativity, and learn how code powers the apps and tools we use every day.



**BOOK NOW**



## SEPTEMBER EBOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Click the title to read more!



➔ READ MORE

### READ VIA:



## Online Resources

Merton Libraries offer a range of free online resources, including eBooks and eAudiobooks to assist with school work and reading for pleasure.

Need help? Merton Library staff are always ready to assist.



## READING EGGS



Discover the joy of reading with Reading Eggs - free through Merton Library Service!

This fun and interactive online programme is designed to help children learn to read through one-on-one lessons tailored to their individual pace. With engaging activities, rewards, and step-by-step progress, Reading Eggs builds confidence and makes learning to read an enjoyable journey for every child.

Sign up today by speaking to library staff and start your reading adventure!



# Helping Children Feel Confident, Calm & Happy

## Support For Parents/Carers

### WHAT WE OFFER:

- Friendly, practical **1:1 advice and support** for parents
- **6-8 week parent sessions** with proven strategies
- **Free online webinars** on children's wellbeing
- Resources and **recorded workshops** to use anytime

- **Calmer routines** and **fewer conflicts** at home
- Children feel **more confident** in new or social situations
- Children **learn to cope with worries** and **build resilience**
- **Parents feel supported**, reassured, and not alone

### HOW IT HELPS:

### WHAT PARENTS SAY:

*"The **support was fantastic** - I **felt listened** to and encouraged."*

*"We now **have calmer routines** at home and my **child is happier** at school."*

*"I'd **recommend this service** to any parent."*

Scan the QR code to find out more and sign up  
speak to your child's school for more information

We also have an Eventbrite page where parents and carers can **book upcoming workshops and webinars** and a youtube channel with recorded resources, available through the QR code



SCAN ME

For more information, please go to:  
<https://swlstg.nhs.uk/education-wellbeing-service>,  
or email the team at [EWSinfo@swlstg.nhs.uk](mailto:EWSinfo@swlstg.nhs.uk)



## The Sherwood School Term and Holiday Dates 2025-26

**AUTUMN TERM** Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December

**INSET Days** Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September

Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September

**Children Begin** Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

**Half Term** Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October

**Term Ends** Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December

**SPRING TERM** Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March

**INSET Day** Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January

**Children Begin** Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January

**Half Term** Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February

**Term ends** Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March

**SUMMER TERM** Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July

(May Day Bank Holiday - Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May)

**INSET Days** Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July

**Children Begin** Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April

**Half term** Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May

(Spring Bank Holiday on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May)

**Term Ends** Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July

### **INSET Days 2025-26**

1 - Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025

2 - Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025

3 - Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026

4 - Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026

5 - Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2026



# The Sherwood School



## Breakfast Club

7.30am drop off, breakfast served before 8am

£8 per session  
(£6.66 with tax-free childcare)

## After school Club

3.45pm—4.30pm pick up

HALF session

£6 per session

(£4 with tax-free childcare)

4.30pm- 5.30pm pick up

FULL session including food

£12 per session

(£10 with tax-free childcare)

For more information and to book please contact us on

[Finance@sherwood.merton.sch.uk](mailto:Finance@sherwood.merton.sch.uk)

Or visit our website

[www.thesherwoodschool.co.uk/breakfast-and-afterschool-clubs](http://www.thesherwoodschool.co.uk/breakfast-and-afterschool-clubs)