
Term 3 – 21st January 2019

Mersham Primary School

Church Road, Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 6NU

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We are due to have a period of cold weather over the next week or so, so please can you ensure your child comes into school with suitable additional clothing to keep them warm outside i.e. hat, gloves, scarf etc. Please make sure these items are all named as they can easily go astray in school. Should the weather become particularly severe, please see the guidance at the end of this newsletter. Thank you.

**Mrs C Chalkley
Headteacher**

Sporting News – Basketball

The Mersham team gained bronze medals in the Ashford Basketball Competition with brilliant performances all round! The team put their all into every single match and showed amazing skill on court, as well as excellent teamwork. Well done Gethan, Michael, Connor, Annie, Kyla and Kaelyn; you were outstanding!

Valentine Disco

The PTA have kindly organised a disco for all children on Friday 8th February (see details below). Children in Year R and KS1 can bring a change of clothes to change into after the end of the school day. If parents are unable to come in and assist the younger ones changing, then school staff will help as needed. School staff will ensure that belongings are collected from the classroom prior to parents picking up at the end of the disco.

Walk in Wednesdays

Walk in Wednesdays up until Easter will be on 6th February and 3rd April. There will be no Walk in Wednesday in March as Parent's Evening will be taking place at that same time so there will be an opportunity to see work then instead.

PTA Facebook Page

Please can I remind parents that the PTA Facebook page is run by the PTA for PTA business only. If parents would like to raise any questions or queries about the school then they should address those with the class teacher or with Mrs Chalkley or Miss Hanson directly.

Upcoming Events

6 th Feb	Walk in Wednesday
8 th Feb	Disco KS1 3:30-4:30 KS2 5:00-6:30
14 th Feb	End of Term 3
15 th Feb	Staff Training Day
25 th Feb	Start of Term 4
4 th Mar	Parents Evening 3:30-6:00
5 th Mar	Parents Evening 5:00-7:30
7 th Mar	World Book Day
11 th Mar	Science Week
15 th Mar	Non-Uniform Day for Easter Egg Bingo
22 nd Mar	Easter Egg Bingo KS1
29 th Mar	Easter Egg Bingo KS2
3 rd April	Walk in Wednesday
5 th April	Easter Service 9:30am
5 th April	End of Term 4
23 rd April	Start of Term 5

Reading Award

Well done to Kinney Class (Year 3) who have won the reading award this week with a total of 87% of children in the class reading three times or more during the week. This was closely followed by Hawking class (Year 5) with 81%, and Ahlberg class (Year 4) with 75%.

Breakfast Club and Early Drop off

We are starting to see quite high numbers of children coming into Breakfast Club and Early Drop off on some days, which is great. However, please could I ask that you book in advance so that we are aware of numbers and can monitor health and safety for the children accordingly. If numbers continue to rise we may need to consider whether we need to impose a maximum number of children who can attend.

Class Assemblies for Terms 3 and 4

These assemblies will be performed at 9:05am in the school hall. Dates are as follows:

7th February : Nightingale class (Year 2)

14th February : Donaldson class (Year R)

28th February : Attenborough class (Year 1)

14th March : Ahlberg class (Year 4)

21st March : Hawking class (Year 5)

28th March: Kinney class (Year 3)

4th April : Churchill class (Year 6)

PTA News & Updates

Valentines Disco – Friday 8 February

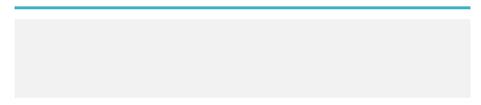


Cupcake Friday

Cakes will be on sale this Friday, all at 50p

PTA meeting – Tuesday 26 February

7pm in the Farriers, all are welcome



Severe Snow/Ice Plan for Parents and Families

Every winter brings the possibility of snow and ice. Extreme bad weather can cause widespread and prolonged disruption. Schools are often affected and it can be difficult to maintain an education service.

As a fundamental principle every effort must be made to keep schools open, even if only limited numbers of pupils can attend. However, schools may close due to 'unavoidable' circumstances. Those circumstances being that it is no longer safe for staff or pupils to be onsite.

We recognise that it is important our school remains open so parents are able to work and pupils can continue to learn. Mersham Primary School will make every effort to prepare for severe snow/ice this winter by e.g. gritting pathways, clearing access points etc.

How will we let you know if the school is closed?

If we do experience severe snow/ice resulting in hazardous conditions, Mrs Chalkley may have to take the decision to close the school. Once this decision has been made we will notify parents via the Kent Closures website. To determine whether Mersham Primary School is open or closed please visit www.kentclosures.co.uk. Search for the school in the search box. The Kent Closures website may also be used to find out if other services in Kent are open or closed, such as nurseries, children's centres and libraries. We also recommend parents sign up for Email alerts on the Kent Closures website. This service will send an email alert to let parents know if Mersham Primary School is closed. Local radio will sometimes provide information of school closures.

What can you do to help?

- Please visit www.kent.gov.uk/winter for more information about gritting routes and travel issues around Kent so you can plan your journey.
- Please approach the school from the front entrance as usual.
- Check with the school to see whether you need to provide a packed lunch from home in case school meals cannot be provided.
- Don't forget suitable warm clothing – gloves, hats, scarves, wellies etc. or even a change of clothing.
- If you are a working parent or feel you may have a problem with a sudden earlier pick up, please could you put a back-up plan in place with another family member or parent and inform the school. This will allow staff to leave earlier for their safety if weather dictates.

Many thanks for your support in helping Mersham Primary School remain open during periods of severe snow/ice.

