

# Mersham Primary School

Church Road, Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 6NU

[www.mersham.kent.sch.uk](http://www.mersham.kent.sch.uk) 01233 720449



**A big thank you to everyone for getting involved in World Book Day – the costumes were amazing. Thank you to all the staff too for getting involved, particularly Miss Hanson, who was responsible for organising the day's events. The children all had great opportunities through the day to develop a love of books and reading. This week is national Science Week so please ask your children about what exciting learning has been taking place in their class, in relation to Science.**

**Mrs C Chalkley  
Headteacher**

## Finance

Following on from the letter I sent to parents on Friday regarding the significant funding issues in all schools, I would just like to draw your attention to some areas that the school is currently having to fund that is having a real impact on the school budget:

- We have just been invoiced for £120 for unpaid school meals – this is a cost that should be met by parents. However any unpaid debt becomes the school's liability. ***In future, where meals have not been paid for after a week, we will have no choice but to instruct the kitchen to stop providing that child with a hot meal. Reminders will be sent out. Those eligible for free school meals will not be affected.***
- As a result of some parents not making contributions towards swimming, the school is currently having to pay £1,130.76 towards that cost. Whilst these costs are voluntary, it is disappointing that the figure is that high and means that other resources in the school cannot be purchased. As a result, the school is having to seriously consider limiting opportunities for children to learn off site in the future, as we rely on those parental contributions.

I hope that this gives some indication of how serious the school funding situation is. Therefore, I would be very grateful if any outstanding debts can be settled as quickly as possible. Should you have any difficulties financially, please come and discuss this with the school. Thank you.

## Active Health Conference

## Upcoming Events

11 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Science Week
15 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Non-Uniform Day for Easter Egg Bingo
22 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	Easter Egg Bingo KS1
29 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Easter Egg Bingo KS2
3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Walk in Wednesday
5 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Service 9:30am
5 <sup>th</sup> April	End of Term 4
23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Start of Term 5
30 <sup>th</sup> April	PTA Meeting 7pm The Farriers
6 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday
Wk Beg	Year 6 SATS
13 <sup>th</sup> May	
24 <sup>th</sup> May	End of Term 5

## Reading Award

Well done to Kinney Class (Year 3) who have won the reading award this week with a total of 81% of children in the class reading three times or more during the week. This was closely followed by Hawking class (Year 5) with 76%, and Churchill class (Year 6) with 73%.

## Jewellery

Please can you ensure children are not wearing jewellery to school and that if their ears are pierced, they are wearing small studs only. A number of children are wearing larger earrings or hoop-style earrings that are a health and safety risk in a busy school. Thank you for your support

Last week, our Year 4 and 5 Healthy Lifestyle Ambassadors attended the Active Health Conference at the Julie Rose Stadium with schools from across Ashford. The children took part in activities designed to promote an active lifestyle and learnt about the importance of maintaining a healthy diet. The ambassador team have decided to start a campaign in school called 'Be Sugar Smart'. They will be leading this exciting campaign to highlight how we can make smart food choices and swaps. Miss Elliott

### **Defibrillator Update**

We have now got the case for the defibrillator installed on the outside of the school building so that the donated defibrillator is available for community use. As mentioned previously, the Parish Council contributed £250 towards the cost of the case and the PTA kindly donated the balance of that cost. Thank you to all involved – a piece of potentially life-saving equipment is now available to the local community.

### **Walk in Wednesday**

The next Walk in Wednesdays will be on 3<sup>rd</sup> April. Please can I remind parents to collect their children as normal and then go round to the classroom avoiding going through the Reception outside area.

### **Spring Fair – The North School**

The North School will be holding a Spring Fair on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April. Please see attached flyer for further details.

### **Infinity Training Free First Aid Workshop**

Infinity Training (who the school use for much of our First Aid training) are running a schools competition on Facebook to win a free First aid workshop for your children.

Parents can vote by following the instructions on our Facebook post or following this link

<https://www.facebook.com/infinitytg/photos/a.1408758632574789/2048740265243286/?type=3&theater>

The more votes you have from parents/adults/carers or guardians or relatives, the better your chances of winning! This would be great to win for the children at Mersham!

### **Supervision of children at the end of the day**

Please can I remind parents to supervise young children carefully at the end of the day on the playground. Children should not be allowed to play in the early years outdoor area or on the lower playground where they may disrupt learning that is still continuing in the classrooms. I appreciate your support in advance.

### **Term Dates 2019-20**

We have (along with some other schools in the CARE Foundation Trust) made the decision to adjust our term dates next year to allow for a longer holiday in May. Please note that this is for ONE YEAR ONLY and will not necessarily occur in future years. I am aware that this will probably suit some families but perhaps not all, however it has been agreed we will trial it on this occasion.

#### **Term 1**

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October

Staff Development Day - Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September

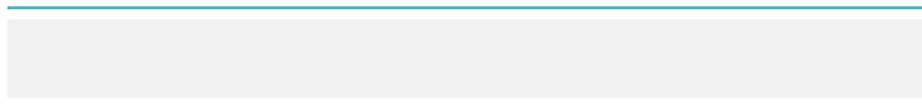
#### **Term 2**

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December

#### **Term 3**

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January – Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February

Staff Development Day - Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February



#### Term 4

Monday 24th February – Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March  
Staff Development Day - Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April

#### Term 5

Thursday 16th April – Friday 22nd May  
Bank Holiday – Monday 4th May

#### Term 6

Monday 8th June – Thursday 23rd July  
Staff Development Days – Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> and Friday 5<sup>th</sup> June

#### Class Assemblies for Terms 3 and 4

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

14<sup>th</sup> March : Ahlberg class (Year 4)

28<sup>th</sup> March: Kinney class (Year 3)

21<sup>st</sup> March : Hawking class (Year 5)

4<sup>th</sup> April : Churchill class (Year 6)

#### PTA News & Updates

**Second hand uniform and cake sale – Wednesday 13 March**



**Easter Egg bingo – Friday 22 and 29 March**

**Non uniform day (in exchange for eggs) – Friday 15 March**

**SAVE THE DATE – Summer Fair will be held on Friday 28 June 2019**

