
Term 4 – 1st April 2019



Mersham Primary School

Church Road, Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 6NU

www.mersham.kent.sch.uk 01233 720449



Once again, thank you to everyone who attended the Key Stage 2 Easter Egg Bingo on Friday! A huge thank you to all the members of the PTA for organising the event and to the members of staff who supported. I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Easter and I hope you all have a relaxing and enjoyable holiday.

**Mrs C Chalkley
Headteacher**

Staffing Changes

I would like to welcome Mrs Sandra Cooper to the staff team today – Mrs Cooper will be an additional adult supporting in Year 5. After the holiday we will also be welcoming Mrs Catherine Cox as the permanent replacement for Miss Solomon in Year 5. Mrs Cox is currently working as a class teacher and is looking to take a step back from the pressures that that role entails. We very much look forward to benefiting from her extensive experience and skills supporting pupils in Mersham, alongside Mrs Harris and Miss Hanson. I would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Solomon who has held the fort in Year 5 since Miss Solomon left, it has been hugely appreciated by all members of the school community.

We are also saying goodbye to Miss Ireland at the end of this week as she has decided to take up a new challenge teaching Year 2 at St Teresa's Primary School. Miss Ireland has been at the school for nearly 18 years and has undertaken a variety of roles in that time, including teaching various year groups and running the Mother and Toddler Group. Over that time, she has made a huge contribution to school life at Mersham, for which the whole school community is very grateful. We wish her all the very best as she takes on a new chapter in her career.

We have appointed a new teacher for Year R although they are unable to start until September. In the meantime, there will be a temporary appointment to cover terms 5 and 6. I would like to thank Mrs Carswell for all her support in providing continuity for the pupils in that class.

Upcoming Events

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
25 th April	KS1 SATS meeting – Yr 2 parents only
30 th April	PTA Meeting 7pm The Farriers
6 th May	Bank Holiday
Wk Beg	Year 6 SATS
13 th May	
24 th May	End of Term 5
3 rd June	Start of Term 6
13 th June	New Yr R New Entrants Meeting for parents
24 th June	Wellbeing Week
28 th June	Sports Day and Summer Fair
16/17 th Jul	Year 6 Production
19 th July	End of Term 6

Reading Award

Well done to Ahlberg Class (Year 4) who have won the reading award this week with a total of 84% of children in the class reading three times or more during the week. This was closely followed by Hawking (Year 5) and Kinney class (Year 3) who both achieved 73%.

Frog Spawn

We have had a few parents offering to bring in frog spawn – thank you for the kind offers but we have loads in the school pond that will enable children in the school to observe the changes that take place in a natural environment.

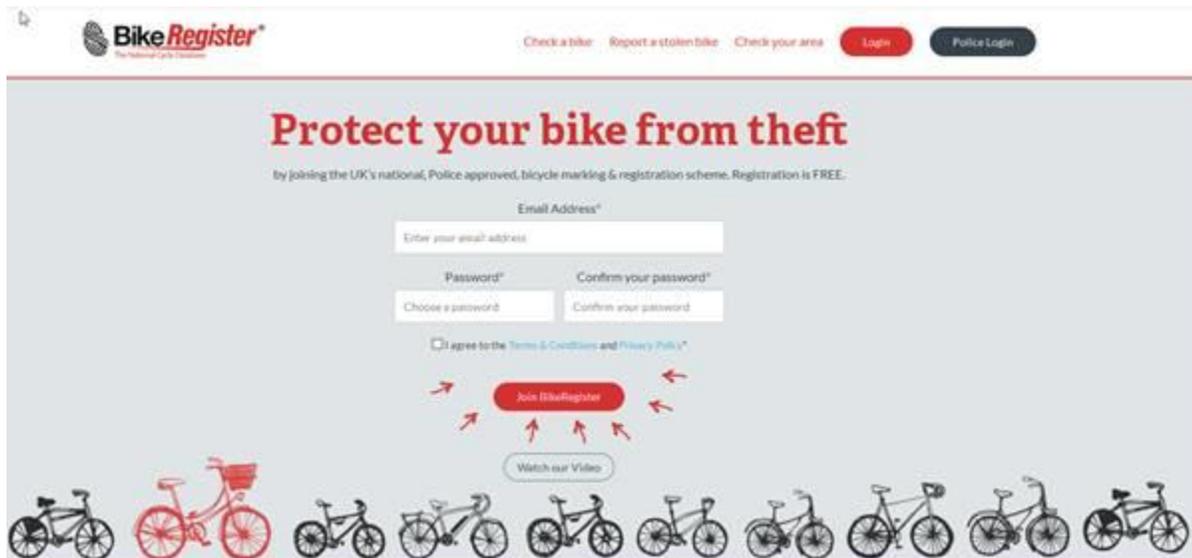
CARE Foundation Trust Times Tables Competition

On Wednesday 27th March, four budding mathematicians (Penny, Harry, Jay, Cameron) represented the school at a times table competition hosted by Brabourne School. The competition consisted of a variety of rounds that challenged the children's multiplication and division knowledge, as well as their ability to work as a team. After the initial 6 rounds, Mersham were placed joint first and had to go head-to-head in a speed challenge for the title. We missed out by just a few questions to claim Silver. I was so impressed with their knowledge and was super proud of how they represented the school. Well done team! Miss Sexton

Bike Theft – information from the local PCSO

We have recently had a period of bicycle theft's happening in and around Ashford and we are trying to encourage people to register their bikes through the following website

<https://www.bikeregister.com/>



The image shows the registration page for Bike Register. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Bike Register logo and links for 'Check a bike', 'Report a stolen bike', 'Check your area', 'Login', and 'Police Login'. The main heading is 'Protect your bike from theft' in red, followed by the text 'by joining the UK's national, Police approved, bicycle marking & registration scheme. Registration is FREE.' Below this is a registration form with fields for 'Email Address*', 'Password*', and 'Confirm your password*'. There are also checkboxes for 'Choose a password' and 'Confirm your password', and a checkbox for 'I agree to the Terms & Conditions and Privacy Policy*'. A prominent red 'Join BikeRegister' button is centered, with several red arrows pointing towards it. Below the button is a 'Watch our Video' button. At the bottom of the page, there is a row of ten bicycle icons, with the first one highlighted in red.

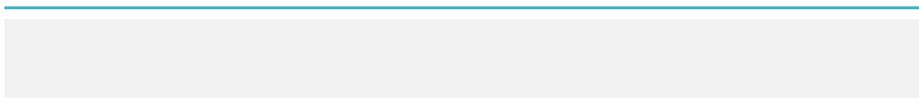
If you have friends or family with bikes please advise them and make them aware of this website to help protect them from theft.

KS1 SATS Parents meeting

Mrs Maher will be holding a meeting for parents of Year 2 children on Thursday 25th April to discuss the process and approach to KS1 SATS. Miss Fitzgerald has kindly offered to look after any children and their siblings whilst the meeting is taking place.

Walk in Wednesday

Walk in Wednesdays will be this Wednesday. 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.



Uniform

Please can I put a general reminder about school uniform as it has been noticed that a number of children are not wearing correct clothing or appropriate school shoes. Please check the website if you are unsure. If any of the girls would prefer to wear shorts beneath their skirts, please ensure they cannot be seen below the hemline. Thank you for your support.

Spring Fair – The North School

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

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 3rd September – Friday 18th October
Staff Development Day - Monday 2nd September

Term 2

Monday 28th October – Friday 20th December

Term 3

Monday 6th January – Thursday 13th February
Staff Development Day - Friday 14th February

Term 4

Monday 24th February – Tuesday 31st March
Staff Development Day - Wednesday 1st 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 4th and Friday 5th June

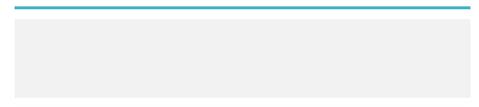
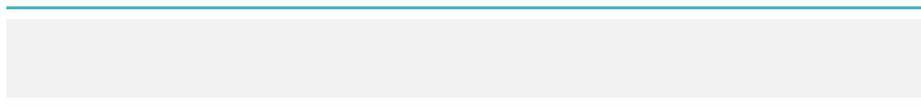
Class Assemblies for Terms 3 and 4

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

4th April : Churchill class (Year 6)

PTA News & Updates

Thank you to everyone who came and supported KS2 Easter egg bingo on Friday, we raised £138.20, meaning that the total raised for both events is 248.20! This is great! A big thank you to everyone who donated eggs and to the staff and members of the PTA who made the bingo events happen.



The PTA would like to wish everyone a very happy Easter holidays. When we return to school next term, the focus will be the summer fair, which takes place after sports day on Friday 28 June. This is a few weeks earlier than in previous years, so it will come around quickly!

Last year we raised a huge amount of money at the summer fair, which would not have been possible without the support and help of many people. Work has already started, and sponsorship for the important Pimms tent has been secured. We want to make the raffle the biggest and best yet, so if anyone has any prizes they could donate, or organise through local contacts, please speak to a member of the PTA.

Helpers will also be needed on the day, so please save the date! We will be holding a meeting early next term to begin planning the event, all are welcome.

