
Term 5 – 23rd April 2019

Mersham Primary School

Church Road, Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 6NU

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Welcome back – I hope you have all had a relaxing break over Easter. This is a short but busy term, particularly because children in both Year 2 and Year 6 will be taking their end of Key Stage tests. There will be meetings for parents of children in both Year 2 and Year 6 to provide further information about these tests (please see details below) if you would like to know more about what is involved.

**Mrs C Chalkley
Headteacher**

Staffing Changes

I would like to welcome Mrs Caroline Humphries temporarily to the school team. Mrs Humphries is an experienced Early Years teacher who will be teaching in Year R for Terms 5 and 6 until the permanent replacement can take up the position in September.

Eco Eagles

On Friday 29th March the KS2 Eco-eagles attended an environmental event hosted by Ashford district council. The children presented what they have been working on this year to the mayor, the borough council's waste and recycling education officer and 9 other schools from the Care Foundation Trust. The children discussed how they have tackled litter in our playground. Earlier in the year, the children discovered that if litter continued at the rate it was, 26,760 pieces of rubbish will be left on our playground this year. Approximately 8900 pieces of that rubbish, will be whole pieces of fruit or vegetables. Of the 17,860 pieces left, most of it will be single use plastic packaging. As the Eco-eagles wish to continue to combat this problem, the children managed to gain many ideas from other schools.

After presenting, the mayor praised the awareness raised by the group and their analytical approach to reducing litter. Being surrounded by country lanes, farmland, woodland and rivers, means that the children continue to be concerned by the litter produced on the playground. The environment education officer continued to praise that the children were aware of our school setting and that we would continue to combat this issue.



Upcoming Events

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
1 st May	Walk in Wednesday
3 rd May	KS2 SATS meeting – Yr 6 parents only
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	Cream Teas
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 83% of children in the class reading three times or more during the week. This was closely followed by Hawking class (Year 5) with 60%, and Nightingale class (Year 2) with 56%.

After the presentation, the group received a certificate for their work and a bird box. They then had a tour of the mayor's office where they had the chance to see and even hold some of the ceremonial equipment!

Well done to all of the KS2 Eco-eagles for representing our school incredibly well and having the courage to give a presentation. Mr Ives



KS1 SATS Parents meeting

Mrs Maher will be holding a meeting for parents of Year 2 children on Thursday 25th April, at 3:30pm in Nightingale's classroom 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.

KS2 SATS Parents meeting

Mrs Chalkley and Mr Ives will be holding a meeting for parents of Year 6 children on Friday 3rd May, at 3:30pm in Churchill's classroom to discuss the process and approach to KS2 SATS.

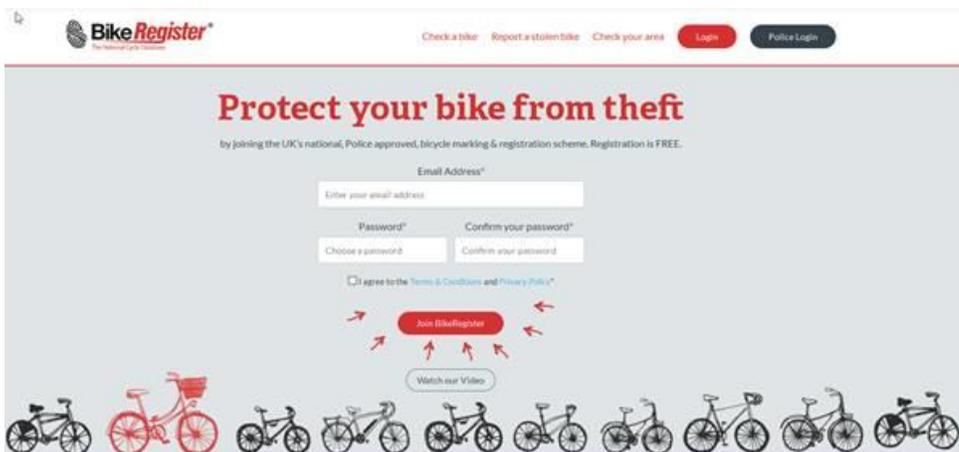
Walk in Wednesday

Walk in Wednesday will be in Wednesday 1st May. 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.

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/>



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

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

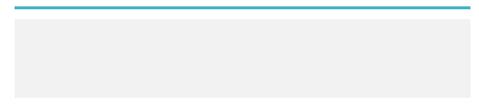
Term 6

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

PTA News & Updates

The focus this term 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.

30th April – PTA Meeting at The Farriers Arms, 7pm. All welcome.

