
Term 1 – 28th September 2020

Mersham Primary School

Church Road, Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 6NU

www.mersham.kent.sch.uk 01233 720449

With all the restrictions that are currently in place, we are not able to have assemblies altogether in the hall at the moment. I personally particularly missed our weekly Celebration Assembly on a Friday, when we were able to share all the amazing work that had gone on across the school, during the previous week. To try and fill the gap, we are now having virtual Celebration Assembly via Zoom. Cameras in the classrooms have enabled everyone to see each other on the interactive whiteboards and to share in the successes for that week. Children are presented with their certificate by the class teacher whilst I, from my office, explain to the whole school why they have earned it that week! Miss Tripp and Mr Dewey have said how lovely it is to hear clapping coming from all the classrooms during this time!

**Cheryl Chalkley
Headteacher**

Mrs Harris

I am very pleased to be able to announce that Mrs Harris had a baby boy at the end of August, Harvey Dean Ghent weighed 7lb 7oz and both mum and baby are doing really well.

PCSO Monthly Report

Please see report attached from the local PCSO

Year 6 Parents

Following a couple of enquiries, this is just a reminder that applications for secondary schools must be in by midnight on 2nd November.

COVID Symptoms – Guidance for schools from Kent County Council

There is a lot of frustration at the moment I know, with regard to children having to be kept off school with a mild illness that is unlikely to be Covid-19. With the challenges associated with the testing system as well, this is just making the situation for parents worse. Whilst I fully appreciate these challenges, the guidance is quite clear and is as follows:

There is a national 'case definition' which identifies Covid symptoms as:



Upcoming Events

15 th Oct	Kent Test
23 rd Oct	End of Term 1
2 nd Nov	Start of Term 2
4 th Dec	Flu Vaccinations (all Year groups)
17 th Dec	End of Term 2
18 th Dec	Staff Training Day

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Where an individual presents with one of the above symptoms they should self-isolate and receive a test. We understand that there is much discussion nationally regarding additional symptoms and their link to Covid 19, however the above three symptoms remain the only symptoms where an individual needs to isolate and seek a test unless they are requested to seek a test by a health professional.

We are also aware of cases where children or staff present with one of the above symptoms for a short period of time, such as 1 day, and then wish to return to school without testing or self-isolation when they no longer have these symptoms; often after having discussed their symptoms with a health professional such as a GP who concludes they are likely to have an illness other than Covid.

We have sought advice on this matter and it remains that anybody presenting with one of the three symptoms must isolate for 10 days and only return prior to that if they have received a negative test result and feel well. It is important that schools consistently follow the procedures set out in their policies and risk assessments and that those policies are based on current guidance, which has not changed on this matter. A telephone consultation with a health professional that reports Covid is unlikely is not a reason for the school to deviate from the policy where an individual has had one of the three Covid symptoms.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection#ending-self-isolation-and-household-isolation>

Parents Evenings

Just to let you know that Parent's evenings, that usually take place at the start of term 2 will all take place virtually this year. Further details will be available nearer the time.

Class emails

Just a reminder that if you have any non-urgent questions for the class teacher, please use the class email addresses. These are being checked regularly by the class teachers.

ducklingclass@mersham.kent.sch.uk

penguinclass@mersham.kent.sch.uk

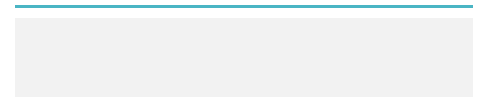
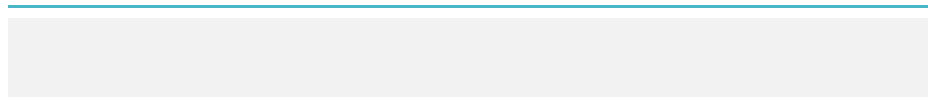
parrotclass@mersham.kent.sch.uk

robinclass@mersham.kent.sch.uk

kingfisherclass@mersham.kent.sch.uk

toucanclass@mersham.kent.sch.uk

falconclass@mersham.kent.sch.uk





JOIN THE SCHOOL'S 100 CLUB!!

ONLY £12 FOR THE WHOLE YEAR!

The 100 club is a mini lottery set up by Mersham School PTA, to fund extra equipment that is chosen directly by the children via their school council. It's the one fund they can actually have a direct say how the money is spent. The chin up bars on the field were paid for by the 100 Club proceeds, so please do join it!

Each month we hold a draw and TWO cash prizes can be won!!

PAYMENT DETAILS - You can pay in 2 ways:

PARENTMAIL : Go into SHOP to pay. You can pay for multiple subscriptions this way too, by choosing a number from the drop down menu.

BACS: An electronic transfer using the following account details:

Account Name: Mersham School 100 Club

Sort Code: 60-01-21; Account No: 52849783

Please reference the payment as your child's name.

Winners to announce!

April - 1st prize Claire Bairam, 2nd prize Leigh Lloyd

May – 1st prize Louise Morgan, 2nd prize Sarah Groves

June – 1st prize Brian Webb, 2nd prize Kelly Jones

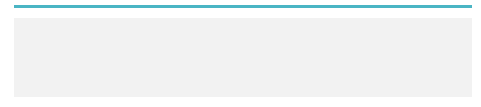
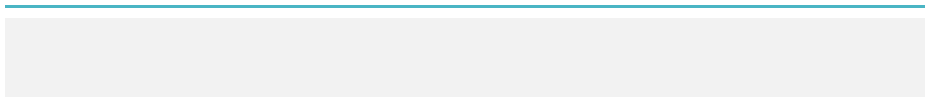
July – 1st prize Vicky Carter, 2nd prize Rita Bishop

August – 1st prize Sandra White, 2nd prize Claire Gregory

Cauliflower Christmas cards!

We are doing cauliflower cards again this year. Christmas cards, gift tags, mugs can be created from art work completed by the children at school. Look out for their art work coming home at half term, as orders will need to be placed online in order to guarantee they will arrive early December.

It is a fundraising project that we have done for many years, and is always really popular!





What did we raise last year?

The money raised at events organised by the PTA goes directly back to the school to benefit all children. Support by parents, grandparents, carers, and the children themselves is key to the success of fundraising, and we appreciate any support people can offer. This might be helping at events, making donations, or working behind the scenes. We all do this in our own time and many hands make light work!

During the last academic year, the PTA raised the following, which is amazing considering lockdown! Thank you everyone!

- **Total raised was £4300**
 - **Virtual summer fair raised – £846 (awaiting gift aid money)**
 - **School uniform raised – £308**
 - **Charity bin raised - £666**

What are the plans for this year?

We are considering what events we can hold, to comply with guidelines, but still allow children to have fun, and continue to raise much needed funds for the school.

We aim to raise £4000!

Look out for information on events in the newsletter and on the PTA facebook page!

We are also considering how to spend the money raised last year, watch this space 😊

