Mersham Primary School

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Over the Christmas holidays the school has migrated to a new Management Information System – this is the secure system that holds all the children's personal information, parents contact details etc. We used to use a system called SIMS which had become really out of date and difficult to use. We are now using a system called Arbor that is much more user friendly and efficient. Ultimately, we anticipate that we will be using Arbor for a whole range of additional functions but at this stage it is just to hold all relevant information about pupils. Next week, the office will be sending out the individual data collection sheets for each pupil. Please can you check these thoroughly to ensure the information we currently hold is accurate. It is really important that all of the information we hold is correct. Thank you for your support.

> Cheryl Chalkley Headteacher



Upcoming Events

Wk Beg 23rd Jan 1st Feb 9th Feb 10th Feb 20th Feb 28th Feb 1st Mar 24th Feb 2nd March 31st March

Bikeability Yr 5/6 Walk in Wednesday School Disco Creative Arts Day End of term 3 Start of term 4 Parents Eve Parents Eve Book Fair in School World Book Day Easter Service at the Church 9:15am

Refurbished IT Suite



Last weekend Simon, our IT Technician and Sean, the caretaker from Phoenix Primary School, spent the weekend building new work stations in the IT suite that has also been extended slightly as part of the building works. They have done an amazing job and created so much more space. Simon will now be fitting the new computers that were purchased by the PTA last year and we will be replacing the chairs with stools for the children to work from. I can't thank Simon and Sean enough for all their hard work, which I am sure you will agree, has made an amazing difference to this area of the school. **Library**

Now the building work is complete we have been able to improve our Library space to create a calm and cosy environment for pupils to read. The Library is now up and running and pupils are able to come and choose a book and take it home to enjoy! Please can I remind you that books are on loan for 1 week and must be checked back in with a Librarian. Thank you, Mrs Sly

Snacks at Breaktime

As a school, we are committed to promoting healthy eating with the children. Please could I remind parents that snacks at breaktime should consist of something like a piece of fruit, a pack of raisins or a cereal bar. Increasingly we are seeing children bringing packets of crisps, biscuits or chocolate which is not a healthy snack. Can I also please remind parents that children should not be bringing anything other than water in their bottles for the classroom. This is not only because it is healthier but also to minimise the impact of any potential spillages that can be more difficult to clean up if it is not water. Thank you for your support.

Attendance in the Autumn Term

National data for school attendance is collected and collated by an organisation called Fischer Family Trust (FFT). I am pleased to be able to report that during the Autumn term, Mersham Primary School was in the top 25% of schools for attendance. Bearing in mind all the illness that was going around just before Christmas, this is quite an achievement – well done all.

Mastering Number at Home Parent Workshops – for years R, 1 and 2

We are really looking forward to welcoming our Year R, 1 and 2 parents in for our 'Mastering Number at Home' workshops. Thank you to all of you have replied to say that you will be joining us. A reminder of the times and dates are:

Year 1: Monday 6th February - 9-10

Year 2: Tuesday 7th February - 3.20-4.15

Year R: Thursday 9th February - 9-10

To allow us to make final arrangements, please return your slips to your child's class teacher as soon as possible. Thank you, Mrs Maher

ASHFORD Mum2Mum Nearly New Market

Please see details on the attached flyer

Cheerleading Camp

Please see attached flyer

Forest School request from Miss Dengate

If anyone has any wooden pallets, branch/log offcuts and maybe any old Christmas trees that they are willing to donate for forest school, Miss Dengate would be very grateful.

School Disco – Thursday 9th February

Please find attached flyers from the PTFA.

Class Assemblies – Terms 3 and 4

With the new hall now fully in use, we will be able to invite parents in once again to see class assemblies. These assemblies will be performed at 9:05am in the school hall and will, this season, have a focus on Online Safety. Dates are as follows:

| 9thMarchKingfisher Class16thMarchFalcon Class23rdMarchToucan Class30thMarchRobin Class | 16 th March 23 rd March | Falcon Class Toucan Class |
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KM Charity Kent Cooks

Please see details below about a cookery competition that your child may be interested in getting involved in.

