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Term 1 – 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

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# Mersham Primary School

Church Road, Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 6NU

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

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**Well done to all of our new Ducklings who have managed their first full week of school – I know some of them are certainly feeling very fired! Parrot class (Year 2) also had a fantastic treasure hunt around Mersham village learning all about their local area – please look out for the photographs that will be shared on Instagram! A big thank you to all the parents that came along to support. Can I also remind parents that it is school photographs next week and that children should bring a school jumper (even if the weather is warm!) in order to get the best photos.**

**Cheryl Chalkley  
Headteacher**

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## Welcome to New Staff

In my message to welcome new staff last week, I completely forgot to mention Mrs Whitehead who has joined us as one of the Year 3 class teachers until Mrs Harris returns from maternity leave. We are very pleased to have her on board!

## Healthy Snacks for Break time

We are increasingly seeing children eating inappropriate snacks at break time – we believe they often just pull out the first thing that comes out of their lunchbox! We have reminded the children today that they should be eating a 'healthy' fruit based snack at break, not chocolate biscuits, packets of crisps or other 'unhealthy' snacks.

Reception and children in Years 1 and 2 are provided with free fruit and any left overs are often left for older children to help themselves to. We would be grateful to parents if you could reinforce this message and provide the children with suitable snacks for break time. Thank you for your support.

## Message from Miss Dengate – Forest School

Miss Dengate has been discussing with the children how they can improve forest school and there is a long list of items that the children have requested. This includes: tyres, pallets, tarpaulins, mud kitchen equipment, utensils and fishing nets. If anyone can help by donating any of these items, we would be very grateful.

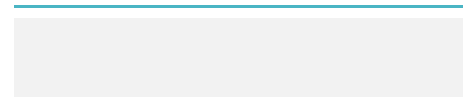
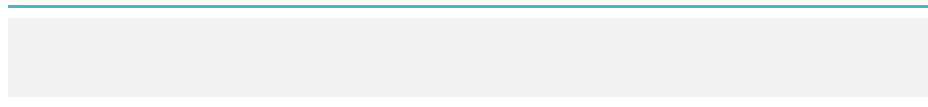
## Jewellery at school

Please can I also remind parents that children should not be wearing jewellery to school – this includes friendship bands and other homemade items that seem to creep in! This is for health and

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## Upcoming Events

19 <sup>th</sup> Sept	School Photos
21 <sup>st</sup> Sept	School Photos
4 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Walk in Wednesday
10 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Mental Health Awareness Day
13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Harvest Service (9:15 at The Church)
20 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Interim reports to parents
20 <sup>th</sup> Oct	End of term 1
30 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Start of term 2
1 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Walk in Wednesday
2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	Open evening for prospective parents
7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Parents Evenings
13 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Flu Vaccines Yr R-6
6 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Walk in Wednesday
14 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Pantomime
15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Church Service (9:15 at the Church)
15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	End of term 2
2 <sup>nd</sup> Jan	Staff Training Day
3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	Start of term 3



safety reasons to avoid injury to either themselves or others. Children can wear a watch (not a smart watch!) and if they have pierced ears, they can wear stud earrings. Hooped earrings that could catch on anything should be avoided. Again, thank you for your support.

### **New School Promotional Video**

If you have not seen this yet, it is now on the school website and our Instagram page. Please do share with anyone who may be looking for school places in the area.

### **Late pick-up**

Whilst there can be a range of perfectly legitimate reasons why a parent is late to pick up their child on an odd occasion, there are some children who are regularly collected late and as a school we do not have staff available to supervise them, nor is it our responsibility to do so beyond the end of the school day. Therefore, please can I remind all parents that if a child has still not been collected by 3:30pm we reserve the right to put them into After School Club and parents will be charged the standard £10 fee.

### **Class Assemblies – Terms 1 and 2**

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

21 <sup>st</sup> September	Parrot Class
5 <sup>th</sup> October	Kingfisher Class
12 <sup>th</sup> October	Penguin Class
19 <sup>th</sup> October	Falcon Class
9 <sup>th</sup> November	Duckling Class
23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Robin Class
7 <sup>th</sup> December	Toucan Class

### **Secondary School Open Evenings for Year 6 pupils**

Please see attached flyers from Norton Knatchbull Grammar School and Maidstone Girl's Grammar School

### **Fun Club – Mersham Church**

Please find attached a flyer about the Fun Club run through Mersham Church.

### **Survey for parents of children with asthma**

Parent and child experiences  
needed - Management of asthma  
and allergies in children



To help understand how different professionals work with each other to support those who have a child (or are a child) with asthma or allergies, the KSCMP have developed a short survey for parents/carers and young people to complete.

The survey can be accessed by visiting <https://forms.office.com/e/eHDnYDpm2E> or using the QR code

The cut off date for the survey is the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

### **Ashford Police – information in relation to e-scooters**

Please see attached newsletter from the Ashford Community Safety Unit about using e-scooters.

