
Term 2 – 3rd November 2023

Mersham Primary School

Church Road, Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 6NU

www.mersham.kent.sch.uk 01233 720449



Upcoming Events

7 th /8 th Nov	Parents Evenings
13 th Nov	Flu Vaccines Yr R-6
24 th Nov	Non-Uniform day for Chocolate Tombola
1 st Dec	Christmas Fair
6 th Dec	Walk in Wednesday
11/12 th Dec	Yr R & KS1 Production
13 th Dec	Christmas Dinner
14 th Dec	Pantomime
15 th Dec	Church Service (9:15 at the Church
15 th Dec	End of term 2
2 nd Jan	Staff Training Day
3 rd Jan	Start of term 3

Welcome back to Term 2! Last night, we held our very first open evening for prospective parents of children starting school next September. We were extremely pleased with the turnout especially as the weather had been so awful in the morning! I would like to say a huge thank you to all the children that came back in the evening to help out – they did an absolutely amazing job of telling our visitors what a great school Mersham is to attend. We were so proud of them all! I would also like to thank the PTFA who organised refreshments as well as the staff, governors and other organisations we work with for all their support last night too – it is something we will certainly do again next year!

**Cheryl Chalkley
Headteacher**

Parents Evenings – 7/8th November

You should have received a letter this week regarding booking your appointment for Parents evening next week. If for any reason, you have not been able to book an appointment, please contact the school office.

Change from Parentmail to Arbor

Thank you to all those of you who have successfully managed to download the Arbor app and have begun to use this instead of Parentmail. If anyone is having any difficulties, please contact Miss Tripp in the office. As of Monday, no further communications will come from Parentmail, only Arbor.

Art Competition – Ashford Borough Council

We have received a number of entries to the Art competition that was offered to the children over half term. If there are any final entries still sitting at home, they need to be handed in to the school office by Monday at the latest.

Staffing Update

Unfortunately, following the information shared in the last newsletter, Miss Gomez decided during the half term break, that she was not going to take on the role of teaching assistant at the school after all! We will be looking to recruit someone else for that position over the next few weeks.

Parent Workshops

Unfortunately, we have had to cancel the parent workshops on Autism Awareness and Budding Writers as we were not able to fill the minimum number of places required. This was a real shame and

I really hope that there will be more take up on the courses that we hope to offer in the Spring and Summer terms.

Holiday Activity vouchers for those eligible for Free School Meals

Holiday Activity vouchers will automatically be sent to all eligible families on 22nd November. This will enable the children to access holiday activities over the Christmas holidays. Further information can be found on this link <https://www.holidayactivities.com/wp-content/uploads/HolidayActivities- - Parents-guide.pdf>

PTFA Updates

Please see attached information from the PTFA including their newsletter as well as their request for donations for the Rainbow hampers for the Christmas fair.

Information from the Sleep Helpline

We are sending information about this wonderful free resource that can help parents and children to learn more about their sleep and develop better bedtime routines. Sleep is essential to brain function, by helping children to sleep better, we can help them to succeed in school.

In response to caller feedback, we have changed our opening hours to include two morning sessions.

At any given time up to 40% of adults and 50% of children (this rises to 80% with a SEND diagnosis) have difficulties with their sleep. Yet in a recent survey, almost 60% of adults felt there was a lack of support for sleep issues. Sleep problems can leave people feeling isolated and lonely.

Our free helpline is run by trained sleep advisors, many of whom are specialists in working with SEND. We can talk to young people directly, or parents (we can also talk to adults, including older people, about their sleep issues).

The helpline is open 5 times a week, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday evenings 7-9pm, and Monday, Wednesday mornings 9-11am. The number is 03303 530 541.

You can read more here: <https://thesleepcharity.org.uk/national-sleep-helpline/> Please also see attached a poster with the opening times and more information about the service.

Police Newsletter and information regarding e-scooters

Please find attached the latest Ashford Police newsletter as well as information we have been asked to circulate regarding e-scooters.

Class Assemblies – Terms 1 and 2

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

9 th November	Duckling Class
23 rd November	Robin Class
7 th December	Toucan Class

Message from Rev. Denyer

Please find information attached regarding the annual Christmas Tree Festival at Mersham Church

