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Term 4 – 8<sup>th</sup> March 2024

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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



**I just wanted to let parents know that I will be out of school for a few days, next week. I have been invited to attend a conference at UNESCO in Paris where school leaders from around the world will be gathering to talk about inclusion. During that time, UNESCO will also be celebrating the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Salamanca statement, when 92 governments made a commitment to inclusive education. This is a very exciting opportunity for me personally and professionally and I look forward to providing more details on my return. In my absence, Mrs Benjamin, as deputy headteacher, will be the main point of contact for any queries.**

**Cheryl Chalkley  
Headteacher**

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## World Book Day

Thank you to everyone for making such a fantastic effort for World Book Day. The costumes today were amazing and really added to our celebration of reading and the love of books. The children have also been involved in a carousel of activities today where they went to different teachers to enjoy their favourite book and engage in some activities. I know the children thoroughly enjoyed all that was on offer and I would like to thank the class teachers, support staff and Mrs Sly in particular for all the hard work that went into planning the event. I would also like to thank all the PTFA volunteers that helped man the Book Fair this week, we are really grateful for your support. More information about how much was made at the book fair will be available in due course.

## Sporting News – Basketball Tournament

A team of children from Year 6 took part in a Basketball tournament this week at The North School. The team won all their matches and whilst the tournament is officially non-competitive, they unofficially were the overall winners! A huge well done to the team, who represented the school brilliantly and a big thank you to Mr Fraser for his support in attending the event, with the team, on our behalf.

## Gardening Club – request for donations

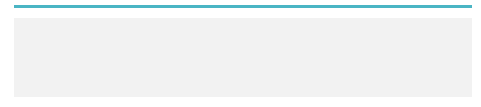
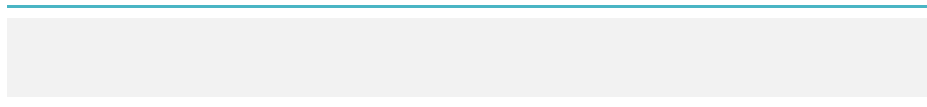
The gardening club members were incredibly enthusiastic during their first session! Miss Munday and Mrs Cox would be really appreciative of any donations. In particular, they would like:

- Small spades
- Small trowels

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## Upcoming Events

25 <sup>th</sup> Mar	Easter Hat (non-Uniform day)
28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	End of Term 4
15 <sup>th</sup> April	Start of Term 5
6 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday
Wk Beg	Year 6 SATS
13 <sup>th</sup> May	
23 <sup>rd</sup> May	End of Term 5
24 <sup>th</sup> May	Staff Training Day
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Start of Term 6
14 <sup>th</sup> June	Tea on the Field and Summer Fair
28 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day (KS1 am KS2 pm)
19 <sup>th</sup> July	End of Term 6
22/23 July	Staff Training Days



- Small forks
- Multi-purpose compost
- Bulbs / Seeds

Thank you in advance!

### School Hours

Further to the information sent to parents on 3<sup>rd</sup> January about adjusting school hours to 32.5 hours per week in line with DFE expectations, I received written feedback from one member of staff and no written feedback from any parents. Following further discussion with staff, it has now been confirmed that from the start of term 6, i.e. 3<sup>rd</sup> June the following will apply:

- The start of the school day for **all** pupils will be 8:45am, with the school gate opening from 8:35am. Children will be marked as late if they are not in school at that time.
- The end of the school day for pupils in Key Stage 1 and 2 will be 3:15pm.
- The end of the school day for pupils in Year R will be 3:05pm, as it is currently.

### Class Assemblies – Terms 3 and 4

Class assemblies will be performed at 9:05am in the school hall.

Dates are as follows:

14 <sup>th</sup> March	Parrot Class
21 <sup>st</sup> March	Robin Class
28 <sup>th</sup> March	Toucan Class

### Term Dates 2024/25

Please find below the term dates for the next academic year:

Term 1

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September – Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> October

Staff Development Days - Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September and Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October

Term 2

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December

Term 3

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February

Term 4

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April

Term 5

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

Bank Holiday – Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May

Term 6

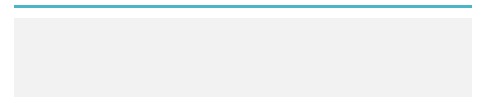
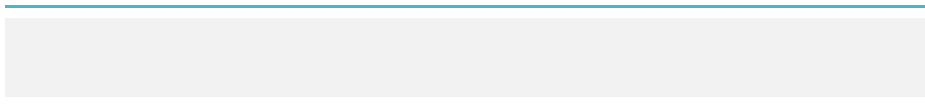
Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July

Staff Development Days – Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June, Monday 21<sup>st</sup> July and Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July

### PTA Updates

#### Non-uniform/easter hat competition

On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March, the children can wear non-uniform for a suggested £1 donation on the gate. We'll be judging an Easter hat competition so would love to see your creations - there are prizes! See the attached flyer for information.



**Mothering Sunday Service at Mersham Church**

Please find attached details of the Mothering Sunday Service at the church this weekend.

**Managing Your Child's Behaviour Workshop**

The Emotional Wellbeing/Support Team will be running an online parent workshop on Understanding Your Child's Behaviour on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 10.30am-12.30pm. Please find attached a flyer with more information and joining instructions.

**Sellindge Tennis Club – Holiday Club**

Please find attached details of a holiday club at Sellindge Tennis Club.

