
Term 1 – 6th September 2024

Mersham Primary School

Church Road, Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 6NU

www.mersham.kent.sch.uk 01233 720449



It has been a busy week this week with our new Reception children starting full time and some of the Year 6 pupils sitting the Kent Test. We are also working with some new providers in school this term. Year 5 have started a 6 week Tiger Troop programme with Challenger Troop that has been fully funded through the Redhill Trust. The instructors are all ex-military and each week they will focus on a core value including Courage, Discipline, Integrity, Loyalty, Selfless Commitment and Respect. More information about Challenger Troop, who are undertaking some phenomenal work with children and young people, can be found on their website <https://www.challenger troop.org/programmes/primary-schools/tiger-troop/>

We are also using a new provider for our Forest School interventions as Mr Henry (who many of the children knew) made the decision to focus on other career opportunities at the end of term 6. Our new providers are Willow Bushcraft. They also run holiday clubs for children and sessions for adults including a Men's Fire Circle and a Women's Woodland Wellbeing Group. More information can be found on their website. <https://www.willowbushcraft.co.uk/> Miss Dengate continues to run the whole class forest school on a Monday.

Cheryl Chalkley
Headteacher

Emotional Wellbeing Teams

The Emotional Wellbeing Teams will be offering a number of online workshops over terms 1 and 2 that parents are welcome to join. Please see attached flyer that has all the workshops and the links, to enable you to attend if you are interested.

Girls Cricket Coaching – Three Hills Sports Centre, Folkestone

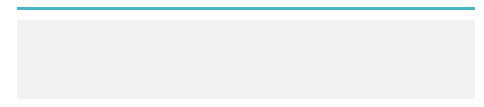
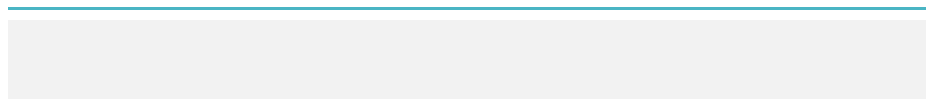
Please find attached details about cricket coaching for girls in Year 3-6.

Food Friends

Food Friends is a small charity, based in Kent, working to combat loneliness and isolation in communities through food and friendship. Our meal-sharing initiative connects volunteers - who are

Upcoming Events

17 th Sept	Emotional Wellbeing Teams Coffee Morning for new Year R parents 9am
24 th Sept	PTFA Meeting 7:30pm on Zoom
27 th Sept	Doughnut Sale
4 th Oct	Harvest Festival at the Church 9:15am
8/9 th Oct	School Photos
24 th Oct	End of Term 1
25 th Oct	Staff Training Day
4 th Nov	Start of Term 2
7 th Nov	Open Eve for Yr R prospective parents
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11 th Nov	Anti-Bullying Week
12 th Nov	Parents Eve 5:00-7:30pm
13 th Nov	Parents Eve 3:30-6:00pm
5 th Dec	PTFA Christmas Wreath Workshop 6:30pm



looking to share extra portions of home cooked food - with a neighbour - who would benefit from a nutritious meal delivered with company and conversation. Encouraging the community to support one another with every delicious bite! Find out more at www.food-friends.co.uk .

The volunteering opportunity is simple, uniquely rewarding, built on people's love of food and its ability to connect those in a community who would otherwise never cross paths. Our volunteer cooks, armed with saucepans and a little bit of spare time, have shared over 10, 000 meals so far across the Ashford, Canterbury, and Swale districts.

We are always looking for volunteers and it's a wonderfully flexible opportunity that would fit in with your busy staff body or working parents. Conversely, you may like to refer a family member or neighbour to us to receive meals. Please see attached flyer for more information.

Easy Peasy App for parents

Please find attached information about Easy Peasy an exciting free app for parents and carers.

Moving Up: New resources to support smooth school transitions and wellbeing in school children and their parents

Moving up and changing school is a big change for children and parents or caregivers. It's a new stage of growing independence and separation. Fears and worries are normal as well as excitement, as with each stage of childhood development. As parents, your role is to help children cope with and overcome their fears, to nurture them to feel brave and capable. New resources created by psychologists and Balsall Common Primary school are now available at www.inourplace.co.uk/moving-up to promote connected relationships between parents and children as they navigate changes from nursery to primary and primary to secondary to help children thrive in their new school environment.

Ashford Muslim Association Mosque Open House

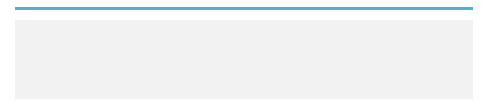
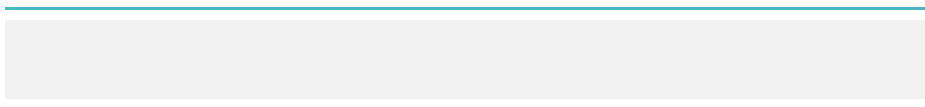
As part of the nationwide initiative " Visit My Mosque," Ashford Muslim Association Mosque would like to invite all the community, on Saturday 28th September, to attend an Open House and Exhibition about Islam.

The exhibition will include display of posters, banners, artefacts, models of some of the great mosques, Virtual Reality, wood work, Astro labs , free books about basics of Islam, Copies of English translation of Quran, tea , coffee ,snacks, lunch, face painting for children, Henna, kids' corner and much more. The event is free for all visitors including all above. Please see attached flyer for more information.

PTFA updates

Pre-loved uniform

As well as lots of school jumpers and cardigans, we also have lots of other useful school items such as trousers and coats. As the weather is getting colder, if anyone is struggling with clothing to keep children warm please do let the school office know or email preloved@mershamschoolpta.co.uk to discreetly find out what we have in stock.



PTFA meetings

It was lovely to meet some new faces at the Farriers on Thursday this week, as well as connecting with some we've seen before.

There will be a PTFA meeting via Zoom on Tuesday 24th September at 19:30 – 20:30. We'll be discussing plans for upcoming events and activities as well as planning how we'll spend funds already raised. We'd love input from as many different people as possible so please do join us if you can. The Zoom link will be shared on the PTFA Facebook page, or email hello@mershamschoolpta.co.uk for more information.

Krispy Kreme doughnut sale – Friday 27th September

After the success of our summer sale, we'll be holding another Krispy Kreme doughnut sale after school on Friday 27th September. The doughnuts do have to be pre-ordered, so please place your order online at <https://mersham-school-pta-1.sumupstore.com> by Friday 20th September to avoid disappointment. You can buy a dozen doughnuts for £10 or individual doughnuts for £1 each.

Christmas Wreath making Thursday 5th December 2024

The PTFA have organised a Christmas Wreath Making session 18:30 – 21:00 on Thursday 5th December 2024. It's £40 per person which includes all you need to make a traditional wreath, plus a festive drink and a mince pie. The event will be hosted by professional florist, Katie, from Flower Show Presents and last year we completely sold out so do book early to avoid disappointment. Bookings can be made at <https://mersham-school-pta-1.sumupstore.com> and more information about the event will be shared on the PTFA Facebook page closer to the time.

