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Term 1 – 5<sup>th</sup> September 2025

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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



**Welcome back! I hope you have all had a lovely Summer break. A particular warm welcome to all those children who have just joined in Reception. All our new Ducklings have done brilliantly over the last couple of days and it has been a real pleasure watching them settle into school life so successfully. The rest of the school have also adjusted well to their new classes and teachers. We also welcome Mrs Maher back into Year 6, although it just feels like she never left! We are all very much looking forward to a great year ahead!**

**Cheryl Chalkley**  
**Headteacher**

## **Mrs Fellows**

I am pleased to let you know that Mrs Fellows had a little boy at the start of the summer holidays. Harrison Elliott Fellows weighed 8lb 1oz and both mum and baby are doing really well – huge congratulations to Mrs Fellows and her husband.

## **School Photos**

Don't forget, Sarah Prescott, the photographer, will be in school on Monday and Tuesday. Please make sure your child is wearing correct school uniform including a school jumper/cardigan. If they happen to also have PE that day, please make sure they have uniform to change into for the photographs. Thank you

## **Peanut allergies in School**

We now have more than one child in the school who has a severe peanut allergy. Those concerned are not allowed to eat, or have any contact with, peanuts or foods that 'may contain peanuts'. Everything that they eat has to be checked and even if it says 'may contain' it has to be checked because it may not be safe for them to eat. They will become particularly ill if they eat or have contact with peanuts. They have medication to help them recover, but sometimes it may be necessary to go to hospital.

As a school, we have sought help from school nursing and Anaphylaxis UK and as we become more 'Allergy Aware', we need your help to keep these children safe and healthy. An increasing number of schools and nurseries are putting these measures in place to safeguard children and manage the risks that severe allergies present. We cannot categorically enforce a completely 'nut free' environment, and as the leading allergy organisation, Anaphylaxis UK, does not advocate schools becoming nut-free. What they do recommend is that schools become 'Allergy Aware'. By being 'Allergy Aware', Mersham Primary School is aiming to reduce and mitigate the risk posed to children in our school with allergies.

## **Upcoming Events**

8/9 <sup>th</sup> Sept	School photos
11 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Kent Test
12 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Yr R starting full time
22 <sup>nd</sup> Sept	Flu Vaccines
3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct	PTFA Magic Show from 3:30pm
10 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Harvest Festival at The Church 9:15am
16 <sup>th</sup> Oct	End of term 1
17 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Staff Training Day
27 <sup>th</sup> Oct	Start of term 2

You can help by ensuring:

- That wherever possible packed lunches, including snacks, avoid products such as peanut butter or cereal bars that contain obvious large pieces of peanut.
- Your child knows only to eat their own food; please let your child know that touching others food or swapping food could make another child very poorly.
- Your child is able to wash their hands with soap thoroughly every time after eating so they don't get any crumbs/contamination on anything in the classroom/around the school.
- Talk to your child about allergies and how they can make a child feel.

Thank you for your support to keep children safe and well.

### **New Groove Creative Dance Club at Mersham Primary School**

An exciting opportunity for your child...


**Starting:** Wednesday 10th September

 **Time:** 3:15 - 4:00 PM (right after school!)


 **Location:** Mersham Primary School


 **Who:** Years 3-6 only (KS2)

#### **Monthly Payment Info:**

 **Fee:** £30 per month

 **Payment:** Direct debit via our online admin system (set up upon registration).

 **Schedule:** Payments are spread evenly over 12 months for smaller, manageable amounts.

 **Cancellation:** One-month notice required.

 **Sibling Discounts Available! (t&c's apply)**

Your child will develop confidence, coordination, teamwork and resilience in a fun, positive environment led by Ellie Director of New Groove Creative.

Funky wishes,

Ellie

(Booking link available on the school website)

### **Toys in School**

Please can I remind all parents that toys from home should not be brought into school – we have particularly been having problems with Labubu toys this week. Not only are toys a distraction in the classroom but they can also cause problems on the playground and can potentially be damaged. I would be grateful if you could ensure children keep all toys at home. Thank you for your support.

### **School Sports Kit**

A number of children have not returned sports kit before the end of last term. Please can you ensure that this is returned as soon as possible so that there will be sufficient school kit for children to be able to wear at sporting events this coming year.

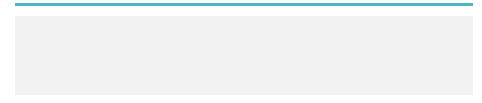
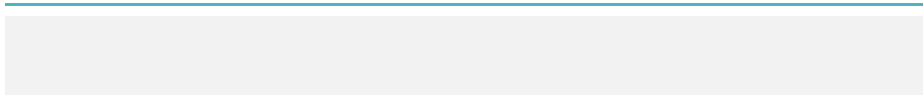
### **Junior Adventure Group (JAG) Newsletter**

Please find attached the 'back to school' newsletter from JAG who provide Breakfast Club and After School Club at the school.

### **Ashford Family Hubs**

Please find attached the latest timetable from Ashford Family Hubs.

### **Cycle Circle – FREE Ashford discovery bicycle rides in September (see attached flyer)**



Our popular Ashford discovery bicycle rides are back for September. Join us for a gentle ride to discover the safe bicycle routes around Ashford. Rides are ideal for adults and supported children (key stage 2 and above please). Rides start outside Harper's Cafe in Victoria Park at 5pm (for 1-2 hours depending on attendees). Wednesday 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th September. BOOKING ESSENTIAL by emailing [spencer@cyclecircle.co.uk](mailto:spencer@cyclecircle.co.uk)

### **Cycle Circle - Repton Connect September Cycling Event (see attached flyer)**

We have a bike event at Repton Connect on Saturday 13th September, 11-2, and will be offering the following for free:

- bike checks and minor repairs (just turn up)
- help with learning-to-ride and gaining confidence on a bike (booking essential)

### **PTFA News**

#### **Informal PTFA meeting – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September 15:15 – 16:15**

A huge welcome to those who are new to Mersham school this year. You may not be aware of what the PTFA (Parents, Teachers & Friends Association) means yet.... we'd love to tell you more! Perhaps you've been at Mersham School for a while but wonder what the PTFA does, who we are or how you can get involved?

If you have any new ideas or feedback on any of our activities, we'd love to hear from you.

We'll informally be meeting at the Farriers after school on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> September 15:15 – 16:15. There's no specific agenda and everyone is welcome. We'd love to see some new faces as well as those we know and love already.

Every year we coordinate memorable events for the children and raise a huge amount of money for school, but we can't do this without the wonderful volunteers that make it happen.

#### **Magic show – Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October**

The PTFA are excited to be welcoming Amigo's Magic for an evening of magic, mayhem & comedy on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. There will be two performances on the day:

- 1) 15:30 - 16:30 - A child-only (supervised) performance after school for Mersham school pupils
- 2) 17:15 – 18:15 - A family show for children, adults, grandparents and friends.

Tickets are on sale now on the Mersham PTFA SumUp store (<https://mersham-school-pta-1.sumupstore.com>) or via the link/QR code in the attached poster. Discounts are available for siblings and larger families.

#### **Your School Lottery – sign up**

Your School Lottery is an exciting weekly online lottery for parents/carers who want to get involved and support the school's fundraising efforts. Tickets cost just £1 per week. When you buy tickets, you'll automatically be entered into a guaranteed weekly cash prize for one supporter of our school plus the chance to win the top jackpot prize of £25,000!

When you sign up, our school gets a percentage of the ticket price so you can feel doubly good about taking part. To sign up, visit <https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk>.

