
Term 1 – 10th October 2025

Mersham Primary School

Church Road, Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 6NU

www.mersham.kent.sch.uk 01233 720449



Thank you to everyone who joined us at the Church this morning for the Harvest Festival – it was lovely to see so many of you there. The children performed brilliantly, as always and I know they thoroughly enjoyed being able to perform to an audience. Thank you also for all the food donations that will be forwarded to the Ashford food bank to provide vital support to local people.

Thank you also to the local community for getting behind our support for World Mental Health Day – I was really touched to see all the yellow balloons outside houses as I drove into school this morning. A huge thank you to members of our amazing PTFA who have been promoting this in the village. We will provide an update on how much was raised as soon as we have it.

Cheryl Chalkley
Headteacher

Upcoming Events

12 th Oct	Community Day
13 th Oct	PTFA AGM 3:30pm The Farriers Pub
16 th Oct	End of term 1
17 th Oct	Staff Training Day
27 th Oct	Start of term 2
31 st Oct	Interim Reports out
4 th Oct	Parents Evening 5:00-7.30
5 th Oct	Walk in Wednesday
6 th Oct	Parents Evening 3:30-6:00
10 th Nov	Anti-Bullying Week Odd Socks Day
13 th Nov	Open Evening for Prospective parents 5:00-7:00
21 st Nov	Quiz Evening

New Chair of Governors

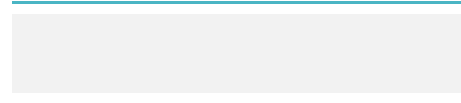
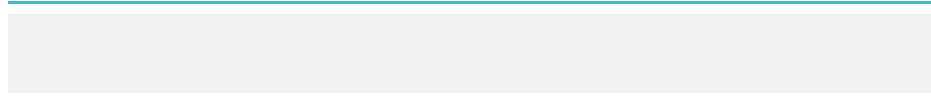
Following Lesley Caldwell's retirement at the end of the last academic year, I am pleased to announce that Charlotte Finch is our new Chair of Governors. Charlotte has been one of our governors for several years so knows the school well and with a background in special educational needs, I know she will be a huge asset to the school in this role, moving forwards.

Supermarket vouchers for pupils eligible for Free School Meals.

For all those pupils who are eligible for Free School Meals, (this does not include pupils in Reception and Key Stage 1 who are all eligible for Universal Free School Meals) food vouchers to the value of £10 will be sent by email on the last day of term to cover the half term break.

Important Safeguarding Notice: Children's "Spy" Books

We want to make you aware of a recent issue affecting some popular children's books by Andrew Cope, including the Spy Dogs, Spy Cats, and Spy Pups series.



Some editions of these books include a printed web address at the back. This link used to go to the author's website, but the domain is no longer under his control. It has since been taken over by another party and now leads to inappropriate adult content.

The publisher, Puffin, has paused sales and distribution of the books and is working with schools, libraries, and retailers to remove copies from circulation. They have stressed that the website has no connection to the author or publisher.

What this means for you:

If your child has any Spy Dog, Spy Cat or Spy Pups books at home, please check the back for website links and make sure they do not try to visit the site.

It is safe for children to continue reading the stories themselves — the concern is only with the outdated link.

We recommend talking with your child about the importance of not following web addresses in books without checking with an adult first.

We will continue to share updates from the publisher as more information becomes available.

Class Assemblies – Terms 1 and 2

Class assemblies will be performed at 9:00am in the school hall.

Dates are as follows:

16 th October	Robin Class
30 th October	Falcon Class
6 th November	Duckling Class
27 th November	Kingfisher Class
11 th December	Toucan Class

Mrs Benjamin and Mrs Maher's Quiz – 21st November

Please find attached a flyer with further details about the quiz on 21st November at the school. It would be great to see as many teams as possible!

Sport Education Team Holiday Club at Mersham

Mr Oatham and Mrs Fraser will once again be running a holiday club in the hall at Mersham Primary School during the half term break. Please see attached flyer for further information, including dates and how to book.

Junior Adventure Group (JAG) Staff Vacancy

JAG are looking for an After School Club Manager for the club at Mersham Primary School. If anyone is interested in the role or if you know anyone who maybe interested, more information can be found via this link.

<https://www.junioradventuresgroup.co.uk/join-our-team/job-application/?adid=640970>

SEND Parent Information Day – 16th October, Kent Showground, Detling

Please see attached flyer for more information.

This free event offers:

- Practical workshops to support children with SEND
- Opportunities to speak with professionals from education, health, and charities
- Advice and resources for families navigating SEND services

Parents and carers can book their free workshops via the following link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/veetxmvsSq>

Folkestone Chess Club

Folkestone Junior Chess Club is the only dedicated junior chess club in the area. If you are children are interested in taking part, please see links and email for further information

Website: <https://folkestonejnrcchess.wixsite.com/juniors> Email: folkestonejuniorchessclub@gmail.com

Half Term Holiday Club – please see flyer for more information

New Wells church as running a Free Half term holiday club this October, there will be a bouncy castle, games, crafts, sports and much more. If your child is in Primary school, they are invited! You can sign up here using this link: <https://forms.gle/GNqvK2mRyw2zBZdn6>

PTFA News

PTFA annual AGM meeting - 13th October

The PTFA will hold our annual AGM meeting on Monday 13th October 15:30 - 17:00 at the Farriers Arms.

At this meeting we agree committee members for the upcoming year, review the previous year's activities and agree our future plans and priorities. We're of course very grateful for our regular volunteers but also encourage others to attend as we'd like to hear the views of others. Please join us if you can.

Halloween trail - 31st October

We're excited to be working on a Halloween trail around Mersham after school on Friday 31st October. More details to follow :-)

Pre-loved school uniform

Did you know you can now purchase pre-loved uniform via the PTFA Online SumUp shop? Please visit <https://mersham-school-pta-1.sumupstore.com/category/pre-loved-uniform> and choose what you need. Save a fortune on the Mapac prices and save the planet while you're at it!

Community day - Sunday 12th October 12:00 - 16:00

Your help is needed! On Sunday 12th October, we need volunteers to help with outdoor jobs at school please. Repairing, building, cleaning, weeding and more... there are jobs, big and small, for all skill sets so please do come along and get stuck in.

Please share with family and friends; all are welcome. As well as helping out, these days are a lovely way to spend an afternoon and the weather forecast currently looks lovely for it.

PTFA social media links

For those who may be new to school or may not have found us before... our PTFA social PAGES keep you up to date with our events and activities and help bring our community together.

Please join us:

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/share/g/17NKuJvaLU/?mibextid=wwXlfr>

Instagram -

https://www.instagram.com/mershamschoolpta?igsh=dm92NzA0MnRjNWVv&utm_source=qr

WhatsApp - email us at hello@mershamschoolpta.co.uk to be added to the PTFA WhatsApp group.

