

# Mersham Primary School

Church Road, Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 6NU

[www.mersham.kent.sch.uk](http://www.mersham.kent.sch.uk) 01233 720449



**I would like to follow up on the many concerns raised with me at the start of the year, in relation to uniform supplies from County Print and Embroidery. I raised those concerns directly with the company and they have categorically apologised for any issues that parents experienced. They are due to release a statement to parents shortly to explain that they suffered some very challenging personal circumstances at critical points last year, that had an impact on the company. They have assured me that their service standards are back to previous levels and are committed to continue to make improvements to the business and the service they provide.**

**Cheryl Chalkley  
Headteacher**

## Staffing Updates

After over a decade in the school, Miss Tripp is sadly leaving us at the end of next week to take up a part-time position at the William Harvey hospital. Miss Tripp will be remembered for her bubbly personality and warm welcome to the school, as well as all the hard work she does behind the scenes with attendance and general day-to-day administration in the school office. We wish her every success in her new role which will provide more flexibility for her and her family. We are currently in the process of recruiting her replacement and we will provide more information in due course. In the interim, please can you bear with us, as it will be a combination of Mrs Lyons, Mrs Benjamin and I that will be covering the office, until we have someone in post.

## Smoking/Vaping on the school site

Please can I remind all parents that neither smoking nor vaping is permitted on the school site. Thank you.

## Information from the NHS regarding flu vaccines

Please find attached information regarding the flu virus circulating this year that has come much earlier than expected. There is also information that explains how your child can receive a free vaccine through the NHS if they did not have one as part of the school vaccination programme this year. **Violence Against Women and Girls Community Event – invitation from Kent Police**

On behalf of Kent Police, I would like to invite you to a Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Community Event on Monday 1 December 2025 from 10am to 12pm or Tuesday 2 December from 6pm to 8pm.

## Upcoming Events

21 <sup>st</sup> Nov	Quiz Evening
24/27 Nov	Year 4 Parents evening
27 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Candle Making Evening
28 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Non-uniform day for Christmas Fair
2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Elfridges in School
5 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Fair
9 <sup>th</sup> /10 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Ducklings and Parrots Christmas Production 1:30pm
12 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Service in the Church 9:15am
18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Pantomime
19 <sup>th</sup> Dec	End of Term 2
5 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Start of Term 3

This event will be hosted online via Microsoft Teams and will be an opportunity to find out more about what Kent Police and partners have done to make your community safer for women and girls. You will also be able to ask questions of the local teams delivering in your area.

This event has been shaped from the feedback at previous events and will focus on progress against the VAWG strategy; 2025 performance data and what initiatives have been undertaken across the force to tackle VAWG this year.

N.B Both events will have the same content, we host them at different times to enable more people to attend. The event has live transcription and people can ask questions online or submit them in advance when booking.

Please use the links below to register for the event

[Monday 1 December, 10am - 12pm](#)

[Tuesday 2 December, 6pm – 8pm](#)

### **Event at Mersham Church -Stir Up Sunday**

Please see attached flyer with information about a fun event being run at Mersham Church.

### **Ashford SEND Roadshow**

Please see attached flyer with information about the Ashford SEND Roadshow to support families with children with special educational needs.

### **Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme**

Vouchers will be issued directly to eligible families i.e. for children entitled to free school meals on 26<sup>th</sup> November via email, for the Christmas Holidays. Please see attached parent guide to support parents with booking.

### **Class Assemblies – Terms 1 and 2**

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

Dates are as follows: **PLEASE NOTE the new date for Kingfisher Class' assembly**

4 <sup>th</sup> December	Kingfisher Class
11 <sup>th</sup> December	Toucan Class

### **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>

### **PTFA News**

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## **“Paint and Sip” Festive candle painting evening 27<sup>th</sup> November: Have you booked your tickets yet?**

This year we are hosting a “Paint and Sip” Festive candle painting evening to create stunning hand poured, soy painted candles, which make fabulous gifts, or make a beautiful sparkling centrepiece for your festive table.

Tickets are just £35 including a drink and mince pie. Please pre-book here: <https://mersham-school-pta-1.sumupstore.com/product/paint-and-sipfestive-candle-painting-with-penny-wicks>

## **Non uniform day 28<sup>th</sup> November - donations requested**

On 28<sup>th</sup> November all children are invited to wear their own clothes to school.

On the gate in the morning, the PTFA will be collecting donations for the Christmas Fair chocolate tombola and gifts for our Elfridges shop the following week. Please see more information attached. Thanks for your support in helping us to create fabulous events and memories.

## **Elfridges: Please don't forget to pre-buy your child's gift**

If you'd like your child to choose the best gift for their loved ones on 2<sup>nd</sup> December please pre-order here: <https://mersham-school-pta-1.sumupstore.com/product/elfridges>

We need volunteers to make the magic happen at the Elfridges shop during the day on 2<sup>nd</sup> December. Can you spare a couple of hours to help Mersham children choose the best gift for their loved ones?

We are looking for people to help us wrap presents! Volunteers can collect gifts from the Elfridges store, along with some wrapping paper, after school on 2<sup>nd</sup> December and return wrapped gifts to school on the morning of 4<sup>th</sup> December.

If you can help, please email [hello@mershamschoolpta.co.uk](mailto:hello@mershamschoolpta.co.uk) or text Kelly on 07763631078

## **Rainbow raffle donations please:**

Our rainbow raffle is back for the Christmas fair. We need your help to create six fabulous rainbow hampers to raffle at the fair please.

Please bring in items in your class colour to the school office or via children by Weds 3<sup>rd</sup> December:

- Red – Kingfisher class
- Orange – Toucan class
- Yellow – Falcon class
- Green – Parrot class
- Blue – Robin class
- Pink – Duckling class

A representative from each class will collect their coloured items and create one of six beautiful hampers for the raffle, which will be drawn at the Christmas fair on 5<sup>th</sup> December.

## **Christmas Fair: Santa and other Volunteers Wanted**

Can you help support the Christmas Fair on 5<sup>th</sup> December? We still need a few more volunteers to

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help for an hour or two on December 5th. Parents, carers, grandparents, aunts and uncles are all very welcome to join in the fun.

We also need a SANTA! A costume, gifts and elves will be provided: 3pm - 4.15pm. If you can help, please email [hello@mershamschoolpta.co.uk](mailto:hello@mershamschoolpta.co.uk) or contact Kelly on 07763631078

