

Term 6 – 10th July 2026

Mersham Primary School

Church Road, Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 6NU

www.mersham.kent.sch.uk 01233 720449



Thank you to everyone who joined us for Sports Day on Monday – it was fantastic to have so many people there even with the warm weather. The children were brilliant throughout the day and it was wonderful to see them take part with enthusiasm and determination. A huge thank you to everyone who was involved including the entire staff team, the Year 6 and the Year 2 Sports Leaders, Mr Fraser, the PTFA members who served refreshments and particularly to Mrs Benjamin who was responsible for the overall organisation.

**Cheryl Chalkley
Headteacher**

Ashford and District Primary School Sports Association – Athletics

What an afternoon! The children of Mersham were an absolute pleasure to take to district sports yesterday afternoon. They competed in a range of running, jumping and throwing events and as a result of all their brilliant efforts, came 1st overall in the small/ medium school competition - what an achievement! Every single event was extremely exciting to watch and, despite the heat, the children gave it their absolute all! Congratulations go to the girls' year 5/6 relay team (first), Dylan

(first 400m), Darcey (1st 80m), Octavia (3rd 400m), Daniel (1st 60m sprint), the boys' year 3/4 relay team (2nd overall), Naya (2nd 60m sprint), Bailey (1st standing long jump), Joseph (2nd standing long jump), Nancy (2nd throwing). Special congratulations must go to Daniel and Dylan who came first and second respectively overall, out of every single competitor in Ashford. Both boys still have another year to compete in these events and we cannot wait to see what they achieve next year!

We can't tell you how proud we were of each and every one of you!

Mrs Maher, Mrs Cox and Mr Fraser



Upcoming Events

13 th July	Annual reports to Parents
13 th July	Yr 6 Performance 6pm
14 th July	Yr 6 Performance 1:30pm
17 th July	End of Term 6
20 th July	Staff Training Day
21 st July	Staff Training Day
1 st Sept	Staff training Day
2 nd Sept	Start of Term 1

School Dinners

We have let parents know some while ago but this is a reminder that for those children in years 3, 4, 5 and 6 who have school dinners (and who are not eligible for free school meals), the cost of a school dinner is going up to £3.10 from September.

Changes to Free School Meals

A letter went out last week explaining the changes to free school meal eligibility from September. Please read carefully as many more children will become eligible but it needs parents to submit a claim in order to access the benefits. If you should need any help, please contact the school office.

Great British Summer Savings – message from the Secretary of State for Education

From 25 June to 1 September 2026, the Government is temporarily cutting VAT from 20% to 5% on children's meals in restaurants, children and family tickets to cinemas, theatres, concerts and exhibitions, and admission to a wide range of attractions. Combined with free bus travel during August for children aged 5 to 15 in England, families and young people will be able to enjoy experiences that make summer special, including visits to the kinds of cultural and educational attractions that enrich children's lives outside the classroom. As part of this campaign, we have launched an attraction finder website which allows families to type in their postcode and find participating venues near them to make the most of summer savings. To use the attraction finder, please visit <https://summersavings.gov.uk>

Free Kellogg's breakfasts in all Morrisons Cafes

Between 29th June and 6th September 2026, families can access free Kellogg's breakfasts in all Morrisons Cafes. This is available to both children and adults, who can choose from much-loved favourites Corn Flakes or Rice Krispies, topped with their choice of dairy or non-dairy milk and a free apple or banana. In addition to the Kellogg's Breakfast offer, Morrisons 'Kids Eat Free' offer will continue to run in all its Cafés, allowing families to enjoy a free meal and drink for one child aged 16 or under when they purchase an adult main meal costing over £5 from The Breakfasts and The Classics menu.

Reading Challenge

The Reading Agency's Summer Reading Challenge is back at Kent Libraries from Saturday 4 July to Saturday 5 September – and it's completely free to take part.

This year's theme, Read to the Beat, celebrates music, stories and creativity, encouraging children aged 4 to 11 to enjoy reading in a way that works for them.

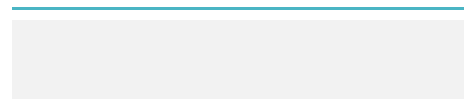
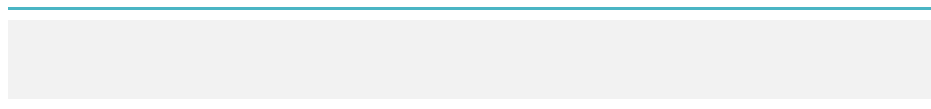
Children can join at any time by visiting their local library, borrowing a book and getting started. They can also take part online by logging their reading digitally.

With flexible reading-related goals and rewards along the way, children can read to their own beat and build confidence over the summer.

Can't wait to start? As part of the National Year of Reading, you can Go All In and begin now by sharing your reading goals in the Kent Libraries Book Chat group on Facebook.

Library staff are on hand to help, and you can plan your visit with virtual tours and social stories available online.

Find out more at www.kent.gov.uk/summerreadingchallenge



Class Assemblies – Terms 5 and 6

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

Dates are as follows:

16 th July	Duckling Class
17 th July 2pm	Falcon Class Leavers Assembly

Summer Holiday Art Workshops – See attached flyers

Places still available for Cygnets Art School Folkestone's Summer Holiday workshops, running on Tuesdays and Wednesdays across July and August. Our theme this year is 'Cities Around the World'. We'd love for you to join us for a global art journey through New York, Rome, Sydney and Tokyo! We run two holiday workshops per day, so you can choose to attend one, several or all sessions. Booking is split into a separate page per themed week.

Here's what you need to know:

📍 Venue: Sandgate Primary School

🕒 Time: Morning workshop 10:30am-12pm and afternoon workshop 12:30-2pm

👤 Ages: Suitable for children aged 5-12

🗣️ What's included: All materials are provided! If children are attending the full day, they will need to bring a packed lunch and water bottle.

Follow this link to reserve your child's space today:

🔗 <https://bookings.cygnetsartschool.com/public/workshops?centerId=547>

Folkestone Junior Chess Club

With the summer holidays in mind you may like to consider adding Folkestone Junior Chess Club to your list of activities for your kids looking for something new or to do in the summer holidays

folkestonejuniorch.wixsite.com/juniors

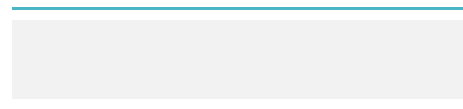
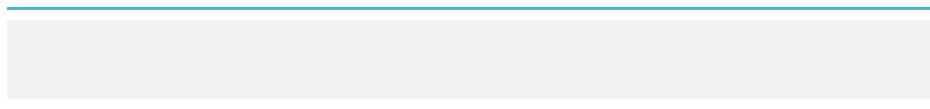
at: 2 St Johns Church Rd, Folkestone, CT19 5BQ

The FJCC is more than 10 years old, and is the only dedicated junior chess club in S.E.Kent. It is a game that can last a lifetime and one that mum and dad approve of!

Affordable Bike Sale

Affordable Refurbished Bicycle sale - Saturday 11th July, 10-1 at Goldwyn School (TN23 3BT). As always, we will have a whole bunch of bicycles for the whole family available at around 1/3 RRP. All our bikes are fully serviced, cleaned and ready to safely ride away. Just turn up and our helpful crew will help you select the correct bike(s) for your family

For those with bikes already, we are offering free bike checks/basic repairs at a couple of venues on Saturday 18th July. Repton Connect Community Centre (10-12) and Victoria Park, by Harper's Cafe (1-3). Please email spencer@cyclecircle.co.uk to book a slot.



Ashford Rugby Club – see attached flyer

We are excited to announce that we are partnering with Ashford Leisure Trust this summer to bring a **FREE** inclusive holiday camp to Ashford Rugby Club!

Ashford Rugby Club

27th Jul - 21st Aug

9am - 3pm

For children aged 5 - 11 years, (currently in **Year 1**)

A snack and hot lunch will be provided daily

Our holiday camps are a fun and active environment where children can enjoy a variety of sports, arts and crafts and healthy eating challenges. All while building confidence, learning new skills, and making friends in a safe, welcoming environment.

Head to the link to secure your child's space: <https://shorturl.at/AyDTU>

Don't forget to use the code **FREETSC** to book your **FREE** place and give your child an unforgettable summer of fun, friendship and new experiences!

Term Dates 2026-2027

Term 1

Tuesday 1st September – Friday 23rd October

Staff Development Days – Tuesday 1st September and Friday 23rd October

Term 2

Monday 2nd November – Friday 18th December

Term 3

Monday 4th January – Friday 12th February

Term 4

Monday 22nd February – Thursday 25th March

Term 5

Monday 12th April – Friday 28th May

Bank Holiday – Monday 3rd May

Term 6

Monday 7th June – Wednesday 21st July

Staff Development Days – Monday 19th July, Tuesday 20th July and Wednesday 21st July

PTFA News

Can you Help?

We're looking for lovely volunteers to help provide refreshments at the upcoming school events in the summer term:

- **Leavers Performances** – evening of **13th July** and afternoon of **14th July**

Even an hour of your time would make a huge difference. If you're able to help at any of these events, please let us know – we'd love to have you involved! Email

hello@mershamschoolpta.co.uk or drop a message via Facebook or WhatsApp.

Thank you for supporting our school community.

