
Term 1 – 11th September 2026

Mersham Primary School

Church Road, Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 6NU

www.mersham.kent.sch.uk 01233 720449



It has been another busy week. Our new reception children completed their first full day today and managed incredibly well. It has been a real joy to see them adjust so quickly to their new surroundings and to start engaging with life at school. Thank you also to their parents for your support and of course to Miss Higgins, Mrs Cox and Miss Whitehead for all their patience and hard work settling them in. We look forward to seeing how much they develop over the coming months.

I must also say well done to all those in Year 6 who sat the Kent Test yesterday. It is a very long day of testing and they too coped amazingly – they took it all in their stride!

**Cheryl Chalkley
Headteacher**

Staffing News

I am very pleased to let you know that Miss Munday gave birth to a little boy at the end of the summer holidays. I am sure you will join all of us at Mersham in congratulating Miss Munday and her partner on his safe arrival. Vincent (Vinnie) Paul Chesson-Williams weighed 6lb 6oz and both mum and baby are doing really well.

We have also said farewell to Mrs Benjamin today who will be starting her maternity leave on Monday. We wish her all the very best over the coming weeks and will of course let you know more when baby arrives.

Platinum School Games Award

We are delighted to announce that we have once again achieved the Platinum School Games Mark. This is the highest national level award and it recognises schools for outstanding commitment to PE, sports participation and competitive school sport.

In order to achieve this award, we were assessed in areas such as participation, competition, inclusion, clubs and young leadership. We are really proud of the children's enthusiasm towards all aspects of their PE and sport and as such a small school, we are especially proud of achieving this Platinum Award. We look forward to another great year of PE and Sport at Mersham!

Upcoming Events

14/15 Sept	School Photos
21 st Sept	Flu Vaccinations
15 th Oct	Harvest Festival at the church 9:15am
22 nd Oct	Last Day of term 1
23 rd Oct	Staff Training Day
2 nd Nov	Start of Term 2
6 th Nov	Interim reports out
16 th Nov	Odd Socks Day
	Anti-bullying week
16 th Nov	Parents Evening 5-7:30pm
18 th Nov	Parents Evening 3:30-6pm
25 th Nov	Open Evening for Prospective Year R parents 5-7pm
17 th Dec	Christmas Church Service 9:15am
18 th Dec	End of term 2

Reminder: Please Label School Clothing

We currently have 11 jumpers, cardigans and fleeces in lost property that we have been unable to reunite with their owners. This is either because they have not been labelled, or because the pen used on the care label has washed off.

Please can we ask that all coats, jumpers, fleeces and cardigans are clearly labelled with your child's name. We also recommend checking labels regularly to ensure they are still visible and legible.

Our PTFA recommends Stikins name labels, which can be applied directly to care labels and are designed to withstand washing and tumble drying. <https://www.stikins.co.uk/>

If you choose to purchase Stikins, please use the PTFA fundraising code 13306. The PTFA receives 30% commission on purchases made using this code, with all money raised going towards enhancing school life.

Thank you for helping us to return lost items to their owners.

School Drop-off

Please can I remind all parents that they should not be pulling up in front of the school, in their cars, to drop children off – this is so dangerous, especially with the railway bridge that can block the view of oncoming vehicles. It is an accident waiting to happen despite the numerous times I have highlighted this to parents. The signs outside the school clearly state that there is no stopping on the yellow lines during the school day and you will be fined if seen by an enforcement officer.

After School Club message

We have started to put together a craft box for the After School Club. If you have any unwanted card, craft bits, wool, paper plates, bubble wrap, kitchen roll card, etc (sorry - no toilet roll card) could you email me on Kim.wenn@mersham.kent.sch.uk and I can arrange to meet you to collect any items at the school reception before the club starts, or when you collect your child from the club at the end of the day. Many thanks Mrs Wenn and Miss Norman

1st Ashford Boys and Girls Brigade

Please find attached a flyer providing information about the 1st Ashford Boys and Girls Brigade that starts on 17th September.

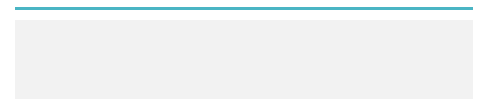
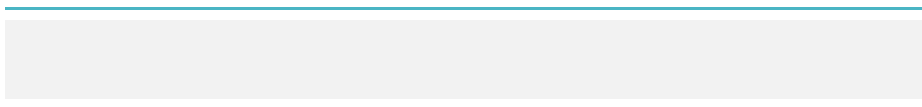
Children's Contemporary Classes at JV H.O.M.E (please see attached flyer)

Join us at Jasmin Vardimon Company's JV H.O.M.E in Ashford, Kent for a fun and creative programme of dance and movement classes. These creative, physical, and engaging classes are a fun and exciting introduction to creative dancing. These classes are designed to encourage expression and creativity alongside building confidence and working together.

Creative Contemporary Classes (term time only):

- 5-7s - Saturdays 10:30am - 11:15pm
- 8-11s - Saturdays 11:30am - 12:30pm
- 12-18s - Thursdays 4:30pm - 6:00pm

[Find out more information here!](#)



Bursaries are available for children eligible for free school meals. Please get in touch for more information.

In addition to classes, we offer a range of workshops either in school or at JV H.O.M.E. For any classes & workshop enquiries, please email: classes@jasminvardimon.com

Festival of the Girl

Festival of The Girl, designed for 7 - 11 year old girls and their families (including brothers), is taking place on Sat 3rd and Sun 4th October in Islington, London. Kids will have the opportunity to try different activities ranging from engineering to sports, aerospace to visual effects, vaccinations to gaming, mental health to sustainability, medicine to dancing, activism to mechanics and much more. With a SEND session and pay-what-you-can option they don't want any girl to miss out. For more details go to www.festivalofthegirl.com.

Brick Festival (please see attached flyer)

Book now at www.MaidstoneBrickFestival.com Save the date: 4th October Where: Maidstone Leisure Centre Find out more – www.BrickFestivalEvents.com

PTFA Welcome Back!

PTFA Informal Catch Up - Come and Meet Us!

We're holding an informal get-together for anyone who would like to find out more about the PTFA. Pop in for a drink, have a chat with current members, ask questions, hear about our plans for the year ahead, and see how you might like to get involved.

Thursday 17th September

From 3.30pm onwards

The Farrier's Arms, Mersham

There is absolutely no pressure to commit to anything. It's simply an opportunity to meet us, learn more about what we do, and get to know other parents and carers in a relaxed setting.

We look forward to seeing you on Thursday!

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

