

# Mersham Primary School

Church Road, Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 6NU

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



Today we have been celebrating Hello Yellow as part of World Mental Health day. The children have all looked amazing with their yellow items of clothing with donations received going to Young Minds, a charity that supports children and young people with their mental health. A massive thank you to Miss East (with the support of the staff team) in organising all

the decorations and activities. Looking after your mental health also links to one of our school values so the children have been thinking about how they can support both themselves and others with positive mental health. Getting exercise and being outside is one of the ways we can encourage good mental health so the whole school took part in a Mersham Mile around the field this afternoon as well. A special mention must also go to Nicky Reed who has done a fantastic job in also getting the village involved with a trail of yellow balloons hung around Mersham – it looked incredible coming into school this morning!

**Cheryl Chalkley**  
Headteacher



## Upcoming Events

|                       |                                                   |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 15 <sup>th</sup> Oct  | Harvest Festival at the church 9:15am             |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> Oct  | PTFA Halloween Sale                               |
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> Oct  | Last Day of term 1                                |
| 23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct  | Staff Training Day                                |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov   | Start of Term 2                                   |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Nov   | Walk in Wednesday                                 |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> Nov   | Interim reports out                               |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov  | Odd Socks Day                                     |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov  | Anti-bullying week                                |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> Nov  | Parents Evening 5-7:30pm                          |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> Nov  | Parents Evening 3:30-6pm                          |
| 25 <sup>th</sup> Nov  | Open Evening for Prospective Year R parents 5-7pm |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec   | Walk in Wednesday                                 |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Dec   | Christmas Fair 3:15pm                             |
| 8/9 <sup>th</sup> Dec | Ducklings and Parrots Christmas Production 2pm    |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> Dec  | Christmas Church Service 9:15am                   |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec  | End of term 2                                     |

## Harvest Festival

Just a reminder to all parents that we will be holding our Harvest Festival next Thursday morning at 9:15am in the Church. All are welcome. If you would like to donate any dried, tinned or long-life goods (no fresh foods please) for the school to take to the Church for distribution to the local community, I know they would be very

grateful. Donations can be brought in any day next week – we will set up a table by the gate. We look forward to seeing you all at the Church on Thursday.

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

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

Dates are as follows:

|                           |                |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| 22 <sup>nd</sup> October  | Parrot Class   |
| 26 <sup>th</sup> November | Duckling Class |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> December  | Robin Class    |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> December | Toucan Class   |

### **Primary Admissions - Year R 2027**

Applications for primary admissions for September 2027 open between Friday 6th November 2026 - Friday 15th January 2027 and can be made at [www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](http://www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions) . If parents are unable to access the online site, an alternative format can be requested by emailing [kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk) . Please see attached flyers with more information for parents with children starting school next September.

### **Affordable Bike Sale at Goldwyn School**

We have two brilliant cycling events coming up this month!

Affordable Refurbished Bicycle Sale - tomorrow, Saturday 10 October, 10:00–13:00

Looking for a bike? Come along and browse our selection of affordable refurbished bicycles.

### **Bike Fix & Glow Ride - Thursday 22 October at The Coachworks**

- Bike Fix at The Coachworks from 16:30
- Glow Ride leaves The Coachworks at 18:30
- The ride returns to The Coachworks by 20:00

We'll stay at The Coachworks for a social after the ride - join us if you're up for it!

Bring your friends and don't forget your lights.

We hope to see you there! More information at [www.CycleCircle.co.uk](http://www.CycleCircle.co.uk)

### **The RSPCA Ashford and District Halloween Spooktacular**

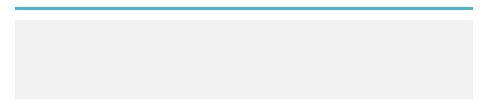
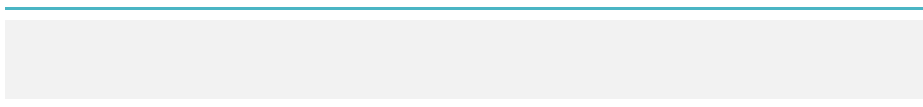
Please see attached poster with more information.

### **Secondary Admissions – Year 6 pupils.**

Online applications opened on Tuesday 1 September 2026 and will close on Monday 2 November 2026. Applications can be made at [www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions](http://www.kent.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions). If parents are unable to access the online site, an alternative format can be requested by emailing [kent.admissions@kent.gov.uk](mailto:kent.admissions@kent.gov.uk) .

### **Open Evening – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November**

We will be holding our annual Open Evening for prospective parents of children starting school in September 2027 on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November from 5-7pm. Please see attached poster with further



information and I would be grateful if you could share with any other families you may know, who have a child starting school next year.

### **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](mailto: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

### **The Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme – October Half Term**

Kent County Council are pleased to confirm that funding has been secured through the Crisis and Resilience Fund to extend the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme into the October 2026 school holidays.

The HAF Programme offers funded holiday activities, enriching experiences and healthy meals for children eligible for benefits-related Free School Meals. The programme helps children stay active, build friendships, develop new skills and access nutritious food during the school holidays. Please note however, that the recent changes in free school meals eligibility will mean that some families may not now be eligible for the HAF Programme.

Further information about the programme is available on the Kent County Council website: Holiday Activities and Food Programme (HAF) <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/free-school-meals/holiday-activities-and-food-programme-haf>

As in previous holiday periods, bookings will be managed through the **HolidayActivities** platform and automated EVouchers will be issued to eligible families on **1st October 2026**.

Some families who were previously eligible for a funded HAF place may no longer meet the eligibility criteria following changes to their Free School Meal status. Further support and information can be found here:

Further support with childcare costs <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/childcare-and-pre-school/help-with-childcare-costs/further-support-with-childcare-costs>

Crisis and Resilience Fund <https://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/cost-of-living-support/crisis-and-resilience-fund>

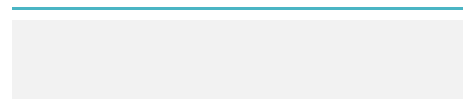
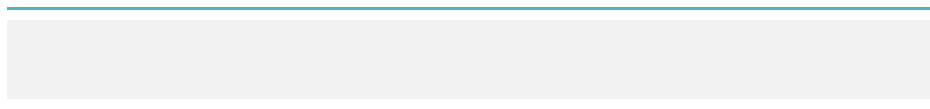
Kent Family Hub <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/kent-family-hub>

### **Pumpkin Day at Muddy Wellies**

Please see the attached flyer regarding our annual Pumpkin Event at Muddy Wellies Community Farm A20 Smeeth on the 24th October. All proceeds go to our continuing work helping young adults with learning difficulties.

### **Half Term Art Workshops (see attached flyers)**

Booking is now open for Cygnets Art School Folkestone's October Half Term holiday workshops, running on Tuesday 27th and Wednesday 28th October. Our theme this year is 'Magic and Mischief'!



We run two holiday workshops per day, so you can choose to attend one, several or all sessions. Here's what you need to know:

📍 Venue: Grace Taylor Hall, 126 Lucy Avenue, Folkestone, CT19 5TN

🕒 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/659/2695>

### **PTFA Update:**

Get Ready for the Mersham School PTFA Halloween Sale!

Get Halloween-ready and support the school at the same time! The PTFA is holding a special Halloween Sale on Friday 16th October, straight after pick-up from 3:00 PM in the school playground. We will have a range of spooktacular decorations and toys in one place, including:

👜 Trick or treat bags

🐱 Sequin cat ears & spooky masks

☐ Soft toys

🍪 Halloween crackers

🕯 Table decorations

...and plenty more!

Pop by after school to grab some treats in plenty of time for Halloween weekend. As always, all proceeds go directly back to the school to support the children.

We look forward to seeing you there!

### **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

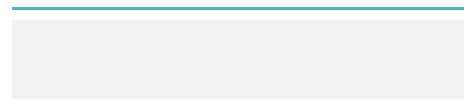
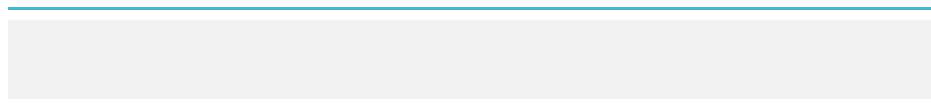
Monday 4th January – Friday 12th February

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

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