

Term 1 – 26th September 2022

Mersham Primary School

Church Road, Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 6NU

www.mersham.kent.sch.uk 01233 720449



Our first Walk In Wednesday will be next Wednesday (please see details below). I would also like to invite you to come and take a look at the new classrooms (the old hall) that Year 5 and 6 will be moving into, hopefully after the half term break. We will leave the doors open so that you will be able to take a look inside. The hall is also not too far from completion – moving the school kitchen into the new hall is the next big job! I cannot wait to share the building when it is finished, with the wider school community. It really is a fabulous space that I know other schools will be very envious of!

**Cheryl Chalkley
Headteacher**

Upcoming Events

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| 5 th Oct | Walk in Wednesday |
| 5/6/7 Oct | School Photos |
| 14 th Oct | Harvest Festival (9:15 at the Church) |
| 21 st Oct | Interim reports to parents |
| 21 st Oct | End of term 1 |
| 31 st Oct | Start of term 2 |
| 1/2 nd Nov | Parents Evenings |
| 7 th Dec | Walk in Wednesday |
| 15 th Dec | Christmas Service (9:15 at the Church) |
| 15 th Dec | Trip to Pantomime |

Platinum School Games Award



I am really pleased to announce that the school has retained the Platinum School Games Award for 2021/22 and 2022/23. Bearing in mind the difficulties in delivering PE and School Sport that arose as a result of Covid, being able to continue to prove that we meet the criteria to achieve the Platinum standard is a fantastic achievement. A huge well done to Mrs Sly, who led PE last year and submitted our application as well as the rest of the school staff who contributed towards ensuring we delivered all that was required.

School Photos

Sarah Prescott, the photographer, will be in school on 5th, 6th and 7th October to take school photographs. Please ensure your child has a school jumper on for those days. Class teachers will confirm to classes exactly which day their photo will be taken. Sarah will also be in school for 8:00am each day for any pre-schoolers who would also like to have their photograph taken.

Walk in Wednesdays

The first Walk in Wednesday of the year will be on Wednesday 5th October. For those parents who are new to the school, this is an opportunity to come into the classroom between 3:15-3:45pm to take a look at your child(ren)'s work. Class teachers are not available at this time to discuss individual children's progress and the event finishes promptly at 3:45pm to enable teachers to attend our regular staff meeting. However, if you would like to discuss your child's progress in more detail, you are welcome to arrange a mutually convenient time to meet with the class teacher at any point during the year. There will be no Walk in Wednesday in November as we will hold our official Parents' evenings then but there will be another Walk in Wednesday on 7th December.

Parking outside the School

I am once again receiving lots of comments from concerned parents and members of the public about dangerous parking outside the school at pick up and drop off times. Whilst I appreciate that parking is difficult at those times, please can I ask parents not to park up on the yellow lines outside the school and drop children off – this is extremely dangerous due to the restricted view of the road caused by the railway bridge. We have also now not got railings out the front (a tractor knocked them over and KCC have said they cannot replace them!) that help prevent children running into the road. The Farriers Arms, at the bottom of the hill, have kindly said that parents are welcome to park in their car park for drop off and pick up. There are also other roads in the village, within walking distance, where it is safe to park for short periods. Please do park considerately for the safety of all those in the community.

The Autism Apprentice – Virtual Carers Group

Please find attached a flyer with details of support sessions for families.

Model Railway Exhibition

Folkestone Model Railway Exhibition will be at the Leas Cliff Hall in Folkestone on Saturday 1st and Sunday 2nd October 2022 and we would love to see some of your families there. For more details please see their website: www.folkestone-mrc.com

After School Club at Mersham Primary School

We are currently looking into how we can run our own after school club at the school. We are only in the early stages of planning but if any parent or someone you may know in the community is interested in running the after school club, please contact Mrs Chalkley on headteacher@mersham.kent.sch.uk with a CV. Ideally the person would have experience of working with children and have a minimum level 3 qualification linked to childcare, early years or as a teaching assistant. At this stage, I would like to be clear that we are only trying to gauge interest in the position and there is currently no confirmed job role at the school.

Year 6 Parents – Secondary School Open days

The online application window for children enrolling into Year 7 in September 2023 opened on Thursday 1st September 2023 and will close at midnight on Monday 31st October 2023.

Message from **Norton Knatchbull** - This is a reminder of our Open Mornings for Year 6 male students and their parents/carers from 09:15-10:30 on Tuesday 4th October and Tuesday 11th October.

Parents and carers can follow the link to register their interest via <https://tinyurl.com/NKSY622> and download a copy of our NKS Prospectus 2022

<https://www.nks.kent.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=26&type=pdf> .

The morning will begin with a speech in the School Hall at 09:15 followed by an opportunity to see the school in action and talk to current students and staff.

Chilmington Green – please see attached flyer.

Governor Vacancies

We currently have two vacancies on the Governing Board for co-opted governors. These are often sourced from the local community and are people who would like to volunteer to give something back to education. Many businesses also actively support employees in being a school governor. Unfortunately, for these positions, we are unable to accept current parents of the school but should you know anyone else, either personally or professionally, that may be interested in getting involved with being a school governor, please ask them to contact Mrs Chalkley on headteacher@mersham.kent.sch.uk or the Chair of Governors, Lesley Caldwell, on chair@mersham.kent.sch.uk.

