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Term 2 – 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022

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# Mersham Primary School

Church Road, Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 6NU

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

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I hope you all had a restful half term break. It has been extremely busy over that week in the school with the finishing touches being taken care of both in the hall and in the new classrooms, to enable us to begin using all of those facilities from Monday. I know that the children (and the staff!) are thrilled with the new buildings and I look forward to be able to show them off to all parents in the near future. The final stages are the completion of the corridor that connects the main building with the hall (which also includes a small intervention room) and the demolition of the mobiles. The demolition work will start next week and once completed the playground will be resurfaced so that we have a through playground down towards the cabin. All of the work will be completed before Christmas. I thank you all for your ongoing support in terms of the operation of the school around those works.

Cheryl Chalkley  
Headteacher

## Upcoming Events

Wk Beg	
7 <sup>th</sup> Nov	Book Sale in the hall
7 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Walk in Wednesday
15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Christmas Service (9:15 at the Church)
15 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Trip to Pantomime
16 <sup>th</sup> Dec	End of term 2
3 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	Start of term 3
10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	End of term 3

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### Mersham Monkeys – Mother and Toddler Group

I am really pleased to announce that Mersham Monkeys is back! Please see attached flyer for more information.

### Pre-Loved Book Sale

Mrs Sly and the librarians have been busy sorting, organising and tidying books for our new library corridor. The recent building work has resulted in us being able to redesign our library and create an environment where all the children can enjoy reading... so watch this space! In the meantime, we will be holding a book sale of pre-loved books in the new school hall. These will be priced at 5 for £1.00 so don't miss out! This is also a great opportunity for you all to come and see our fantastic new hall. All funds will go towards purchasing rugs, blankets, pillows and seating to make our new library as cosy as possible.

The book sale will be held on Monday 7th November, Wednesday 9th November, Thursday 10th November and Friday 11th November from 3:05- 3:30pm. We hope to see you there!

### Sporting News - Football

Prior to half term, the football team took part in matches against Tenterden Junior School. Both teams won their matches and all the children thoroughly enjoyed taking part. All children represented the school brilliantly and I know demonstrated positive sporting behaviours. Well done to all those who took part.

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### **Water Bottles in School**

Please can we strongly encourage parents to only put water in children's drinks bottles for school. Water is by far the healthiest option for children – not only from a dietary perspective but also because drinking fruit juice and squash regularly is one of the largest causes of tooth decay in children. The other problem that has been arising a lot recently is that water bottles, occasionally, get knocked over in class and if they contain squash, it leaves a sticky residue as well as a strong smell that is more difficult to clean up. All the staff thank you in advance for your support with this.

### **National Sleep Helpline**

Please see information attached about a new helpline to support parents of children who have difficulties sleeping.

### **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.

### **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](mailto:headteacher@mersham.kent.sch.uk) or the Chair of Governors, Lesley Caldwell, on [chair@mersham.kent.sch.uk](mailto:chair@mersham.kent.sch.uk).

