
Term 1 – 15th October 2018

Mersham Primary School

Church Road, Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 6NU

www.mersham.kent.sch.uk 01233 720449



Thank you to everyone who came along to the Harvest Festival service on Friday – it was great to see so many people in the church. Thank you also for your donations – these will be taken with other gifts at the church to the Ashford Food Bank.

Thank you also to the PTA for organising the Halloween Costume swap on Friday and to all of you who came along and helped raised further funds towards enabling the school to purchase resources that otherwise we would not be able to afford.

**Mrs C Chalkley
Headteacher**

Staffing News

I am sorry to say that Miss Brisley in Year 3 will be leaving us at the end of this week after only a being with us for a relatively short period of time. However, during that time she has made a valuable contribution to the teaching and learning in Year 3 and all the staff and children would like to wish her well as she returns to teaching. Interviews are taking place this week to hopefully fill the post.

Sporting News - Handball

Children from Years 3 and 4 represented the school at the Ashford Handball Festival last Tuesday. The team played 3 matches; they won against St Simon's and John Wesley and narrowly lost against St Teresa's, coming second overall in their pool. The skill level of the children and their determination whilst on court was particularly impressive and the team spirit displayed throughout was amazing. Well done to all of you, it was a pleasure to accompany you.

Mrs Maher

Year 5 and 6 Cross Country at Godinton House

Congratulations to all the runners from Years 5 and 6 who took part in the Cross Country at Godinton House last Wednesday. All the runners paced themselves well and it was a fantastic achievement to see them all complete the 1.6K hilly course. A particular well done to Connor in Year 5 who came 7th out of 43 runners with a time of 5 minutes and 10 seconds.

Upcoming Events

15 th Oct	Arts Week
19 th Oct	End of term 1
29 th Oct	Staff Training Day
30 th Oct	Start of term 2
31 st Oct	Walk in Wednesday
12 th Nov	Anti-bullying Week
12 th Nov	Parents Eve 5:00-7:30pm
13 th Nov	Parents Eve 3:30pm-6:00pm
22 nd Nov	Flu Vaccinations Yrs R-5
5 th Dec	Walk in Wednesday
10 th , 11 th	KS1 Performances
13 th Dec	all at 2:00pm
14 th Dec	Carol Service - 9:45am
14 th Dec	Pantomime
19 th Dec	End of Term 2

Reading Award

Well done to Kinney class (Year 3) who have won the reading award again this week with a total of 89% of children in the class reading three times or more during the week. This was closely followed by Hawking class (Year 5) with 70% and Nightingale class (Year 2) with 60%.

Gardening Club – request from Mrs Mulligan

We are in the process of setting up a gardening club to enrich the children's learning in this area. To be able to run this group effectively, gardening club have written to several local businesses asking for help, but we would also like to ask for your help too.

If you have any spare seeds, bulbs, compost or equipment that you could donate to us, we would be extremely grateful. Thank you.

Current Year 6 Parents only

Highworth Grammar School will be holding an Open Evening and Open Morning for prospective students and parents on Thursday 18 October 2018 – Open Evening and Friday 19 October – Open Morning)

Norton Katchbull School

YEAR 6 OPEN MORNINGS

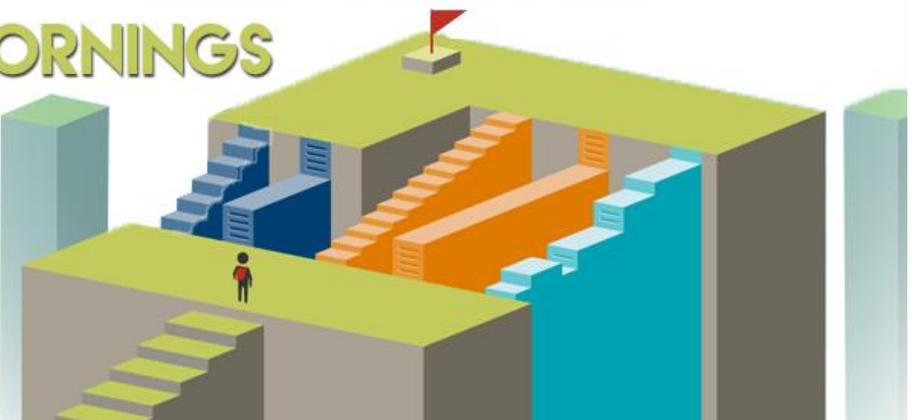
OCTOBER 16TH & 17TH

9.15–11.15 AM

LAST GUIDED TOURS AT 10.15 AM

PLEASE CONTACT SCHOOL
TO CONFIRM BOOKING

EVENTS@NKS.KENT.SCH.UK
01233 620045



Appeals Workshop

October 17th 6-7pm

Guidance from the Head Teacher for parents of students who are considering appealing for a selective place. Contact events@nks.kent.sch.uk for further details.

Class Assemblies for Terms 1 and 2

These assemblies will be performed at 9:05am in the school hall. Dates are as follows:

18th October : Donaldson class (Year R)

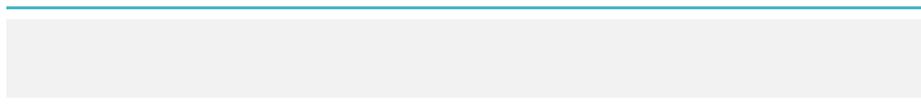
8th November : Churchill class (Year 6)

22nd November : Kinney class (Year 3)

1st November : Nightingale class (Year 2)

15th November : Hawking class (Year 5)

29th November : Alhberg class (Year 4)



PTA News & Updates

100 club

The first draws of the 100 club have taken place! The following are the lucky winners! Envelopes containing the winnings can be collected from Carla in the office.

August: Jennie Lamb

September: First prize – Bryan Webb, second prize – Helen Evans

October: First prize – Kate Gomm, second prize – Carly Finch

It's not too late to join.....



PLEASE JOIN THE SCHOOL'S 100 CLUB!!

ONLY £12 FOR THE WHOLE YEAR!

The 100 club is a mini lottery set up by Mersham School PTA, to fund extra equipment that is chosen directly by the children through their school council. It's the one fund they can actually have a direct say how the money is spent.

PAYMENT DETAILS - You can pay in 4 ways:

PARENTMAIL: Go into SHOP to pay. You can pay for multiple subscriptions this way too, by choosing a number from the drop down menu.

CHEQUE: Please make a cheque out to MERSHAM SCHOOL 100 CLUB, and write your name, number and child's name at school on the back.

BACS: An electronic transfer using the following account details:
Account Name: Mersham School 100 Club
Sort Code: 60-01-21; Account No: 52849783
Please reference your payment as your child's name.

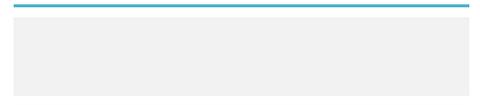
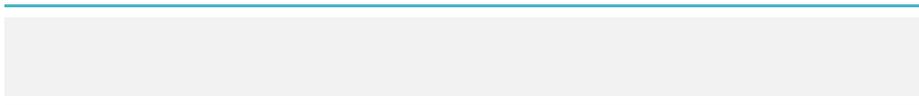
CASH: Bring cash into school in an envelope with your name, number and child's name on it and leave it at the office.

Anyone can purchase a subscription; parents, carers, grandparents, friends & Staff.
You can even purchase more than 1 subscription if you like!
More tickets = More chances of winning!!

THE FIRST DRAW IS FRIDAY 12th OCTOBER AT THE HARVEST FESTIVAL.

Thank you to all who came and supported the fancy dress swap shop, the children had great fun and left with some new additions to their wardrobe! We raised £73.22 at the sale, which will all go directly to the school to support the children.

We will be selling the remaining cakes on Cup Cake Friday after school on Friday 19 October.



Update – School Funding Campaign

First, thank you for the huge support that you gave to Headteachers who campaigned for improved school funding at Westminster on Friday 28 September. Over 2000 head teachers attended in London with many more supporting their actions too

It is clear from the emails that colleagues and I received that parents overwhelmingly support the need for much improved investment in our schools. As soon as we receive a reply from the chancellor, we will let you know. I am sure everyone will watch with interest to see how he responds to our requests during the Autumn Statement (Budget) on Monday 29 October.

Headteachers across the country hope very much that the Government and the Department for Education, in particular, will stop providing parents and the wider public with misleading information about spending on schools. It is neither helpful nor fair that schools and families are treated in this way and the articles below clearly confirm that this must stop.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/education-45746062>

<https://www.tes.com/news/greening-treasury-sees-education-cost-not-investment>

The Worth Less? campaign has always used independently sourced evidence and this has given strength to our campaign work. Frankly, it is entirely wrong to suggest that Government spending on schools is much higher than in other comparable countries, when the Department for Education tries to include spending by families on university tuition fees (loans to students) and independent (private) school fees. This adds billions of pounds to headline data but has absolutely no effect on funding for our schools. It is a completely unacceptable way of defending real term cuts.

Parents have also asked how they can support the drive for improved funding. In light of this we are able to let you know that parent groups will be lobbying parliament on 10 October and there will also be a national day of parental action on 19 October. For more information please use the hashtag **#parentsteachersunite** on Twitter or Facebook.

We would again like to thank you for your support and confirm that our campaign will remain reasonable and determined with a single goal of ensuring that every school and pupil receive a much better deal in the near future.

