
Term 2 – 26th November 2018

Mersham Primary School

Church Road, Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 6NU

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With the colder weather well upon us now, we are putting plans in place should there be any severe weather over the winter period. Please check the information at the end of this newsletter carefully so that you are aware of how we will keep you informed should there be a need to close the school. In the meantime, please ensure your child(ren) have coats, hats and gloves in school as it can get very chilly on the playground at breaktimes and lunchtimes.

**Mrs C Chalkley
Headteacher**

Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who donated to Children in Need. The final total was £122.56.

Poppy Appeal

Thank you also to everyone for purchasing poppies and other items in aid of the British Legion Poppy Appeal. The final total raised was £162.25.

Winter Wonderland Morning – Friday 7th December 9:30-11:00am

If you have a child due to start school in September 2019, why not come and discover what it is like to belong to Donaldson Class for the morning. The classroom will be transformed into a winter wonderland for the season, your child can explore all the exciting opportunities for learning in our setting while you ask the staff any questions you may have following your recent school tours.

Class Assemblies for Terms 1 and 2

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

29th November : Alhberg class (Year 4)

Upcoming Events

30 th Nov	Non-Uniform day for PTA Christmas Fair
5 th Dec	Walk in Wednesday
7 th Dec	Christmas Fair
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
3 rd Jan	Start of Term 3
7 th Jan	Creative Maths week
14 th Jan	Closing date for Year R Applications 2019
14 th Feb	End of Term 3
15 th Feb	Staff Training Day

Reading Award

Well done to Kinney class (Year 3) who have won the reading award again this week with a total of 86% of children in the class reading three times or more during the week. This was closely followed by Donaldson class (Year R) and Ahlberg class (Year 4) both with 75%

Contacting staff via email

We are aware that for many of you, contacting the school via email is one of the most convenient ways to communicate. Most of these emails will be sent out of school hours – therefore please could I point out that parents should not expect a response until the next working day, at the earliest. Thank you for your support.

Parking outside the school

Please can I remind parents once again about parking considerately outside the school at drop off and pick up times. I have received a number of complaints recently about parent who are parking on yellow lines, or in places that could endanger children. Thank you in advance for your support.

PTA News & Updates

Christmas Fair - Friday 7 December

Raffle tickets have been sent home in school bags. Please sell as many as possible to family and friends, there are some great prizes this year, and all money raised goes directly to helping the school. There are lots more tickets available, so please speak to a member of the PTA if you need more!

If anyone can spare time to help at the fair, running a stall, setting up or clearing up, then please speak to Louise Morgan, or email louisemorgan73@icloud.com.

Non-uniform day – Friday 30 November

This is in exchange for a donation for the chocolate tombola stall at the Christmas Fair. We will be collecting chocolate on the gate on Friday.

100 Club – The latest winners....

1st prize – Steve Grimsley

2nd prize – Andrew Attwood

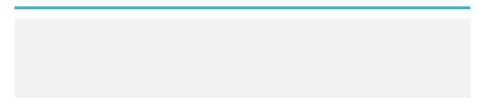
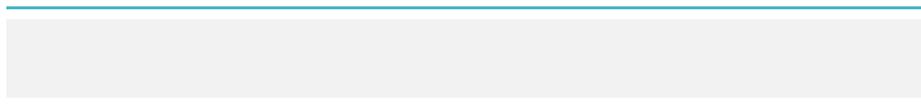
Cauliflower cards – These are due to be back early December

Severe Snow/Ice Plan for Parents and Families

Every winter brings the possibility of snow and ice. Extreme bad weather can cause widespread and prolonged disruption. Schools are often affected and it can be difficult to maintain an education service.

As a fundamental principle every effort must be made to keep schools open, even if only limited numbers of pupils can attend. However, schools may close due to 'unavoidable' circumstances. Those circumstances being that it is no longer safe for staff or pupils to be onsite.

We recognise that it is important our school remains open so parents are able to work and pupils can continue to learn. Mersham Primary School will make every effort to prepare for severe snow/ice this winter by e.g. gritting pathways, clearing access points etc.



How will we let you know if the school is closed?

If we do experience severe snow/ice resulting in hazardous conditions, Mrs Chalkley may have to take the decision to close the school. Once this decision has been made we will notify parents via the Kent Closures website. To determine whether Mersham Primary School is open or closed please visit www.kentclosures.co.uk. Search for the school in the search box. The Kent Closures website may also be used to find out if other services in Kent are open or closed, such as nurseries, children's centres and libraries. We also recommend parents sign up for Email alerts on the Kent Closures website. This service will send an email alert to let parents know if Mersham Primary School is closed. Local radio will sometimes provide information of school closures.

What can you do to help?

- Please visit www.kent.gov.uk/winter for more information about gritting routes and travel issues around Kent so you can plan your journey.
- Please approach the school from the front entrance as usual.
- Check with the school to see whether you need to provide a packed lunch from home in case school meals cannot be provided.
- Don't forget suitable warm clothing – gloves, hats, scarves, wellies etc. or even a change of clothing.
- If you are a working parent or feel you may have a problem with a sudden earlier pick up, please could you put a back-up plan in place with another family member or parent and inform the school. This will allow staff to leave earlier for their safety if weather dictates.

Many thanks for your support in helping Mersham Primary School remain open during periods of severe snow/ice.

