

NEWSLETTER

Issue 8, Monday 11th April 2016

Dear Parents, we are at the start of the Summer Term 2016 and Term 5. There was so much to be proud of last Term with excellent Assemblies from Year 1 and Year 3 and the Drama Dabblers production of *Romeo & Juliet*. Please have a look at our **school website** www.mereworth.kent.sch.uk to see all these wonderful events plus our end of Spring Term presentation that we all enjoyed on the last day of Term in our Celebration Assembly.

We are really looking forward to the Summer Term and all the exciting events and activities that will take place. **Class Teachers will send home information about class topics and activities this week.** Please can we ask you to support your child with learning their **Times Tables**. The new curriculum expects children to know all their times tables by the end of Year 4. Children that do not know these important facts really struggle in other areas of mathematics, especially problem solving. We would really appreciate your support with learning and reinforcing these key facts at home.

Next week we will have our next Special Curriculum Day based on *Alice in Wonderland*. We are going to use this theme to support a number of fun activities in English and Maths, plus we are all looking forward to the ***Mad Hatter's Tea Party*** in the afternoon! We would really appreciate your support in helping your child to come to school on this day as **one of the characters from the book**. The day will start with a whole school Assembly in the hall with the staff reading the story to the children and then the whole school will begin a range of Maths investigations related to the story!

SATS 2016 – Year 2 and Year 6 children

There are a number of other very important dates and activities so please see the ***dates for the diary attached*** for all events and activities in Term 5.

Year 6 SATS TEST week is week beginning Monday 9th May. Our **Year 2 children** will also have new SATS tests this school year. The school has been selected to sit the new **SPAG Test** for Year 2 children (Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar) and we will do this next week on Tuesday 19th March.

Reception Parents and carers – Stay & Learn Maths

You are invited to come to school on Wednesday 27th April at 9.00am to Stay & Learn with your child in the area of Maths. We hope that you are able to come and really look forward to seeing you.

THANK YOU TO FOMS FOR ORGANISING OUR EASTER EGG ROLLING COMPETITION.

FOMS are busy planning all of our Summer Term events and they will be sending information to parents in the next few weeks.

Values Based Education: Our school Value for April is Loyalty.

This value provides us with a great opportunity to focus on friendships and looking after one another. We launched this new school value in assembly today so I hope that the children will share with you the important messages and information that we have learnt so far.

Reminders:

Playtime snack

All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are able to eat free fruit and vegetables provided to the school each day. If you would like your child to have a snack at playtime please can we ask you to make sure this is only real pieces of fruit or vegetables. Thank you.

Start of the school day and punctuality

The main gate is opened just after 8.30am with children able to go straight into class from 8.40am.

The school day officially starts at 8.50am when the gate needs to close. Registration in all classes takes place electronically at 8.55am. After 8.55am children need to be registered as late. Thank you for your support in making sure that your child arrives at school on time ready for learning.

Our After School Care Service is now open to 6pm!

This is now a flexible service including bookings that can be made on the same day! We hope that you will be able to make the most of this high quality provision for your children as and when you need to. Please pop in or call the school office if you need any further information.

Reading in school with our children - Volunteers are always needed to help boost the reading skills of our children. We have always been well supported by Mums or Dads willing to give just an hour or two each week to hear and support reading in school; one-to-one support from a volunteer can make a tremendous difference. If you are able to offer support please speak to **Mrs Dickinson**. Thank you

Parent Questionnaire

Please can I encourage you all to complete the **Parent View** (Ofsted survey) that is available via a link on our school website. Please can you take the time to complete this survey as it will help support the school. Thank you.



Can you help?

We are looking for support from a local Printers or Signage company. If you work in this industry or are able to help the school in this area, please contact the school office. Thank you.

Finally I have attached the **INSET DAYS for 2016 – 2017** for your information and I hope that this will help to plan ahead any family holidays.

Myself and all of the staff at Mereworth are really looking forward to the Summer Term 2016 – thank you for all your support. There are many events and activities planned between now and the end of the school year for us all to enjoy.

Kind regards

Miss Lavelle Head Teacher