

# NEWSLETTER

Issue 1, Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new school year. I hope that you all had a wonderful summer holiday with your family. It has been lovely to see all the children today looking so smart and ready for learning. I would like to take this opportunity to officially welcome all of our new Reception children and families to the school.

Our new Interactive computer panel boards have been installed in all our classrooms over the summer holiday and we are really looking forward to the great learning opportunities that this will bring! A BIG thank you to FOMS for their support with this school project.

The staff and governors at Mereworth are really looking forward to this school year and we have been busy planning our actions, ready to share with you in our next newsletter.

Thank you to all the parents that took time to complete the end of year survey. I will be sending a letter at the end of this week explaining the results and the key actions that we will take as a result of your feedback.

## **EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS - All clubs start this week**

We have an excellent range of clubs for the children to enjoy throughout the school year and I am delighted to announce that we have several new clubs on offer this term. **Please see the information sheet for Term 1 clubs** that was emailed to you in July, and check the individual club flyers for payment details.

## **Late collection**

**The school day finishes at 3.10pm for KS1 and 3.20pm for KS2.** Please call the office as soon as possible if you are going to be late, so that we can pass this information onto the child and Class Teacher. Any child not collected before 3.20pm for KS1 children and 3.30pm for KS2 children, will be taken to the After School Care Service and a **charge of £5.00 per child** will be made. Staff have work commitments and activities after school and it is important that they can get back to them.

## **NEW CLASS INFORMATION AND MEETINGS**

This week you will receive information from your child's Class Teacher(s) about the curriculum, class weekly timetable and key events for this term. There will also be an opportunity to meet the Class Teacher(s) next week at the **'MEET THE TEACHER SESSIONS'** (Year 1 - Year 6 classes). **These will take place on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September (week 2).**

There will be two sessions: the first starts at **5.00pm** and the second starts at **6.00pm**; with time between each presentation, so that you can attend two different classes if you have more than one child at the school. These meetings will include an explanation about the curriculum and the expectations for your child in their new year group. There will also be information on homework and key events throughout the year. During the Year 6 meetings we will also go through the process of applying for a Secondary School. **It is important that all parents attend a session as this will help you support your child and will provide you with all the information that you need to work in partnership with your child's Class Teacher(s).**

**Please see attached dates for your diary for this term** and a reminder of the INSET days and term dates for 2019-2020. **Holidays should not be taken during school time.**

This Autumn Term I will be supporting the senior leadership of Ryarsh Primary School until a substantive Head Teacher is appointed. This is in addition to our normal collaborative work with the local schools of Kings Hill, Discovery, Offham and Ryarsh. I want to reassure parents that my involvement with Ryarsh Primary School is one of support and advice during this time and will not affect my commitment to and leadership of Mereworth.

**Kind regards, Miss Lavelle – Head Teacher**

## Important Information

### Emails/letters:

Please check your email inbox and child's book bag regularly to ensure you don't miss any important communications from school. We are sending less reminders in an effort to not bombard you with information, so please do read the newsletters and other information sheets and make a note of important dates in advance. Thank you.

### Water bottles:

Please make sure that your child has a **water bottle** every day for use in class, which is separate to their packed lunch bottle. Thank you for your support. Mereworth Primary School water bottles can be purchased from the school office for £2.00.

### School dinner payments for 2019-20

School meals must be paid for in advance; this can be done via SCOPAY. The Edwards and Ward policy is no money/no meal.

### Nut free school

Please can I remind parents not to give their child any food containing nuts, including peanut butter sandwiches, as we have children in school that are highly allergic and this could result in a serious and life threatening reaction.

### Fruit or vegetable snack for playtime

Children are allowed to bring in fruit and/or vegetables for their mid-morning break. Please do not give your child any other snack for break time.

### Swimming arrangements 2019-20 starting in Term 3

Below is the timetable for swimming lessons that are part of the PE National Curriculum. Lessons will take place at the Tonbridge School Centre:

**Term 3** Year 6 and Year 5

**Term 4** Year 4 and Year R

**Term 5** Year 3

**Term 6** Year 2 and Year 1

An information letter about swimming arrangements will be sent to each class nearer the time. Please complete and return the accompanying swimming ability questionnaire before the lessons begin.

## Our school value for September is CONFIDENCE

This is a great 'value' to get the school year started and we will encourage the children to have a **growth mindset** and to approach to their work and difficult challenges with a 'I CAN DO IT!' attitude. Please support this value at home wherever possible.

### OUR HIGH FIVE SCHOOL VALUES:

**Respect, Teamwork, Perseverance, Responsibility and Honesty.** These core values are at the heart of everything we do at Mereworth and are revisited with the children throughout the school year in class and in assemblies.



***"Lasting Learning Experiences for Life"***

**Parent Helpers:** If you are interested in becoming a Parent Helper, hearing readers or supporting the running of our School Clubs, painting, gardening and school improvement projects, please register your interest with the school office. We are immensely grateful for the support we already receive and welcome any extra support or time that any parent or grandparent can offer the school. Thank you.

### Parking, collection and drop off

A huge thank you to those of you who continue to park safely and considerately on The Street. Your support and collaboration is greatly appreciated. Please remember that it is illegal to park on double yellow lines, zig-zags and in the bus stop. Anyone seen parking illegally will be contacted by the school. Please be aware that local residents will be directed to inform the police of illegal or inconsiderate parking as the school is unable to deal with their complaints.