

3<sup>rd</sup> November 2009

Dear Parents

I hope you have had a good half term. The staff have had 2 very useful T D days and are looking forward to this special Christmas half term.

We were very sad to say goodbye to Miss French at the end of half term. She decided that she wanted to follow a career in speech and language and has moved out of the area to train. We wish her well in this venture. The governors have appointed Mrs Sarah Treby as her successor. Sarah has a wide experience as a TA and we are looking forward to her starting in a few week's time with Mrs Loxton.

You have probably noticed that parent interviews are approaching. These are due to take place on **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2009 from 3.30 pm – 7 pm.** Please could you contact the school to make an appointment. These interviews always coincide with our open morning. You are invited to come and wander around the school from 9 am until 12 noon and see us in operation. Mrs Porter and I will be holding our promised 'Question Time' during the afternoon from 2.15 pm. This is a new event, organised as a result of the parent questionnaire last term, when parents can come and ask questions about the school. We would be grateful if you could fill in the slip below if you would like to come – thank you.

Mr Simon Chisling (our computer technician) and Mr Marshall have been working hard on our new website. This has now 'gone live' and we will be developing it over the next few months. Please have a look on [www.mereschool.com](http://www.mereschool.com). Copies of newsletters, dates and useful forms are also on the site. We have also been able to order a new trolley of 32 wireless laptops thanks to a large donation from 'The Friends' and the commission from the photographs (over £500!) – thank you.

This is another plea for all parents to park considerately please. We do get a lot of complaints from people who park across drives blocking access. Our advice to the residents now is to phone the police but it is a difficult situation for the office to handle.

We have had an update from the DCFS about swine flu. They state:

“The Chief Medical Officer has advised that swine flu continues to be a largely mild illness, and the Health Service has responded in a proportionate and timely fashion to the threat. There is no sign yet of any major change in the pattern of the severity of the illness. On that basis, the CMO has confirmed that ...individual school closures are now of limited benefit in stopping the spread of the disease. However, it is essential that adults or children with flu-like symptoms should stay away until they are free of those symptoms”.

There is only one date for the next fortnight:

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 7.30 pm - Friends meeting – everyone welcome.

With thanks.

Yours sincerely

Catriona Williamson

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**MERE SCHOOL**

**Question Time**

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2009 at 2.15 pm**

I/we would like to attend the question time session.

Child's name ..... Class .....