

Meopham School

A Member of Swale Academies Trust

Headteacher: Mr E Roberts BA Hons. PGCE NPQH



Wrotham Road Meopham Kent DA13 0AH

Tel: 01474 814646

Website: www.meophamschool.org.uk

27th September 2024

Dear parents and carers,

I hope this letter finds you well.

It's been another week packed full of focused learning at Meopham School. It was lovely to welcome our Year 7 parents and carers and their children into school for our Year 7 Meet the Tutor Event. Feedback was very positive and I know parents and carers appreciated the chance to meet face to face with the teachers who see their youngsters most often to talk about the exciting start they've made on their Meopham journey. I believe strongly that getting our parents and carers into school regularly to meet face-to-face with school staff is vital for fostering a real sense of community and partnership, and we look forward to welcoming you all to many more in-person events.

I also had the pleasure of visiting some of our fantastic local primary schools in order to tell them all about the exciting things we have in store at our upcoming Open Evening on Thursday 10th October, 5pm to 8pm. We may well be seeing some of you there and - please do let any of your friends or family who may have youngsters approaching secondary school age that we would love to see them on the night!

We also have a number of Open Morning tours taking place from 14th - 24th October. This is a great opportunity to see the school in action during the day. Places on these tours can be booked here: [Meopham School - Open Morning Tours 2024](#).

Congratulations

Huge congratulations to **Kaitlyn Y** in Year 7 who completed the Twilight Walk last weekend in honour of her nanny. She walked 8km and raised £100 for Ellenor Hospices - an incredible achievement, and all the family and everyone at school are incredibly proud of her hard work!

I would also like to personally congratulate the following students for their excellent work in lessons this week, for which they have been awarded a Headteacher's Commendation:

Lucy H - Geography

Jack F - Geography

Nethra I - Geography

Faser W - Geography

Julia B - Geography

Perry-Junior H - Geography

Sally I - Maths

Kaya A - Maths

Mia C - Maths

Rosie J - Maths

Meopham School

A Member of Swale Academies Trust

Headteacher: Mr E Roberts BA Hons. PGCE NPQH



Wrotham Road Meopham Kent DA13 0AH

Tel: 01474 814646

Website: www.meophamschool.org.uk

We love to hear about all of the fantastic things are young people are up to, both in the local community and in school. With that in mind, if you have anything that you or your children want us to celebrate each week, please send an email to meophamgoodnews@swale.at and we will make sure you get a shout-out in this newsletter and on our social media!

Meopham School - Vision, Mission and Values - Parent/Carer Survey

As you may know, last week we sent out a survey to parents and carers to learn what is important to you, and what you want to see for the school's future. This is an incredibly important part of the process of forming a School Improvement Plan for future years. We are really keen to hear from as many parents and carers as possible, but unfortunately at the moment we have only heard from approximately 5-7% of you.

Involving our parents and carers within our school community is crucial to your children's success; the more of you who provide us with your feedback, the better informed we can be in making the improvements to the school that you would like to see.

We are leaving this survey open until **Friday 4th October**. We would be very grateful if all who have not yet done so could take a few minutes to complete:

[Meopham School - Vision, Mission and Values - Parent/Carer Survey](#)

Once we have concluded the parent/carers survey, we will be completing a survey with all of our students.

Resilience

The large majority of students are continuing to get to lessons quickly and sensibly. A small number are taking longer to get to lessons. A reminder that it is very important to be punctual to lessons in order to ensure everyone is accounted for quickly and ready to get on with the important business of learning. As I said last week, we want our school staff focused on supporting your children with this learning, not having to check that everyone has made it to lesson in a timely manner. Punctuality is an important life skill to learn. So is resilience - sticking at something, and working hard. For this reason, we are reminding students next week that they should not be leaving lessons except in very exceptional circumstances - which the teacher decides. Any student found internally truanting will receive a day in inclusion. This is because our primary function as a school is learning and that should be the focus during lesson times. There is plenty of time outside of lessons for everything else.

Meopham School

A Member of Swale Academies Trust

Headteacher: Mr E Roberts BA Hons. PGCE NPQH



Wrotham Road Meopham Kent DA13 0AH

Tel: 01474 814646

Website: www.meophamschool.org.uk

Moving Forward

Leading a school - just like raising children - is a rollercoaster of emotions. There are amazing moments with our young people throughout each day, and there are also times when our students may let us down. When students do fall beneath our expected standards, it is only right there are sanctions. As I said in my first letter to you, when our young people get something wrong, it is important they learn from it and change their behaviour moving forward. And when we do move forward, we all move forward - together.

It is worrying the role social media can play in our young people's lives - it seems to only serve to affect the welfare of our students and our staff - but that is the digital world we live in.

Meopham School is a school for everyone. We are proud to stand for equality, diversity and inclusion and we will always be here to listen, and forward-thinking when looking at new ways to promote these important values, and instil them within the culture of our school. Our staff uphold these values each and every day; they always put the welfare and safety of our students first and I am so proud to work with such a professional and dedicated team.

Never overlook all of the positive, amazing things that happen within our school, day-in, day-out. Each day there are thousands of examples of students being kind to one another; showing friendship; supporting those who are struggling; striving for their best in the face of adversity; pride in their achievements, and celebration in the success of others. That is what our school is about. That is who we are.

Have a lovely weekend

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'E Roberts', written over a horizontal line.

Mr Roberts
Headteacher