

# 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](http://www.meophamschool.org.uk)

14th July 2025

Dear parents/carers,

I hope you've had a lovely weekend. Apologies for not writing to you last week but I'm hoping this week's letter should cover most things and provide you with any information you might need before the summer holidays.

## **Well Done**

Congratulations to the following students who received Headteacher Commendations during our Pizza Lunch over the last two weeks:

**Tanvi G (Y7) - Maths** - always focused and on task.

**Ronnie W (Y7) - Tutor** - consistently excellent behaviour and presentation.

**Charlie G (Y9) - Music** - Excellent help during sports day. He showed great initiative when we faced some pretty challenging weather conditions! He was helpful throughout and was incredibly keen to learn how to set-up all of the equipment.

**Maciej J (Y7) - Computer Science** - Achieved gold certificate in the Turinglab Python Beginner Course.

**Henry S (Y7) - Computer Science** - Achieved gold certificate in the Turinglab Python Beginner Course.

**Raiden N (Y9) - Tutor** - excellent leadership as Sports Captain.

**Lana H (Y9) - Tutor** - excellent leadership as Sports Captain.

**Rhys M (Y9) - Geography** - Excellent work on a GCSE topic.

**Archie G (Y9) - Geography** - Excellent work on a GCSE topic.

**Molly T (Y7) - English** - Beautiful homework, illustrating a poem for display.

**Idris O (Y10) - Geography** - Excellent answer to a GCSE exam question.

**Kai P (Y10) - Geography** - Excellent answer to a GCSE exam question.

**Thom B (Y8) - English** - Excellent attitude to learning and a great improvement seen in his work.

**Joshua G (Y8) - English** - Great listener and a great improvement seen in his work.

**Lee O (Y10) - English** - Excellent effort in class and enthusiastic participation.

**Jessica O, Jessica M, Lexi P, Finley K, Joes S, Anabelle V, Scarlett M, Evie S and Daisy L (all Y8) - History** - Excellent presentations

Well done also to **Talia J-E (Y9)** who, after winning the Pentathlon in Lee Valley last month, was selected to compete for Kent schools at the Southern Regional Combined Events. Talia won the competition with a pb of 3083 points which included a high jump pb of 1.64 and so she's now qualified for the English Schools Pentathlon in September. Well done Talia!

# 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](http://www.meophamschool.org.uk)

## **Cultural Capital**

Thanks to **Mrs Williams and Mrs Courtney** who took some of our students in the Windmill provision to **Swanley Park** last week to enjoy the sunshine and celebrate the end of the school year!

Thanks also to **Mrs Greenwood, Mrs Letocart and Mrs Courtney** who organised our students to visit the Westlands School to participate in our trust's **Linguafiesta** language competition. This was an excellent opportunity for students to mix with young people from other schools and show off their Modern Foreign Language skills!

On Thursday Swale Academies Trust ran their annual **Shakesfest** event with students from seven of the trust schools participating, including Meopham School. Eleven students (two Year 10s and nine Year 7s) made the long journey from Meopham to Eastbourne to put on a performance of **Anthony and Cleopatra**. Many of the schools participating had students with many years of professional performance experience, with all other schools using performers no younger than Year 9. Our Year 10 performers were incredibly professional and led the way for what was an outstanding debut for our Year 7 stars. The confidence and ability to entertain and engage that our Year 7 Meopham students displayed was nothing short of phenomenal. Meopham school returned with an **award for best use of technical devices**, recognising our students' ability to both appreciate the original script whilst performing a modernised and entertaining interpretation. Our students were a real credit to Meopham School. Congratulations to: **Daniel O, Teleola M, Lenny D, Louis B, Ovidiu D, Joey B, Autumn P, Daisy D, Lily C, Oluwatunmise I and Ryan R.**

Thursday evening saw our annual **Summer Sizzler** Performing Arts event, with an array of students displaying their musical talents! These are always great events to see, and I was so impressed with both the talent on show and the bravery shown by our students to get on stage and perform to an audience - they were a real credit to the school and it was a lovely evening. Our thanks to **Mr Knight** for organising.

## **Year 5 Science Fair - a message from Curriculum Leader for Personal Development and Science Teacher, Mrs Eaton**

Nearly 300 Year 5 pupils from local primary schools (**Meopham Community Academy, Istead Rise Primary School, Shears Green Primary School and Langafel Primary School**) attended the first annual Science Fair at Meopham School. During the day, Year 5 pupils got to perform many different practicals such as looking at how rocks form, taking fingerprints from a crime scene, seeing how fireworks produce their colours and seeing which food groups are present in different foods. The Year 5 pupils were excited and engaged throughout the whole day and were lucky to take home their own fingerprint keyring! A team of fantastic Year 9 and 10 Meopham students, with a keen interest in Science, were on hand to help facilitate the

# 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](http://www.meophamschool.org.uk)

learning of the Year 5 pupils and were a real credit to the school. They even played football with them during lunch time! It was lovely to see our local Year 5s enjoying their first experience of secondary school and we are looking forward to welcoming each school back again next year!

Special thanks to **Mr Whitnell, Miss Orange, Ms Jonas, Mr Alldridge and Mr Briscoe** for delivering the sessions. A huge thank you to the science technicians **Ms Tysoe and Mrs Adams** for getting the practicals ready. A big thank you to **Mrs Hatch** for all her help throughout the event too!

## **Transition - a message from Deputy Headteacher, Zara Romney**

Last week we welcomed our incoming Year 7 students for two transition days, having the chance to find out more about life as a Meopham student. They took part in a range of lessons, team building tasks and activities to help get to know each other, our staff, and their way around our school.

It was so exciting to meet so many new students, and we can't wait for them to join us properly in September!

## **Year 13 Leavers Event**

It was bittersweet to say goodbye to our Year 13 students last Friday as we celebrated the long time they have been with us. Awards were given out, memories shared and a lovely barbecue on the field to mark the occasion. They will be sorely missed, but we are so proud of the young adults they now are, and we wish them all the best for the future. Thanks to **Mrs Huggens** for organising the event.

## **Lockdown Drill**

Please be advised that the school will do a practice drill of its lockdown procedures on **Wednesday 16th July**. This is nothing to be concerned about; it is simply our annual practice to ensure students and staff know the lockdown process. Students have been informed prior to the day and Mrs Clements, our Assistant Headteacher - Designated Safeguarding Lead will be writing to you all with some more information.

## **Uniform Poster - a message from Assistant Headteacher, Mr Wood**

As we all know, keeping high standards of uniform is an important element of school life, to ensure we maintain a mature and professional environment.

From last week, posters are now displayed around the school, on all classroom doors, to support students in their uniform expectations. These posters will also be used by staff during line ups to help them maintain high standards during the school day.

# 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](http://www.meophamschool.org.uk)

This week, I will be writing to you all regarding expectations for uniform next academic year, to ensure everyone is prepped for September. It will contain all the must-have items for next year, as well as clear guidance on our uniform policy, so all families are aware before they purchase any new uniform for next academic year.

On another note, should there be any parents/carers of Year 11 students who are kindly willing to donate their uniform, there is a drop-off point in our reception. Any items gratefully received - thank you.

(We did have one individual who placed some money into the drop-off point as we believe they thought we were asking for financial donations. This is incredibly kind but - if this was you - we would be happy to return you your money.)

## **Year 11 and Year 13 Results Days - a message from Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Romney**

We hope that our Year 11 and 13 students are enjoying their extended summer break after completing their examinations, but just wanted to remind families of the arrangements for results days.

Year 13 students can collect their results on **Thursday 14th August**, between **8am** and **10am**.

Year 11 students can collect their results on **Thursday 21st August**, between **8am** and **10am**.

We are looking forward to celebrating with them soon.

## **September Start of Term Arrangements - a message from Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Romney**

Whilst we may all be looking forward to the summer holidays, we also wanted to take this opportunity to update you on the plans for the start of term in September.

**Monday 1st September is a Staff Development Day, and no students should be in school.**

**On Tuesday 2nd September only our new Year 7 and 12 students will be in school.**

Year 7 students should arrive by 8.30am, ready to go to an assembly at 8.40am.

Year 12 students should arrive at 11am for their enrolment and induction events. Year 12s will finish at 2pm. More information will be shared with them on the GCSE results day on 21st August.

**All students should be in school from 8.30am on Wednesday 3rd September, ready to go to tutor time at 8.40am.**

# 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](http://www.meophamschool.org.uk)

## Term Dates for 2025-26

**Term 1** - Mon 1/9/25 - Fri 17/10/25

**Term 2** - Mon 3/11/25 - Fri 19/12/25

**Term 3** - Mon 5/1/26 - Fri 13/2/26

**Term 4** - Mon 23/2/26 - Fri 27/3/26

**Term 5** - Mon 13/4/26 - Fri 22/5/26

**Term 6** - Mon 1/6/26 - Fri 24/7/26

**Staff Development Days** 1/9/25, 26/10/25, 5/1/26, 24/6/26 and 27/7/26

## Term Dates for 2026-27

**Term 1** - Tue 1/9/26 - Tue 20/10/26

**Term 2** - Mon 2/11/26 - Fri 18/12/26

**Term 3** - Mon 4/1/27 - Fri 12/2/27

**Term 4** - Mon 22/2/27 - Thur 25/3/27

**Term 5** - Mon 12/4/27 - Fri 28/5/27

**Term 6** - Mon 7/6/27 - Mon 26/7/27

(Staff Development dates to be confirmed.)

A full parent/carer calendar for 2025-26 will be shared in September, and will also be available via our website.

## Punctuality

Next year, we want to have a big focus with students on the importance of punctuality, both at the start of the school day and the start of lessons. Excellent punctuality is a vital life school and a key part of developing a student's independence. We will be ringfencing some time to allow students to get from one lesson to another to ensure they have ample travel time and do not miss any vital learning. We will also be monitoring all students' punctuality, and if students are late to lessons, this will be recorded and a consequence put in place. We will share more information about this new system with you in September, and we will provide students with a few weeks to get used to it in the new term, but our hope is this will provide students with the time to get to lessons punctually, ensuring we can maximise the time they have with their teachers.

## Parent/Carer Survey

As we finalise our plans for next academic year, I would like to take another opportunity for you to provide some feedback to the school and any suggestions you may have. If you wish to do so, please complete the short survey via the link below:

<https://forms.gle/xm6RbEuLL9Ki1vMe7>

# 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](http://www.meophamschool.org.uk)

I would encourage as many parents and carers to get involved as possible, as by getting more families to provide their views, it gives us a much clearer picture of what matters to you and what you would like us to prioritise. Thank you in advance.

## **Moving Forward**

In all honesty, I cannot believe we are already at the end of the school year! It has flown by, but I'm really proud of all of our students for what they have achieved this year. There have been some truly remarkable things going on in the school this year, some wonderful memories made, lots of new things learned - and most importantly - a lot of fun and laughter too.

Of course, as well as our Y13 and some of our Y11 students, we also say farewell to some of our staff this week who leave us for pastures new. We wish them all the best for the future and thank them for their hard work and service to the school and its students. It is always sad to say goodbye, but it was also very exciting last week to welcome all of our new staff in for their new staff induction day, where they had the opportunity to meet the students and prepare for next year. We have made some truly fantastic appointments and I know as a group they cannot wait to get started and begin inspiring and motivating your children with some fantastic lessons.

So now, I will say to everyone: have a wonderful summer and I hope you enjoy some quality time together. Should you need anything from the school, please email [mss-reception@swale.at](mailto:mss-reception@swale.at) as we will monitor emails that come in to that address.

I cannot wait to get started with next year, and I'm looking forward to welcoming everyone back in September.

Yours faithfully

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

Mr Roberts  
Headteacher