MERTON COURT NEWS



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N.E.S.T.L.E!

Nurture, Exercise, Stimulation, Talk, Love and Environment are key to a child's development so 'NESTLE' is an acronym that encompasses how it is so important that both home and also school provide vital first steps for personal growth and success. Love can mean many things, but love of learning particularly, is something that we seek to promote through Forest School and it is clearly evident in our weekly Forest School sessions and Clubs, where the environment is very much considered to be a 'third teacher.' The children's language and communication skills are nurtured, stimulated and enhanced in our natural and ever-changing environment. This term we are delighted that we will be extending our communication-friendly Forest School space, providing an additional sector to explore, giving our children even more openended learning opportunities.

MERTON COURT *news* • **MERTON COURT** *news* •



Improvements In School

We do hope the improvements to the Rectory Lane roadway surface are making entry to our carparks smoother. We have nearly completed the new drainage channel and new security fencing for the old Astroturf, ready for a new Astro surface to be laid on the old Astro at Easter. The newly installed LED flood lights on our other Astro are already a great success.

We have also installed the first phase of new whiteboards for all classrooms and teaching areas, with the second phase to take place later in the year.

Excitedly, we will be commencing planting in our new allotment area ready for Spring and preparing our new bee-keeping area, whilst around a dozen volunteers, staff and parents, will begin their bee-keeping training this month.

Anyone interested in helping further with our allotment or indeed our bees, please contact Mr Price.

Past Events Autumn 2019

► ACADEMIC SUCCESS

A big well done to all of our current S4 children for their effort and hard work, with strong academic results so far this year. At our end of term prizegiving, eighteen pupils were recognised with scholars' ties, for very high scores in the Bexley, Bromley Super-selective and Kent procedures along with Independent school academic and sporting scholarships and awards.

You may well see S3s and S4s with different kinds of ties.

Ties are awarded for a number of achievements here – becoming a Deputy Prefect or a Prefect, achieving Sports Colours by representing the school regularly or gaining a Scholars' Tie for a high level of academic success, and/or receiving a Scholarship or Award in Secondary School selection tests.



We were very pleased also to see our strong academic position confirmed again this year, achieving 44th place in the Sunday Times Top 100 Independent Prep Schools.

► SPORT AND ACTIVITIES

Well done to Darcev Cross who has been selected by the National Coaches for the Women's Artistic GBR Foundation Squad for 2020. Darcey was selected for the squad based on her combined performance and results from the Level 4 Compulsory and Voluntary Age Group Championships which took place last year (only the top 10 in the country were selected). During 2020, Darcey will attend three dedicated weekend training camps to train with the National coaches at Lilleshall National Sports Centre (home of British Gymnastics).

MERTON COURT SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Thank you to all who took part and supported this event. It was very well attended with 320 Entries, 244 Personal Bests and one School Record – Joshua Hill. 25m Backstroke

Senior Boys Champion – James Belton Senior Girls Champion – Ella Fay Junior Champion – Tommaso Etemi

ISA Regional Competition

Thank you and well done to all who attended, particularly those who managed to qualify for the ISA National Finals.

Medals Individual

Y6 Boys 50m Butterfly	James Belton	3rd
Y5 Boys 50m Freestyle	Alexandros Kapatos	2nd

Medals Teams

Y6 Boys Medley Relay	lames Belton	3rd
	Oliver White	514
Y6 Boys Freestyle Relay	James Belton Tom Eagle Leo Jayasinghe Oliver White	2nd
Y5 Boys Freestyle Relay	Joe Brady Tom Ellershaw Joshua Hill Alexandros Kapatos	3rd

We wish all our swimmers the best of luck at the Kent Primary Swimming Championships on Saturday 14 March. Supporters welcome!

Most Improved Swimmer last term – Christiaan Datema

DOUBLE ISA WINS FOR FOOTBALL!

On Wednesday 18th September 2019 we took a combined S1 & S2 team to compete in the ISA South Y3 & Y4 football Tournament, which was held at Sidcup RFC. We drew two of our group matches, against Elmhurst and Oakhyrst Grange, and won a hard fought match against Babington House - which left us top of our group and earned us a place in the semi-finals.



We were drawn against Bronte school and at the end of extra time it was a 1-1 draw, which meant a penalty shoot-out! The boys held their nerve and won 3-2. The final was against Sacred Heart. We started the game with a beautiful, long-range screamer of a goal, which stunned the opposition so much that they never recovered. We went on to win the final 4-1. Well done to Freddie, Rishi, Tomasso, Harvey, Charlie, Max, Rafi, Isaac and Louie.

Continued on page 4

Past Events Autumn 2019



Girls Under 11 Team: Evie (Capt), Isabelle, Sophia, Alicia, Tami, Darcie, Amelia and Emily.

Eight girls across S2-S4 took part in the ISA (South) football tournament at West Lodge School. The girls won their Group without conceding any goals against Bronte, Babington House and Bishop Challoner. Merton Court then beat the winning team of Group 1 (Rosemead) scoring 3-2 inside extra time to win the tournament and lift the Cup!

CROSS COUNTRY

The Kent Junior Schools Cross Country Championships was held at Brands Hatch on Saturday 23 November. Thirty-two children represented Merton Court with a hundred schools taking part. Well done to everyone who made the effort to go along and take part. Rafi Smith was awarded a silver medal (Kent County Runner-up).

Well done also, to House Cross Country winners in school:

S1 Ashley Michelli, Gretchen Cheung
S2 Tommaso Etemi, Carys Bodie
S3 Joe Brady, Darcey Cross
S4 Artie Hall (Pochin Cup Winner)
and Evie Gannon (Pochin Plate Winner)

The St Ledger Most Improved Rugby Award – Barry Harding.

HOUSE EVENTS WINNERS			
Maths - M	ERTON	MERIT SHIELD	- School
CROSS COUNTRY - MERTON		CHESS	- School
RUGBY - MERTON			
BADGES S2 Cross Country: Harvey Allen, Lilia White			
S2 Netball: Daisy Cormack, Alisa Habarova			
S2 Rugby: Freddie Kite, Charlie Wilson			
S2 Swimming: Tomasso Etemi, Phoebe Hill			



CAPTAINS

Football:		Artie Hall
Hockey:	Girls	Sloane Joseph
	Boys	Louie James
Skiing:	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Darcie Flynn
		Daniel Delamain

CHARITIES

The Autumn Term charity was 'Access4All' – St John's Church Appeal. Donations from 'Wear a Christmas Jumper Day' raised £442.92 along with the S4 cake sale \pm 146.20, St John's Raffle \pm 402.15 and a stall by Ashley,

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE REGULARLY FOR DATE AND TIME UPDATES

Safia and S3 (£87.10) raising £1,078.37. Our collection of Foreign coins made £204 – Grand Total: £1,282.37. School pledged to double this amount to help the new café and toilet facilities planned in St John's so, that's £2,564.74, which brings them even closer to their target! Thank you so much for your continued generosity!



Reverend Cathy receives our cheque presented by the Charity Committee

REMEMBRANCE

S3 (Yr 5) led our Annual Remembrance Service in a thoughtful and moving way to help our school community to better understand why we wear our poppies on Poppy Day.



Following the service, Legion members chose the best S3 Remembrance Projects from a lovely array and at Prizegiving, Aiofe Hadland was awarded the 'Shipmates' Remembrance Cup for her contribution to the Remembrance Service and Oscar Richardson won the British Legion Diamond Jubilee Poppy Project Award for her beautiful project.

Thank you once again for your donations to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal with donations totalling *£333.27*.

Bexley Queen Mary's Hospital Memorial The Men with Broken Faces

It was an honour and a pleasure to be part of the unveiling of a brand new memorial to those soldiers who suffered facial disfigurement as a consequence of injuries sustained in the First World War and who benefitted from the amazing work of Dr Harold Gilles and his surgical team.

Ellie Grigsby, who has acted as our School researcher for our 'Lost Boys (1915-1920)' website, was the amazing driving force behind this new memorial and



received donations from local organisations, societies and individuals, including Merton Court School, to ensure the memorial would happen.

Mr Price laid a wreath on behalf of School, alongside Lamorby and Sidcup Historical Society, at the very moving unveiling ceremony, following a violin recital, the Last Post and the beautifully acted memories of Sister Catherine Black. See Fleur (S2) with Ellie and Sister Black above.



Well done and thank you to Louie (S4) and his Grandma (!) along with Mrs Meehan and her helpers for knitting some beautiful hand-made poppies that were sold in aid of the British Legion Poppy Fund during Remembrance.

Past Events Autumn 2019

► FESTIVAL OF SPEECH AND DRAMA

Well done to all of the children who took part in our Festival of Speech and Drama last term. Particular commendations were awarded to the winners of the Form Poem Sections (Seniors – S4Ba and Juniors – J2H). *Zain Pala* won the Price Silver Jubilee Cup for Original Verse. *Amy Casey, Darcie Flynn* and *Dolly Parsons* shared the Massey Mime Cup. 'Best of Festival' for an excellent contribution to the Festival entering four categories was *Darcie Flynn*.

PRIMARY MATHS CHALLENGE

As usual all children in S4 entered the National Primary Maths Challenge, organised by The Mathematical Association, with excellent results. Bronze Award winners were James Belton, Amy Casey, Oliver White, Evie Gannon, Lilac Hastings, Rebecca Kidby, Sophia Uba, Yuv Pindoria, Peter Chupakhin, Thomas Eagle, Barry Harding, Leo Jayasinghe and William Law all gained Silver Awards with Zain Pala, Pranav Subarayen, Alicia Ambler, Shayen Pindoria and Herbie Smith achieving Gold Awards. All Gold Medal winners go through to the Primary Maths Challenge Bonus Round on the 6 February – we wish them the best of luck!





CHRISTMAS EVENTS 2019

Our annual Christmas Carol service at St John's Church was a lovely way to end the term and a reminder of the true meaning of Christmas.

Christmas and Croissants – As part of the fundraising for the S4 trip to Spain in June, children provided entertainment along with breakfast for our School Community.



PRIZEGIVING

Thank you to past parents Mr & Mrs Bruce, for giving away the Senior prizes at Autumn Prizegiving.



PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE REGULARLY FOR DATE AND TIME UPDATES

School Events Spring 2020

ENGLISH TERM – SPRING 2020

The focus for this term is reading.

With our focus on reading for pleasure and reading aloud, all classes will receive guest visits from both Buddy and Bonnie and also Mr Price, to hear reading and encourage the telling of stories.



The most important objectives of our 'Rekindling Reading' initiative this term is for children to:

- enjoy reading
- · develop life-long reading habits
- fully access the wider curriculum
- improve their performance in English, (particularly in the SATS exams).

COFFEE MORNINGS

Our Coffee Mornings theme is '**Our featured author**'. Parents/carers are most welcome to come along to coffee mornings and watch children's assembly presentations in our School Hall. It is also a great forum for lively discussion on related academic and pastoral issues.

Coffee Mornings are as follows:

J3	Friday, 17 January	<i>S</i> 4	Friday 14 February
J1	Friday, 24 January	51	Friday, 6 March
<i>S2</i>	Friday, 31 January	53	Friday, 13 March
J2	Friday, 7 February		

ENGLISH WEEK – w/c 24th February

Monday – House English Quiz. S1/2 9.15am, S3/4 10.45am.

Tuesday – Spelling Bee.

Wednesday - 'Doggie Tales' Day.

Thursday – 'Book Nook' Big Build – create a cosy corner to read in.

Friday - Book character Dressing-Up Day.

The Million Word Challenge is a literacy campaign promoting reading outside of school time. The initiative challenges children to read MILLIONS of WORDS throughout the school year. Take the time to encourage your child to continue reading beyond the bell and promote the Million Word Challenge.

Million Word Challenge: Reading goals by the end of Summer term

EYFS	75 picture books (Read with an adult)
J1	75 picture books (Read with an adult or independently)
J2	75 picture books or 25 Chapter Books (Read with an adult or independently)
J3	150 picture books or 50 chapter books
S 1	30 Chapter Books (Large type)
S2/3	25 Chapter books (125 page book average)
S4	25 Chapter Books (150 page book average)

World Book Day is on 5 March 2020

PROSPECTIVE PARENTS' OPEN OPPORTUNITIES

Open Evening: Wednesday, 29 April 5.00pm – 7.30pm *Open Morning:* Saturday, 26 September 9.15am-12 noon

School Events Spring 2020

'Strictly 90s' S4 Fundraiser

- Friday, 7 February (6.30pm)

As part of their fundraising for their trip to Spain in June, S4 proudly present, for one night only, "Strictly 90s." The children have been rehearsing their Jive, Waltz and Cha-Cha, as well as some group dances, all to music from the 90s, to entertain you on Friday 7 February at 6.30pm.

We have an experienced compère, an expert panel of judges, a few glamorous assistants and some wonderful dancers. There may even be the opportunity for a little audience participation! Light refreshments will also be available for sale on the evening.

Tickets available from either Mrs Jones or Mrs Saunders (or from the School Office – Adults ± 5 , Children ± 3).

We look forward to seeing you on 7 February for what promises, as ever, to be a fantastic evening. Keeeep dancing!

S4 BRING AND BUY SALE – Friday, 14 February

Do you have any unwanted Christmas presents or have you had a spring clean over the holidays? If so S4 would welcome your donations. We suggest all children bring in no more than £5 (in change) to spend at the Sale (Juniors especially, please keep it safe in a named purse or wallet).

This is a S4 'Fundraiser' in preparation for their Spanish residential trip to Tossa de Mar in June

CHARITIES DAY – Friday, 20 March

Please support our chosen charity this term, Kentwide Downs Syndrome Group

Please bring a donation of $\pounds 2$ and come dressed in uniform but silly socks – for World Downs Syndrome Day. Also on this day, there will be a cake sale and, just for fun on this special occasion, sponsored no homework (optional)!

► S4 CYCLING PROFICIENCY WEEK

– W/C Monday, 2 March

An opportunity for S4 to prepare for Secondary School and gain cycle confidence.

VICTORIA COLLEGE SPEECH EXAMS

- Monday, 9 March

Remember that a little bit of practice every day makes all the difference. Good luck to everyone taking part.

FESTIVAL OF DANCE (Individual & Choreographic)

- Friday, 20 March - 9.00am onwards

Why not enter this very popular event?

Children will have the chance to perform solos, duets, trios or in groups in their chosen category to show off their skills. Categories will be given out later this term.

GROVES PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION Tuesday, 24 March

S4 battle it out for the coveted Groves Public Speaking Trophy.

BREAKTIME HOCKEY – S1-S4

Our annual Hockey 6-a-side Tournament will take place on weekday breaktimes with the finals on *Wednesday, 25 March at 11am.* All senior children have now been allocated a team. They should watch the Games notice board for details/updates and talk to their team captains/vice captains to see when they need hockey sticks. It is not essential for children to buy their own sticks unless they wish to, as we have spares in school. Personal sticks should be clearly named, and may be kept in school. Our uniform suppliers 'OZ' also stock hockey sticks. Please remember to wear appropriate footwear. Here's to a great competition!

 PRIZEGIVING – Friday 27 March (Juniors 9.15am & Seniors 11am)

Please do check our up-to-date website www.mertoncourtprep.co.uk for any dates and future events throughout 2020 and beyond.

If you wish to access some great photos of last term's and this term's events, visit the secure 'Parents' section. Please email office@mertoncourtprep.co.uk or tele-

phone the school office if you require the password.

Whole School Production

Our Whole School Production at the Churchill Theatre is now definitely scheduled for Friday 3 July 2020. So please do save the date in your diary – there will be two performances: Afternoon Matinée and evening so be ready for when the tickets go on sale soon.



Easter Playscheme 30 March – 3 April 2020. Summer Playscheme 13 July – 7 August 2020.

Booking forms will be sent out the week after half-term. Please try and book in good time, since it is often oversubscribed. The Playscheme Team will be ready to provide an exciting variety of themed activities over the Easter and Summer holidays.

Merton Court 'Tiny Tots and Toddlers' Club

Mrs T Langton will be co-ordinating these afternoon sessions on *Wednesdays* that run from 1.30pm until 2.30pm from Wednesday, 15 January until Wednesday, 20 March. The cost is £5 per session including refreshments. If you have a pre-school child (or know anyone who has) and would like a social opportunity and a safe, structured first introduction to our school environment, please contact the School Office or Early Years directly (020 8309 5299).

Health & Safety

As always Health & Safety is everyone's responsibility.

If you have any concerns regarding Health & Safety in and around school – please contact a member of our staff or one of our Health & Safety Pupil Committee.

Safeguarding

We will also be continuing with the programme for our Digital Leaders.

The following children have been assigned to year groups to offer support and guidance about the Internet.

J2/3 Dolly and Daniel

- **\$1** Amy and Peter
- S2 Sophia and Ryan
- **\$3** Miley and Tom
- S4 Joshua and Sloane

The children are very keen to help and share their knowledge, so please feel free to talk to them and ask for help if you need it.

Registration and Lateness – Just a quick reminder that the School Day starts at 8.45 and the school gates will be closed at 8.50. All children should be in School for Registration at 8.50am.

Please do not leave younger siblings unaccompanied in the car at any time when using the school carpark to collect older children.

Afterschool Club

After School Club runs from 3.15pm until 5.30pm – \pm 3.50 per half hour with a late fee of \pm 20.00 every 15 mins (Full term cost paid upfront – 1 hour per day \pm 260.00, 1.5 hours per day \pm 380.00, 2 hours per day \pm 500.00).



School Events Spring 2020

► Uniform and Appearance

All children should be wearing full winter uniform including our school regulation coat available from 'OZ Schoolwear'.

Hair bands should be of a reasonable size and in school colours only (red, yellow, grey or black) or school scrunchies available from 'OZ' Schoolwear. Please note that earrings are not permitted to be worn in Games, PE and Swimming.

Ruck-sacks are for Senior children only as Junior lockers are not big enough to store them.

The wearing of Apple watches, Fitbits or similar to school is not permitted.

Please note as from this term school shoes should be plain black without bows or pompoms on them.

Please see our uniform booklet for all uniform requirements.

Good Local Provenance

In our continued efforts to improve the quality and provenance of healthy food on offer to our children at lunchtime we have a new local supplier for fruit and vegetables – *Kelsey's Farm*, Bexley and *Carnivore Butchers*, Sidcup, for all our meat and butchery products – Yum!

► Curriculum Review

Much of what pupils learn at Merton Court is aligned to the National Curriculum; however, we are very much an Independent School. This means we have the freedom to produce our own curriculum. Our schemes of work are designed to provide plenty of scope for every pupil to tackle a range of tasks and activities that best match the breadth and depth of their abilities and then extend them. The schemes we devise are carefully reviewed which allows us to ensure that our curriculum is dynamic and consistently meeting the demands of an ever-changing world. Our latest review took place at the end of the last academic year (2019). We now intend to begin to publish our curriculum on the parents' section of our website so that parents may play as positive a role as possible in their children's learning. Curriculum overviews will be published to help also with 'reading round' subject areas and independent research.



Old Mertonians news



Fabulous to see *Scarlett Jenkins* (*OM '00 - '08*) when she visited us. She is in her final Master's year of Engineering and thoroughly enjoyed her day back in school which was part of her final thesis research project questionnaire. Her sister *Saskia Jenkins (OM '03 - '11)* is at the University of Kent studying Biology.

We discovered also that *Harriet Pugsley (OM '01-'08)* is now a Primary school teacher in a local school.

Richard Platings (OM '54-'60) wrote to us saying that his time at Merton Court was the happiest years of his life. He says, "I recall regularly waking up on a Monday morning and thinking 'great', school".

Here are just a few recollections of his time at Merton Court,

"I consider myself to have been very fortunate to have spent some of my most formative years at Merton Court and currently assist on an Alpha Course at Wormwood Scrubs prison where there are many inmates whose lives have been blighted by their appalling experiences of childhood and adolescence".

"Whilst the name Blakeney is very familiar to me I can best recall Mr Davies who regularly rang the bell, or was it a whistle, at the end of morning break time. He also introduced me to cricket, when in the nets one day he observed that I had quite a good eye for the ball and was as a result hitting several of the bowlers for nominal fours. I did however make the cricket teams and until recently had a team photograph of myself and Chris Jagger (brother of Mick!) standing side by side, a fact that use to make a very considerable impact on my teenage children".

"I will always remember Mrs Davies immaculate writing

on the blackboard which I have recalled more than once over the years as an example to follow. Small classes were a blessing to me which contrasted sharply with classes 30+ at the local Grammar school to which I graduated at the age of 11 in 1960".

"Sports Days were wonderful occasions. Aged 7 or 8 and running 440 yards I discovered that if I leant forward I didn't get a stitch; I have been running/jogging ever since. I loved throwing the cricket ball and what seemed like being awarded a gleaming silver cup for everything. The uniform, a fine shade of red with a bright yellow cross on the breast pocket and cap was always a pleasure to wear which is not significant and the tradition of doffing one's cap when encountering a master outside the school attracted some odd responses when I continued the practice for a while at Grammar School".

"Our red football shirts were made of some thick, extremely irritating material and the communal scrub up (there were no showers) after matches did as much for the enjoyment of the game as the match itself. Very sad was when I went to Grammar School and I was made to wear long trousers. I think I must have been quite proud of the grazes on my knees and lower limbs".

"The playground had the benefit of being a slope so that in winters which seemed much colder in those days, quite a lengthy slide developed whenever snow fell and/or ice formed. Beyond the playground lay the copse and a large playing field below the copse was divided in two by a line of trees and bushes. At the bottom of the field a rotting tree trunk when lifted up introduced me and others to some very exciting, large black stag beetles".

"It was in one of these fields (Merton Field) that the Meteor plane crashed, the aftermath of which I witnessed and recall observing wreckage in the form of some flying instruments in a deep hole, largely buried but just projecting out of the clay below".

THINKING ABOUT THINKING

Professor Nikolaus Steinbeis and his research team from the Clinical, Educational and Health Psychology Department at University College London will be carrying out a study on volunteers from J2-S4.

The study title is 'Effects of executive function training in children'.

The main focus of the study is to better understand how early experiences might influence the way the children develop. Children on the study will be part of an eight-week training course. The goal is to understand if executive functions can be improved during childhood, what the effects of such improvements are on the brain, how longlasting such effects can be.



MERTON COURT *news* • **MERTON COURT** *news*

Friends of Merton Court Events Spring/Summer 2020

As always, FOMC extends a warm welcome to all of our new parents who may wish to get involved. Remember, you don't need to be on the committee to help at any of these events.

FOMC thank you for all your support at their events last term. Family Disco, Fashion Show, Bonfire Night, Christmas Bazaar and children's Christmas parties.

This term's events include:

Comedy Night (adults only)

- Friday 28 February (7pm)

This ever popular annual event is back! £25 per ticket, includes fish and chips (Veggie option available at the time of booking) and the FOMC Bar will be open for drinks.

Next term's events include:

► May Ball – Saturday, 16 May. Details to follow.

Prom on the Pitch – Thursday, 9 July (5-9pm).

Prom on the Pitch 2020 – FOMC are looking for sponsorship for this event so that we may ensure it is as spectacular as all of the previous years – If you would

like to part-sponsor or would like further information then please come and see either Ash or Sahra.

► Water bottles

Water bottles are still available to buy from the FOMC Steel Chilly's Bottles at £20 each and plastics bottles at £5 each.



Thanks to our money-raising events we organise, that you all so passionately support, FOMC make and continue to make donations towards fun-filled learning activities for our children throughout the school year. We continue to support the school with any new initiatives that will enrich the school environment. The good news is – with funds raised, we plan to fit a new Astro surface to the top Junior Playground around Easter time.

Community Links



Book Buzz

Join in with our Book Buzz festival of fun!

Bexley Literary Festival is from 15-29 February around our Borough – to find out more above some of the amazing book related events go to:

www.bexleybookbuzz.com

Thank you to Isabelle Freedman, who with sponsorship from Merton Court, took part in an exciting and rewarding trip to Katuandu, Nepal and shared her experiences at the Shree Nurbuling Manichaur School



and helped to improve vital facilities for the school's future use following the terrible earthquakes there.

Sidcup Rotary Club – 'Roset' Scheme

Sidcup Rotary Club is offering annual awards of £250 to school pupils who apply to them to help with funding towards Sports, Drama, the Arts, travel, coaching or lessons.

Do visit Sidcup Rotary's website, for application form or contact Mr Price via the School Office.

Sidcup Christmas Extravaganza

We were delighted once again to act as headline sponsors for Sidcup Business Investment District Christmas Extravaganza in the High Street which was a huge success including a Christmas Town Trail from St John's Church to Sidcup Community Church.



Bexley Mayor Geraldene Lucia-Hennis and her husband Pete