

Newsletter February 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

Our first half term of 2017 is complete – it has gone quickly! We have got the new calendar year off with a positive start with the launch of our new literacy and phonics programme '**Read, Write, Inc**'.

Read Write Inc. Phonics is a complete literacy programme that is being used across the whole school. We are adapting its use to deliver a consistent reading, writing and phonics approach to literacy.

All children will have the opportunity to:

- Learn the first 30 sounds in short daily sessions
- Read storybooks and non-fiction books closely matched to their developing phonic knowledge
- Take home phonics storybooks to share
- Read with fluency and expression
- Learn to spell using known sounds
- Write confidently by practising what they want to write out loud first
- Work well with a partner

We look forward to seeing the progress and confidence of all pupils as we roll out the programme. If you have any questions and comments, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher in the first instance.



Educate, Develop, Enrich, Nurture

A member of the Eden Academy

T: 01895 609120

E: info@pentlandfieldschool.co.uk

W: www.pentlandfieldschool.co.uk

Second Birthday Celebrations

We have also celebrated our 2nd birthday on Thursday 12th January! It is hard to believe that we opened just two short years ago! As part of our second birthday celebrations, the pupils worked with our artist-in-residence Nina Gebauer. We re-created the school logo using mosaic tiles – the results are below:



We are very impressed with the results and it will be a permanent record of the achievements of the pupils who were at the school in January 2017! Well done PFS!

Administrative notices

We are also pleased to have strengthened our school systems and procedures that we hope will benefit you and your child. Please read information below on some reminders and forthcoming changes.

Contact details

If any of your contact details change please ensure that you notify the school office.



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Free School Meals and Pupil Premium Grant

If you are eligible to receive free school meals for your child, the school is able to receive a set amount of money from a fund from the government to assist in ensuring that children make good progress in their education. This is called the Pupil Premium Grant. This money is awarded to the school and is used to financially support **your** child with things such as:

- Attendance at After School / Holiday Clubs
- Educational visits including day trips
- Additional resources to support your child in school to make progress
- School Uniform
- Free School Meal every day

If you think you are entitled to claim, please contact Jo Richards on the main school number who will be pleased to assist you.

Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers

We are collecting vouchers again this year, please send any vouchers in with your child and these can be exchanged for Sports equipment for the school.

Swimming at Highgrove Leisure Centre

The following classes will be swimming after February half term:

- Hedgehog
- Franklin
- Owl
- Squirrel
- Pascal
- Dragonfly

Ladybird, Swan, Caterpillar, Bumble Bee continue as they were last half term.

Cool Milk

If you wish to register your child to receive milk daily please return the forms sent to you last week by Wednesday 22nd February.



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Sickness and Diarrhoea

A reminder that pupils should not return to school for 48 hours after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea. If your child is unable to attend school due to being unwell please ensure you call 01895 609120 by 8.30am to report your child's absence. It is important to adhere to this rule – pupils that return earlier potentially can transmit the bug to others and this impacts on staffing as well as pupils. If you are unsure on when your child needs to return to school, please contact the school for advice in the first instance.

Term dates for the end of Spring Term 2017 to the end of the academic year

The last day of the spring term is Wednesday 29th March and pupils finish at 1.30pm. Please find attached an updated copy of our term dates.

New school dinner menu

Please find attached the new menu for the second half of the Spring Term.

We plan to issue all general letters via email from next half term. If you would still like to receive a paper copy, please could you indicate on the proforma attached? Could you also ensure that we have your up-to-date email address to ensure that you receive it? If we do not receive the proforma we will assume you are happy to receive letters by email.

On behalf of all staff, we hope that you have a fabulous half term break and we look forward to seeing all pupils back for the second half of the spring term on Monday 20th February at 9.00am.

With my very best wishes,



Audrey Pantelis
Head of School