

Pilgrim Primary Academy

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Friday 26th May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,



Today we break for a week-long half term holiday and can you believe the weather forecast? Lots of sunshine forecast for Plymouth next week - lucky us! After so much rain this year, we have been making the most of the hot and dry weather in the last two weeks with children on the field for lunches and using our outdoor spaces to practise for the summer sporting events. We are getting a team of older children together to represent us at the annual Brickfields Schools

Athletics event next term and I have seen many KS1 classes out practising the events ready for Sports Days - they are not until July so they are going to be absolutely brilliant by then! (Details of our Sports Days can be found in the [Dates for Your Diary](#) section below).



Parent/Carer Survey

A big thanks for a great response to our recent Parent/carers survey. After a few reminders, we had 125 responses which is really helpful. The survey is now closed while we collate the information. I hope to send out the results after half term and let you know how the information will shape some of our next steps. Thanks again, everyone.

'Look at Our Learning' sessions - come and celebrate your child's learning!

After the half term we would like to invite parents and carers into school to see for yourself the wonderful learning your children have created during this half term. This will be a chance to join your child in their classrooms so they can show you their books and discuss what they have learned this term. The dates are as follows (all times are 2.45 - 3.15pm):

Year 5 & 6	Tuesday 6th June
Year 1 & 2	Thursday 8th June
Year 3 & 4	Tuesday 13th June

(Foundation Stage will continue with their weekly parent drop-ins as usual)

Parent Governor News

I am pleased to announce that we have a new Parent Governor - **Mrs Emma Manley**. Mrs Manley is a parent in Year 1 and will be stepping into the role of Parent Governor when we return after half term. Congratulations to Emma - welcome to the Board!

Vacancy: we still have one Parent Governor vacancy on our Local Governing Board. We will be sending out nomination papers for this vacant role after half term so please consider putting yourself forward or nominating another parent for this valuable role.

School Behaviour Approach - Information Sessions for Parents and Carers.

We are repeating the session that we offered recently for parents and carers to understand our approach for supporting and managing behaviour in school. These sessions are at the end of the first week back on Friday 9th June with an option of either 2.30 pm or 5.15pm sessions. Parents who attended the sessions at the start of May were very positive about the content and here are some of the comments we received in the feedback when asked what was the most informative part of the session:

"Understanding how the system works and what the keystone behaviours are"

"I believe that the session was an eye opener for me...great steps towards behaviour support"

"I can understand the new changes that are being implemented"

"Recognition rather than reward seems like a very positive approach"

So please pop this date in your diary and come and join us for one of these sessions (please note that this is a direct repeat of the sessions in May so parents who attended then do not need to attend again!).

Road Safety issues

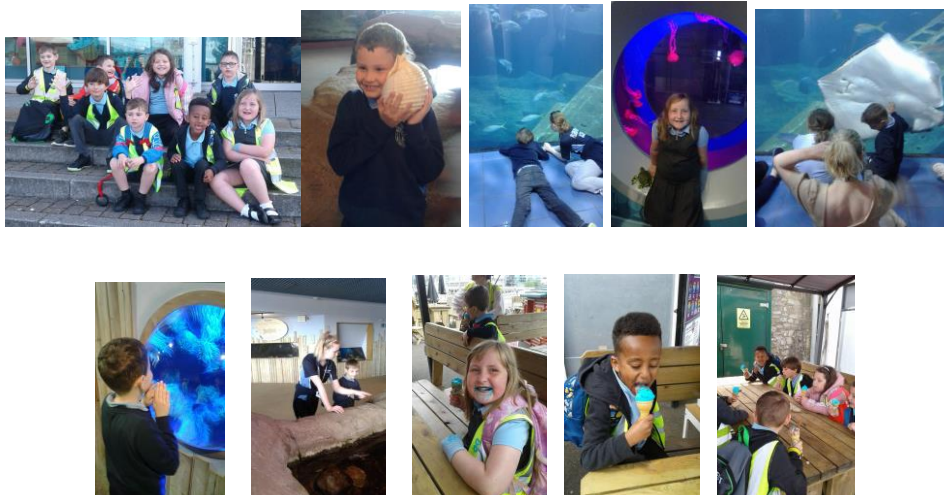
Unfortunately, we are still finding that some parents / carers are driving unsafely on the roads around the school whilst either dropping off or picking up their children. Please remember to drive slowly and safely and do not mount the curbs or park over double yellow lines. We have a lot of children on the pavements and around the roads at these times and their safety is of our utmost importance. If you are driving around school during drop off and pick up times, please slow your speed right down - no one wants an accident to happen.



CURRICULUM NEWS - WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

Aquarium Trip

Cosy Cottage went on a trip to the aquarium! We got to see lots of amazing sea creatures in real life that we have been learning about in our topic 'Beach Explorers' and we couldn't finish our trip without having a delicious ice cream...yum!

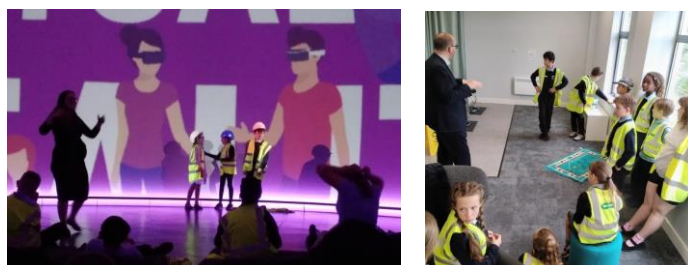


Cosy Cottage ended their beach explorers topic with a fun beach day. They had lots of fun making ice-creams, beach art, water fun, a puppet show, boat races and much more!!



Widening Horizons - Year 5

Last week Year 5 Orca class visited Market Hall as part of the Widening Horizons Project. We got to watch a short film in the 360 degree immersive cinema. This week, we got to visit EE and learn about the jobs roles within the company. We also got to eat a buffet breakfast which the children enjoyed very much...!



Year 1

We looked closely at the dynamics of various songs and thought about what parts should be sung quietly and which parts should be sung loudly. We then learnt the song 'Yellow Bird' and performed it as if we were on Britain's Got Talent! We used our voices expressively and creatively. We used percussion instruments to create our own rhythms, using different dynamics and tempo.



Chameleon Class

In Year 3 we have really enjoyed learning about France! We have explored the geography and culture of this country and compared it to our own in England. We had a fantastic time exploring the different traditional foods from France too.



World Africa Day

In assembly this week we learnt about **World Africa Day** which was on **Thursday 25th May**. As part of the assembly the children learnt about the wonderful Continent of Africa. We explored the climate, landscape, human and physical features (including looking at culture and customs) as well as some facts about the countries that make up the African continent. We also discussed the similarities and differences of Africa with the UK. Some of our pupils shared their own links to Africa and their African heritage during the assembly. We would like to explore this further through a voluntary **holiday homework** which asks pupils to **choose an African country to research** and then share their learning about. This could be in the form of a poster, leaflet/ information text, drawing or a google slideshow. All children are welcome to participate, not just those with African heritage.



Upcoming Curriculum Events



On **Thursday the 8th June** we will be celebrating World Ocean Day in school. Our curriculum explores the need to protect our oceans and Year 4 has been part of the "Generation Ocean" project run by the Ocean Conservation trust this year. On the 8th June we will, as a whole school, focus on World Ocean Day.

The day will start with a global morning assembly led by Inka Cresswell, a young marine biologist and wildlife filmmaker. Following this assembly all year groups will access activities that will allow them to further explore their understanding of the ocean.

We need your help!: We would like all **pupils to bring a clean, empty plastic bottle** to school on **Monday 5th June**. We will be using them as part of an art project to mark world Ocean day.

LOOKING AHEAD....DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



29.05.23	HALF TERM HOLIDAY WEEK
w/c 05.06.23	Return to school - MONDAY 5th June
	Mon 5th June - Year 6 swimming block starts
	Tues 6th - Y5/6 Look at Our Learning Sessions
	Wed 7th - Thurs 8th - Year 4 Residential experience
	Thurs 8th - Y1/2 Look at Our Learning Sessions
	Fri 9th June Bring a food donation for the Pilgrim Pantry
	Lion Class Assembly - 9.10 am
	PM - Parent Behaviour Information Session (2.15 pm or 5.00 pm)
w/c 12.06.23	School Grounds Week and Year 6 Residential experiences
	Tues 13th - Y3/4 Look at Our Learning Sessions
w/c 03.07.23	<u>Sports Days</u> EYFS - Monday 3rd July - pm Year 4,5,6 - Tuesday 4th July - pm Year 1,2,3 - Thurs 6th July - pm Parents and carers welcome - more details will follow
 	Wednesday 5th July - School Photographer for Class Photos
w/c 10.07.23	 Friday 14th July - Summer Fair on the Field Details will follow....
LAST DAY OF TERM - Tuesday 25th July	

Pupils to Celebrate!

Well done to these children who have gained recognition from the adults and the children in school in the last fortnight. Great stuff!

	PAT ON THE BACK	STAR LEARNER
	From 13/05/2023 until 26/05/2023	
Yr 1	Seb L / Zara A / Isla M G	Ilyas A / Esmae M / Flora A / Eryk G
Yr 2	Zuhir R / Zion B / Reggie F / Eva M	Whole Year (SATs wk) / Lena C / Zion B
Yr 3	Isabelle A / Hector C / Mehmet A / Maizie G	Flo C / Ella M / Elisha F / Ty J
Yr 4	Mason C / Jeron J / Harley W / Gracie M-C	Maddison A / Michele E / Poppy L / Logan C
Yr 5	Kya G / Hollie G / Somod O / Marcus W	Amid A R / Camron B / Connor L / Yaser A
Yr 6	Jess L / Harrison P / Honor F / Eva W	Emma C / Dan T / James N

Commendations! Above and Beyond Behaviour!

We are delighted to announce that the following children have been recognised as having exceptional behaviour by their class teachers this term. They have received a Behaviour Commendation from their class teacher which is our highest form of recognition:

-Dominic P
-Misha A
-Arnold E
-Casey B
-Harmony K-J
-Arthur Corry
-Evie-Grace S
-Aden M
Penny E
-Vinnie M
-Kya G
-Edlyn H
-Arshad S
-Abraheem L
-Amelia T



Today they have all had a super **Hot Chocolate and Ice Cream party** with Mr Goodwin and Ms Redmond. We are very proud of the way that these children always represent the Pilgrim values and are fantastic role models. Well done, from Mr Goodwin!

I hope that you all have a really great week off together as families making the most of the glorious weather. We will see children back to school on MONDAY 5th June (there is NO non pupil day at the start of term). I cannot believe we are heading for our final term of the year!

Mrs L Meek
Headteacher