

# Pilgrim Primary Academy

Headteacher: Mrs L Meek (BA Hons, PGCE)

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21<sup>st</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a wet week or two here at school and we are certainly missing the sunshine! Despite the weather, the children continue to impress me with their great attitudes - especially the kindness that they show to each other on a daily basis and the effort that they continue to put into their learning.

I would like to say a big thank you to those parents and children disrupted by the polling day arrangements on May 6<sup>th</sup>, particularly to parents of children in Foundation Stage who had a different gate and start time on that day. On the whole the arrangement went well and the running of school was largely unaffected by the polling arrangements.

## **Trust Safeguarding Audit**

We have recently had an audit of our safeguarding procedures carried out by our Trust. The audit took place over the course of a full day and was carried out by our Trust's Safeguarding Lead, Jo Hughes. I am pleased to report that we received very good feedback about all our safeguarding practices and the report especially mentioned how *'the school has a strong sense of calm and a positive attitude to safeguarding. Children are confident in their responses when they are asked questions about who they can talk to in and out of school if they have any worries or concerns. Children's knowledge about keeping themselves safe is a strength.'* The report supports our view that children are very well safeguarded at Pilgrim.

## **Parent/Carer Annual Survey**

It is that time again! Each year we ask for your feedback about some general areas of school life in the form of an annual survey. Please could I ask that each family completes the survey so that we get a full understanding of your thoughts and needs, allowing us to make changes to improve where necessary. It should take no more than 5 minutes of your time to complete. **Here is the link to the survey which is now open and will be closing on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May**, so you have a week to complete it!

<https://forms.gle/wP6DhwELdfCFM5ex8>

**Many thanks in advance for your support with this and I will report the outcomes from the survey to you later in the term.**

## **Curriculum Updates**

As we experience wider freedoms following a period of restrictions, we are looking forward to some elements of school life getting back to normal. The curriculum has already been amended this summer term with activities adjusted to support pupils' wellbeing; getting children outdoors, working more in groups and teams and making outcomes as practical as possible.

**Upcoming events that we are planning are:**

- **Art in Nature Day** – a whole school focus on art and science (the natural world) with children using the school grounds to explore nature and capture this through artistic observations and creative outcomes. These activities have been funded by a generous contribution of £250 from the Stonehouse Regeneration Project to support science activities in school. A very kind donation - thank you!

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- **A Health and Wellness Week** - a chance to focus on looking after our minds and bodies. In this week, we will focus on personal, social and emotional health, teach some happiness and wellbeing practices and get really sporty! Also during this week, we hope to have our **Sports Day activities** (more details will follow about these arrangements nearer the time).
- At the end of the term, there will be a **Year 6 leavers** celebration and our **Governors Awards**

Most of all, I am hopeful that we will be getting children back out on local visits and out beyond the school gates to, once again, experience all that Plymouth has to offer. Details of any local trips will be sent out from class teachers directly to the year group parents/carer.

## Key Dates:

**REMINDER: Next Friday- 28<sup>th</sup> May - is a Non-Pupil Day and school will be closed for all pupils.** On this day staff will be having PE training and also some update training supporting pupils with behaviour and general wellbeing.

## **Other dates:**

Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Annual Parent/Carer Survey opens: <a href="https://forms.gle/wP6DhwELdfCFM5ex8">https://forms.gle/wP6DhwELdfCFM5ex8</a>
Thurs 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Art in Nature day – whole school curriculum focus Annual Parent carer Survey closes (Google Survey)
<b>Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Non-Pupil Day – school closed - staff training</b>
<b>w/c 7<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>HALF TERM WEEK – school closed</b>
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Children return to school
Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 5 swimming lessons start (3 week block). More details to follow
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Final Summer Annual Reports home
w/c 5 <sup>th</sup> July	Health and Wellness week – whole school curriculum and activities focus – Sports Day planned for this week (see above)
<b>Fri 9<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>Non-Pupil Day – school closed - staff training</b>
w/c 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Pupil transition activities with new teacher/classes
w/c 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Leavers Assembly and presentations Governors Awards presentation
<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July</b>	<b>Last day of term for pupils</b>
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July</b>	<b>Non-Pupil day – school closed - staff training</b>

## Some General Reminders

- **Uniform** - I understand that we are getting towards the end of the year and that shops have only recently opened up again but please can I ask that children attend school in **full school uniform**. This includes dark trousers or skirts, a light blue shirt and navy jumper or cardigan. Summer uniform (dark shorts or blue/white dresses) are also encouraged on warmer days. PE kit should be dark shorts, tracksuit or leggings and a T Shirt in the colour of the House Team (red, blue, yellow or green). Full examples of our uniform can be seen on our website.

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- **Water bottles** - as part of a healthy school approach, bringing water into school to sip on during the day is encouraged. **For good health, this is to be WATER ONLY so please do not send your child into school with flavoured water, juice or squash in their bottles and expect them to have access to it to sip from throughout the day.** If flavoured water, juice or squash is in water bottles, your child will only be able to drink this at lunchtime only (with a meal). Currently, under covid restrictions, our water fountains in school are out of use so it is really important that children bring in plain water from home each day to keep them hydrated. Thank you.
- **Covid Testing clarification** - a reminder that the result of a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) test will not be accepted in school as proof of either a negative or positive test outcome. Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing is used to detect asymptomatic persons only (i.e., those with no symptoms present but who may have the virus). **If your child has any symptoms of Covid, they must carry out a full PCR test at a testing centre or via postal testing and report a negative test before they will be permitted back to school.** This also relates to any pupil who has been in self-isolation due to someone in the household presenting with Covid symptoms; we would need proof of a negative PCR test for that household member before the pupil is allowed back to school. A full list of Covid symptoms can be found here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/get-tested-for-coronavirus/>

## Pupil Awards

We are proud of all our learning. Over the last few weeks, these children have been celebrated for their efforts and achievements by their teachers and friends in the class:

	STAR LEARNER w/c 07/05/21	PAT ON THE BACK w/c 14/05/21	STAR LEARNER w/c 21/05/21
Cosy Cottage	Mason B	Maddaki C	Chase D
Year 1	David G / Layla L	Archie H / Patrick P	Louise B / Summer C
Year 2	Sonny D / Mehrad A	Oscar B / Robyn F	Perin S / Emily M
Year 3	Lacey W / Mariam A	Laila-Mae H / Dolly G	Jamal A / Jara G
Year 4	Marwa A / Jenson W	Szymon O / Serena A	Harrison P / Iyad A
Year 5	Lily J / Lacie J	Macie S / Miley P	Buddy C / Liam R
Year 6	Liam T / Joel K	Whole Falcon Team / Liam E	Paige C / Maria A

**Here is looking forward to another positive week before our half term break. Have a good weekend, everyone.**

Mrs Lisa Meek