

Pilgrim Primary Academy

Headteacher: Mrs L Meek (BA Hons, PGCE)

Oxford Street, Plymouth, PL1 5BQ

Tel: 01752 225319

E-mail: contactus@ppsonline.org



9th October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children continue to amaze us with their learning and this week has been no different! We had a visit to school from Dean Ashton (our Trust CEO) who was really impressed by our children's friendly attitude and enthusiastic welcome (he got lots of smiles and waves wherever he went!). It has been a challenging week due to some awful weather and again, the children have been really well behaved, even on days when they have not been able to get out in the fresh air at all – I am super proud of them.

Pupils who are absent from school due to Covid self-isolation/awaiting test results

Over the last few weeks, we have had some children and families who have self-isolated for a period of up to 14 days whilst waiting for the results of a Covid test. Thankfully, all results have come back negative. As we move further towards the winter months, the number of children needing to isolate is likely to increase and so I wanted to explain to you our approach to home learning during this time.

Pupils who are isolating, who are well enough, are expected to continue to learn whilst at home. We would like them to access the same learning as their classmates as much as possible and so will be sharing the majority of lessons through our Google Classroom. All pupils now have logins to Google Classroom and some other learning platforms that we use; Reading Planet (KS1 & 2), Times Table Rock Stars (KS2) and Scratch (KS2). The benefits of using Google Classroom and online platforms are:

- Children have access to the same learning at the same point in time as their classmates and so can 'slot straight back in' to the planned learning on their return
- Children can instantly share their learning with their teacher who can give feedback when needed
- Most children can access most of the learning independently and school can monitor and support children's access to the lessons
- Families do not have to arrange for regular pick up/drop off of paper-based packs of lessons (this is especially difficult if the whole family is in isolation)

Obviously, for pupils to access Google Classroom, they need a device and internet connection at home. Our recent survey has been really helpful in allowing us to see the technology that you have at home – thank you if you have returned your survey.

We do have a small number of devices that we would be happy to temporarily loan to families who do not have the facility to access Google Classroom during periods of self-isolation – this can be arranged on request.

I will be sending you full details of our policy on Remote Learning for all scenarios (during isolation, bubble lockdown or whole school lockdown) in the coming weeks.

Pupils in receipt of Free School Meals who are absent from school due to Covid self-isolation/awaiting test results

We have arrangements in place to provide weekly food parcels for children who are in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM) and who are needing to isolate at home for a period of time. Please

Pilgrim Primary Academy

Headteacher: Mrs L Meek (BA Hons, PGCE)

Oxford Street, Plymouth, PL1 5BQ

Tel: 01752 225319

E-mail: contactus@ppsonline.org



make Mrs Murray or Mrs Storr in the office aware of your requirements if this applies to your children. Please note that the parcels are delivered to school and that someone will need to be available to collect this on behalf of the family (who will all need to be self-isolating).

Penrose Street Gates – entrance for Year 5 and 6

We are still experiencing congestion around this gate at key pick up and drop off times. We need to ensure that there is space for all children and adults to stay safely socially distanced at the start and end of the day. Residents are reporting high levels of noise and crowding around their windows and front doors too which is not acceptable.

From now on, we would like all parents and carers of Year 5 and 6 pupils (who use Penrose Street entrance) to **come directly onto the KS2 playground to pick up and drop off their children.** There is more space on the playground to spread out safely and this will reduce the 'bottle neck' at the gate.

So, Year 5 children and parents will need to come directly onto the playground between 8.40 - 8.50am and then leave the playground promptly so that Year 6 children and parents can come on to the playground from 8.50-9.00am.

Parents and pupils are welcome to wear masks during this time (children will need to remove them before lining up and entering school). Please note that children must stay with their parents whilst on the playground – the MUGA and equipment is not in use for children at these times of the day.

I appreciate your co-operation with this as we really do need to continue to use these gates for our Year 5 and 6 pupils. Thanks.

Harvest Time

At this time of year in school, we celebrate harvest and think about those people who are not fortunate enough to have enough food. This year is no different and although we can't have a traditional Harvest Assembly, we are still going to support a local charity with some harvest donations. We will be recognising Harvest next week and we ask that children bring in a donation of tins, packets or dried food on FRIDAY 16th October for Provide Devon charity – see accompanying flyer for details. THANK YOU!

Pat on the Back (last week)

Year 1	Katie-Mae G	Zackery S
Year 2	Ioanna N	Poppy U
Year 3	Kidd C	Kya G
Year 4	Jessica L	Olesya M
Year 5	Ellie H	Logan B
Year 6	Lola H	Maria A

Pilgrim Primary Academy

Headteacher: Mrs L Meek (BA Hons, PGCE)

Oxford Street, Plymouth, PL1 5BQ

Tel: 01752 225319

E-mail: contactus@ppsonline.org



Star Learner (this week)

Year 1	Micahel R	Celina L
Year 2	Amira S	Bailey S
Year 3	Arsema M	Vinnie M
Year 4	Serena A	Honor F
Year 5	Pawel K	Liyana A
Year 6	Shams A	Lincoln C

I hope the weather stays dry and that you all have a good weekend – see you on Monday!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read 'L Meek'.

Mrs Meek
Headteacher