

Pilgrim Primary Academy

Headteacher: Mrs L Meek (BA Hons, PGCE)

Oxford Street, Plymouth, PL1 5BQ

Tel: 01752 225319

E-mail: contactus@ppsonline.org



30th April 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Pilgrim Planting Day

Today, we have been busy as the children have finally been able to plant some flowers into tubs to put around the school site. I hope that we will soon see all the flowers coming into bloom to make our playgrounds full of colour. Over the coming weeks and months, we will be making the most of our school grounds with further projects and getting the children out and about.

We are also getting into the competitive spirit, looking at the sunflower seeds that each child planted a few weeks ago. The children in each class have chosen their best sunflower plant specimen to enter into our school 'Grow the Best Sunflower' competition. The sunflowers will be put in our front entrance foyer, in the sunshine, to help them grow over the coming weeks and months. The children from each class will be responsible for looking after them and then at the end of the term we will awarding various prizes for the tallest, bushiest, plant with the most flowers, best look after, etc. The children have all thought of individual names for their sunflower plants (and I hear that some classes are planning on singing to their plant in an attempt to make it grow!). Good luck everyone.

Reports and Parent Consultation Meetings

Last Friday you should have received your child's Spring term report and this week there was opportunity for you to sign up for a phone call or Google Meeting to discuss your child's progress and targets. Whilst we had a relatively low take up for these meetings, I hope that those who did have a meeting found the information of use – I know the teachers found them very valuable. Of course, you can always request a call or virtual meeting with your child's teacher so please request this via the office at any time should you wish to.

After school clubs

Due to the start of the Government lifting of some Covid restrictions, we are going to be able to offer some after school clubs once again. Whilst we want to run as many clubs as we can, we are restricted in that each club will only be able to involve one year group bubble of children at a time (i.e., not mixed aged groups). Mr Brookes, our Sports Teaching Assistant, is going to start some after school sports clubs in the next few weeks. You will receive a separate letter if a club is going to be offered for your child's year group at this time. The plan is that each year group will have at least one sports club offer this term, either by our staff or from another provider such as the Plymouth Argyle coaches. Obviously, we will have limited spaces so places will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis.

Covid 19 testing results

Please may I remind you that the outcome of Lateral Flow Tests (LFTs) can not be accepted by school as evidence of either a positive or negative covid case. If your child (or someone in the household) has covid symptoms and has been asked to get a Covid test, this must be the full Covid test (PCR test) carried out at testing centres or via the postal testing service. **We cannot accept a pupil who has been in isolation due to covid symptoms back into school until we have evidence of a negative result from a full PCR test.**

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Plymouth Local Elections – Thursday 6th May

School is once again being used as a Polling Station next week on Thursday. This year though, the local council are providing additional support to help us keep school open, whilst ensuring the safety of our pupils. I hope that you will agree that this is good news as the children have already had many disruptions to their school life this year.

The Polling station will be in the staffroom and will be accessed from the external entrance to the staffroom – no members of the public (or members of the election staff) will be in any other areas of school on that day. **However, the Oxford Street pupil entrance (which comes into school the school field area) will be closed to all pupils, parents and staff on that day.** This entrance will be used by members of the public to access the Polling Station. Plymouth City Council are providing security to ensure that members of the public enter and leave the site securely.

Parents/Carers of Reception classes or our Cosy Cottage who use this gate, will have already received a notice with details of their slightly amended arrangements for drop off and pick up on that day.

Finally, can I remind you that it is Bank Holiday this coming Monday 3rd May so we will see the children after this long weekend on Tuesday 4th May!

**Mrs L Meek
Headteacher**