



# Newsletter

10<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Pikemere and a very Happy New Year. I hope you enjoyed a restful Christmas holiday. On behalf of all staff at the school, I would like to thank everyone for their very thoughtful gifts and best wishes for 2020, and warmly welcome our new families joining us in EYFS. We have already had a very successful first week; reuniting with friends and adapting to school routines and look forward to sharing the forthcoming Spring term with you all.

Kind regards  
Mrs Johnson



## Whole School

### Reception Class School Places for September 2020

Please note that the closing date to make an application for a child to start primary school in September 2020 is 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

### After School Clubs

All clubs will recommence next week (w/c 13.9.20). In order to keep all children safe, it is essential that you let us know if your child will not be attending the club that they are signed up for in order that registers can be completed correctly.

### School Office

Please help us to encourage independence and organisational skills by ensuring that your child has all of their belongings prior to the start of the school day. Our school office is a very busy place and therefore staff cannot always ring parents with regards to PE/swimming kits and packed lunches etc.

### Reading for Pleasure

We are very proud of our School Council members who have raised £750 for charity this academic year. In addition to organising a forthcoming sponsored event for school funds, one of the School Council's main focus is to encourage children to read for pleasure. After asking pupils' opinions on this subject, it is evident that they would like a wider variety of books to read. As a result, we have set up a 'Book Swap Table' which will be open on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoon at 12.30pm for Key Stage One and 12.45pm for Key Stage Two. If pupils wish to participate, they can bring in an old book (in good condition) that they have read and swap it with another book from the basket.

The School Council have also challenged pupils to take a picture of themselves reading a book in a peculiar place! Photos can be sent in to school by hand or emailed to the school office with the subject 'Mrs Shortland: School Council Reading Challenge' and will be shared in assembly time if your child wishes to do so.

The School Council have also established a book review system whereby pupils write a short review of a recommended book and place it between the pages of the book for other pupils to share. This also encourages writing for a purpose and taking pride in completing a set task.

We look forward to sharing the children's reading journeys and thank you for your continued support so far this year.  
Pikemere School Council

### Change to Holidays 2019 – 2020

As a reminder, the May Bank Holiday will be on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020 (not Monday 4<sup>th</sup>) to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE day. An up-to-date holiday calendar can be found on the school website.



# EYFS and Key Stage One

## Christmas Photos and Crafts Fundraising

Thank you for supporting our fundraising initiatives before the EYFS and Key Stage One Christmas productions. We raised over £300 and will be using this to contribute towards improving our early reading books and to purchase role play equipment.

## Coats

As the weather has got colder, it is essential that the children zip their coats up fully during playtimes. We will always support pupils to do this but we also encourage independence for them to do it by themselves. It has been delightful to see older pupils also helping their younger friends, however we would welcome any support that you can give to your child in achieving this essential (but sometimes tricky) task.



# Key Stage Two

## School Uniform

At Pikemere, we pride ourselves on our school uniform. Please help us to maintain our high standards by ensuring that your child wears suitable black school shoes to school at all times, as opposed to trainers.

## Safeguarding and sharing images on social media

Please can we respectfully request that parents monitor their child's use of the internet and particularly when it comes to sharing images and videos. We spend a significant amount of time in school, during a variety of lessons and assemblies, learning about how to be safe digital citizens. We constantly remind children of the dangers of the internet and keeping themselves and their friends safe. We try to advise parents as to how to support their children with this and especially at school events we ask parents not to share photos or videos of other children as permission has not been sought. Unfortunately, we have been informed about some of our older pupils sharing images and videos and then tagging children in them without their permission. This seems to have been through TikTok and You Tube. Please can we advise parents to check the age restrictions on these sites and that their children are not sharing images of other children without permission. If you require further advice or support in keeping your child safe online, please speak to Mrs Sehné or log onto the following link where there is specific advice.

- [www.Internetmatters.org](http://www.Internetmatters.org)
- [www.saferinternet.org.uk](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk)
- [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)
- [www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com)
- [www.webwise.ie](http://www.webwise.ie)

***And finally, our positivity quote...***

*'Today a reader  
Tomorrow a Leader'*

*Margaret Fuller*

## Diary Dates

6.01.20	Spring term begins	
11.2.20.	Parent Consultations- book appointments through Parentmail	3.30pm - 6.30pm
13.2.20.	Parent Consultations- book appointments through Parentmail	3.30pm - 6.30pm
14.2.20	Break up for Spring Half Term	

<b>24.2.20</b>	<b>Return to school</b>	
<b>26.2.20</b>	Year 3 pupils: Matinee Performance of 'Annie', Alsager High School	1-3pm
	Year 3 pupils: Evening Performance of 'Annie', Alsager High School	Arrive at Alsager school at 6pm
<b>4.3.20</b>	Year 2 Class Assembly	9.00-10.00am
<b>11.3.20</b>	Year 1 Class Assembly	9.00 -10.00am
<b>20.3.20</b>	Reception (FS2) Class Assembly	2.00 -2.30pm
	Read With Mum Afternoon	2.45pm -3.15pm
<b>1.4.20 - 3.4.20</b>	Year 4 York Residential Visit	
<b>3.4.20</b>	Break up for Easter holiday	
<b>20.4.20</b>	Start of Summer Term	