



Newsletter

25th October 2019



Dear Parents and Carers,

We can hardly believe we have reached half term; before we know it, we will be in the full throng of class assemblies and Christmas preparations!

We hope you enjoy the half term holiday and that you come back to school refreshed and ready for the fun learning we have planned.

We thank you for your continued support of our school.



Whole School

After School Clubs

Teachers have now sent their letters out, so please let us know if your child would like to be included as these clubs will start after half term. Please note that once your child has signed up for an after school club their name will be added to the register. Please advise the class teacher or the office if your child is unable to attend.

All clubs will begin after half term, the week beginning 4th November 2019, and will finish, for this term, the week beginning December 2nd 2019.

School Gates Locked

Please note that after half term, as previously advised, we will be locking the College Road and KS2 Pikemere Road gates at 3.30pm. If you have to collect your child from an after school club please collect them from the KS1 playground, which can be accessed through the KS1 gate.

Outdoor Adventure Playground

This area is currently not being used as it requires some further safety measures following our Health & Safety check. These measures are due to new guidelines introduced this year. Please can you not let your children onto this area before or after school until we advise you that everything has been completed. Thank you for your assistance with this.

Family and Friends of Pikemere School

Friends of Pikemere have some exciting events coming up, starting with the glow disco on the 7th November for all pupils. Put on your white t-shirts to see them glow in the dark, there will be games and everyone gets a snack and a drink. On 12th December 'Flower Passion' are coming in to run a Christmas Wreath making workshop for parents. You will be able to make your own wreath with full instruction from the florists, everything is supplied and drinks and nibbles will also be available.

Our last event for the year is our popular pop up shop, The Secret Santa shop, where pupils can come along and buy a Christmas present for their Mum, Dad or Grandparents without them seeing!

*All tickets must be bought in advance and are available via Parentmail.
Glow Disco - Thursday 7th November £3
Wreath workshop - Thursday 12th Dec 6-8pm £20
Santa Shop - 17th December £3 per present*

Thank you for your continued support.

Parent Forum

As mentioned in our last newsletter, we are constantly striving to make our school a better place to learn. We ask the children for their ideas and we welcome support from parents too. We are hoping to have our first parent forum meeting on Monday 11th November at 6pm until 7pm. We will be discussing how to promote the love of reading, how school can feedback to parents about their child's progress and developments around Sex and Relationships Education in school. Please come along if you think you may have something to offer.

Whole School Harvest Celebration

Thank you to all the families who donated to our Harvest celebration, where we were able to support our local foodbank based at Alsager Community Church. The children were thanked by Pete Howard, from the church, and he was able to tell us about the impact these donations would have on vulnerable people and families.

Book Fair

Thank you for your continued support with our school book fair. We now have over £700 to spend on books and will use this to support our curriculum subjects, as well as reading for pleasure throughout the school!

One World Poetry Competition

Thank you to all the children who entered the One World poetry competition about climate change. There were some super efforts from our children which were displayed at Alsager Library during this event. We are delighted that Evie in Year 6 won the KS2 section and she loved her prize of adopting an animal at Chester Zoo.

Samaritan's Christmas Shoebox Appeal

This year Pikemere School is supporting the Samaritan's Christmas Shoebox appeal. If you would like your child to donate a shoebox then please pop into the school office and pick up a box and leaflet. The boxes will need to be returned to school no later than Friday 15th November. They will be collected by a collections volunteer so the donation of £5 is voluntary.

Website

We are delighted to inform you that we are currently updating our website. Recently we have added our PE video, which shows the amazing opportunities our children have to develop their physical development at Pikemere. We would like to thank Calum Smail, from The Round Group, for his time and care in capturing our children in various physical activities and also to Mr Ollier for coordinating the opportunities. In addition, we would like to thank Mrs Smart and Mrs Pilbury, who gave their time to be interviewed to talk about the sporting opportunities that their children have been involved in outside school. If you haven't looked at our website yet please do and let us know what you think. We are presently reviewing our curriculum and we will be adding our latest updates over the next couple of weeks. As always, copies of all letters and newsletters are on the school website www.pikemereschool.com along with a wide range of helpful information including sports activities, after school clubs and holiday dates. Please refer to the web site on a regular basis to ensure you have all the relevant up to date information. Medical forms are also available on this site.

Safeguarding Champions' Message

Recently, our Year 5 and 6 Safeguarding Champions hosted the first Alsager Safeguarding Conference where their counterparts from 5 other local schools met to discuss common issues in schools, relating to keeping pupils safe. They received training from the local police on personal safety, the Canals and Rivers Trust, on keeping safe around water and from a local actor who worked with the champions on drama

around keeping safe online. Our Safeguarding Champions have already begun action planning and will be delivering the first of several assemblies to the rest of the school this week.

Here is a message from them:

'Recently, there have been a few misuses of social media by some of the older children outside of school. We would like to offer a few tips on how to keep your child safe and stop misunderstandings online.'

- *Please check what your child is accessing online. There are age restrictions on a lot of social media sites for a reason.*
- *Please talk to your child about what they are saying online. **We know** that you shouldn't say anything online that you wouldn't say to someone's face. Being unkind online is online bullying. It does seem like a fairly obvious one, but it is so easy for children and adults to let something slip.*
- *Please check that your children 'think before they click.' In the modern world there are so many pop ups and adverts that appear on screens, but many are not what they seem. Our advice is never click on something if you don't know what it is.*
- *Please tell your children that if someone does or says something to them online that they don't like, they can report it. Use the CEOP reporting button. Swearing, abuse and anything that makes you feel uncomfortable is wrong and should be reported.*



- *Please tell your children that if they see anything that makes them feel uncomfortable they should tell you. That's what we will be telling them in our assemblies.*
- *We will be asking our local PCSO Ollie to come in and talk to the children about being safe.*

These tips were brought to you by the SAFEGUARDING CHAMPIONS at Pikemere.'

School Council's Message

'During the Macmillan Coffee morning we raised £543.03, so a big thank you to everyone who donated cakes, raffle prizes and came to support us. This year, as well as our fundraising target of £500 (that we have already exceeded!) we are hoping to organise many more events that are linked to our school's priorities. We will be meeting to discuss fun ways of encouraging pupils to read more, how we can reward children who stay on green for the whole year and a whole school sponsored event. Hopefully we will be just as successful as we were in the coffee morning. Our next fundraising event will be supporting Children In Need on November 15th. We will let you know how we will do this after half term. We are very excited for this year and what we have planned.'

Well-Being Team's Message

Our fantastic Well-being team organised our first Mental Health Awareness week in October. The event involved a series of workshops, events and discussions around mental health. Local services and professionals volunteered to help pupils understand how looking after our body and mind is crucial for our well-being. The pupils were lucky enough to take part in various activities such as; yoga, reflexology, stress-management techniques, therapeutic essential oil usage and therapy dog sessions.

Well done to all of those involved in making the week such a success.

Sports Ambassadors' Message

We are pleased to tell you that our teams have had an amazingly successful first half term competing against teams from local schools. The first competition we did was cross country where our Year 5 and 6 girls and Year 3 and 4 mixed team came first and our Year 5 and 6 boys came second. Next, we competed in the Year 5 and 6 mixed football and overall we came first! Then we took part in the Year 3 and 4 girls netball tournament at Sandbach. Out of 15 teams...we won! Our next event was the Year 3 and 4 boys football tournament and we won that too! Our final competition of the half term was competing in the Alsager girls football. They won every single game and came first overall!

We are very proud of all the competitors who have represented our school brilliantly and shown great sportsmanship. Our thanks to parents who have transported them and cheered them on. We also want to thank Mr Ollier for being a fantastic manager.



EYFS and Key Stage One

EYFS

Morning Routines

Thank you to all our parents for standing back on the playground in the mornings, it has certainly made a huge difference to the children coming into school safely.

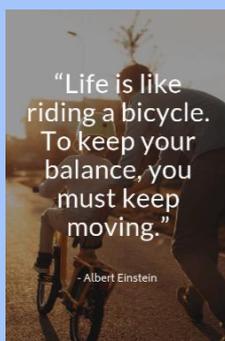
Collecting children after school

If your child is due to be collected by an adult that is unfamiliar to the class teacher, please let them know beforehand. In EYFS, we operate a password system for unfamiliar adults. In Years 1 and 2, you may also wish to use a password, or alternatively ensure that the class teacher knows the full name of the adult collecting your child.



Key Stage Two

And finally...our positivity quote



Diary Dates

25.10.19	Break up for Half Term	
4.11.19	INSET day	
5.11.19	Children back to school.	
7.11.19	Glow Disco EYFS 3.30pm-4.30pm KS1 4.45pm – 5.45pm KS2 6.00pm-7.00pm Tickets available on Parentmail £3 each	
11.11.19	Parent Forum meeting	6.00pm - 7.00pm
Wednesday 13.11.19	Year 5 Class Assembly	9.00am - 10.00am
Friday 15.11.19	'Children In Need' School Council Fundraising day	
Wednesday 20.11.19	Year 4 Class Assembly	9.00am -

		10.00am
Wednesday 27.11.19	Year 3 Class Assembly	9.00am - 10.00am
3.12.19	Santa's Dizzy Day Theatre Trip Key Stage One	12-3pm
6.12.19	EYFS Christmas production for parents and family members-details to follow	9.30am - 10.00am
9.12.19	Key Stage 1 Christmas production dress rehearsal	
10.12.19	Key Stage 1 Christmas production matinee	2.00pm - 2.45pm
10.12.19	Key Stage 1 Christmas production evening performance	6.00pm - 6.45pm
11.12.19	KS2 New Vic The Prince And The Pauper – details sent in a separate letter	1.00pm - 5.00pm
12.12.19	FFoPS Wreath Making- Hall	6.00pm - 8.00pm
16.12.19	Key Stage 2 Christmas Carol Concert at Christ Church Alsager-all KS2 children to attend please	6.00pm - 7.00pm
17.12.19	Santa's Secret Workshop (FFoPS)	10.00am - 3.30pm
18.12.19	EYFS/Key Stage 1 Christmas parties - details to follow	
19.12.19	Key Stage 2 Christmas Parties – details to follow	
20.12.19	Whole school Christmas Carol concert at Christ Church Whole school Christmas lunch	
20.12.19	Break up for Christmas	
6.01.20	Spring term begins	