



Newsletter

3rd February 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we are approaching half term already and that Spring is already in the air! As you will read, we have had a very busy few weeks, and look forward to many more exciting learning opportunities to come.

Kind regards
Mrs Johnson



Whole School

Pikemere Dads climbing Mount Kilimanjaro

Two of our Pikemere dads have taken on the monumental task of climbing Mount Kilimanjaro and are in Africa to do so as you read this! They have currently raised over £7000, which will be shared between the 3 charities: The Wingate Centre (this has been used regularly for school residentials) , Douglas MacMillan Hospice and Glow. Simon Elsmore and Andrew Miller both have younger children at the school and we would like to congratulate them on undertaking such a worthy task to help others. If you would like to donate to their charitable cause, please visit their justgiving page at www.justgiving.com/team/kili-boys.

Update: Summit reached! 3.2.20. Congratulations for such a fantastic achievement!

Reading for Pleasure

Book Swap Table

Our School Council 'Book Swap Table' is proving to be a very popular addition to our reading for pleasure culture at Pikemere. The quality and range of books available is of a very high standard and together with our pupil book reviews, the children are now enjoying accessing a wider range of texts. As a reminder, the "Book Swap Table" will be open on a Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoon at 12.30pm for Key Stage One and 12.45pm for Key Stage Two. Just bring along an old book (in good condition) and swap it with another book from the basket.

Stories from different cultures and languages

If any parents, grandparents or carers have any free time at around 2.50pm, we would very much welcome you to share your favourite book with your child's class during our story times. Some classes have already listened to books being read in a different language and been suitably fascinated by the experience! It is always invaluable for pupils to see adults also reading for pleasure, as well as engaging in learning about the world beyond our school gates. If you would like to volunteer to share a class story, please contact your child's class teacher to arrange a suitable time.

Thumbs Up Thursday

We would like to re-launch our "Thumbs Up Thursday" opportunity for all parents and guardians to come to share a story with your child, from 8.30am-8.45am. In addition, this is also a chance for your child to share what they have been learning about in class within the wider curriculum by looking at their draft topic books and learning journeys.

Free School Meals Entitlement

In January, Cheshire East Council changed their system for applying for Free School Meals. It is now much easier to apply and you will receive an immediate decision. Any parent/carer may now check their eligibility and apply online via the Cheshire East website at www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/fsm or by calling 0300 123 5012.

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to Universal Free School Meals, which does not need to be claimed for. If you think you may be entitled to receive Free School Meals, **we do strongly urge you to make a**

claim even if your child is in key stage 1, as the school can claim additional (pupil premium) funding, that may be used to support your child in school and pay for trips/visits or after school clubs. You can also apply for Free School Meals for nursery-age children.

World Book Day, 5th March 2020

World Book Day is nearly upon us! This year we would like to invite the children to decorate an old white t-shirt with either an illustration or quote from one of their favourite books. An alternative activity could be to fill a small shoebox with clues about the book for their friends to guess. We look forward to sharing what is always a very fun day at Pikemere!

February Half Term Holiday Club

Just a reminder about our February Half Term Holiday Club which runs from Monday 17th February to Friday 21st February 2020. The theme for the week is "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" and the team have lots of exciting activities on offer throughout the week! If you like to book a place for your child or would like further information please speak to the school office.



Key Stage Two

Year 6 Enterprise Project Competition

The class winners of the Year 6 Enterprise Project represented Pikemere at the recent inter-schools competition at Alsager High School. Although we did not win, the maturity and confidence displayed by our pupils in marketing their products was delightful to observe. A big thank you to all of the children for being such positive ambassadors for our school, as well as Mrs Dodd and the rest of Year 6 for all of their hard work in the project during the Autumn term.

Sport at Pikemere

Sporting success continues to follow us at Pikemere with the Year 5/6 netball team winning all three of their last games. An overall victory is assured if they win their final game this week! In January, Pikemere won the Year 5/6 Sports Hall Athletics competition between Alsager schools and our Year 5/6 girls football team also made it to the Cheshire Final, finishing 9th out of approximately 50 schools! Well done to all involved, including Mr Ollier and all of the parents that support our pupils.

And finally, our positivity quote...

*' "Reading is to the mind
what exercise is to the body"'*

Joseph Addison

Diary Dates

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	
17.2.20 – 21.2.30	Holiday Club	
24.2.20	Return to school	
26.2.20	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
4.3.20	Year 2 Class Assembly	9.00-10.00am

5.3.20	World Book Day **NEW DATE ADDED**	Please see newsletter note
11.3.20	Year 1 Class Assembly	9.00 -10.00am
20.3.20	World Down Syndrome Day **NEW DATE ADDED**	Remember to wear bright, odd socks for the day and bring in a small donation to Cheshire Down's Syndrome Support Group
20.3.20	Reception (FS2) Class Assembly	2.00pm -2.30pm
	Read With Mum Afternoon	2.45pm -3.15pm
1.4.20 - 3.4.20	Year 4 York Residential Visit	
3.4.20	Break up for Easter holiday	
6.4.20 – 9.4.20	Easter Holiday Club	Details to follow
20.4.20	Start of Summer Term	