

Issue 3 - W/E 16th Feb 2024



Pytchley CofE Fortnightly News

‘For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property.’ Matthew 25: 14-30



Headteacher's Welcome

Welcome

Dear Parent/Carer,

The end of Spring Term 1 is upon us. What a term it has been and certainly one that I won't forget. Like me, I am sure that you are all looking forward to the holiday and having some quality family time

etc. I have a few days at home and then a visit to London at the end of the week. Staying near to Wembley Stadium might be the closest that I get unless I get there to watch Southampton in the play offs maybe! Whatever you have planned, I hope it's a good one. Next term is much shorter due to Easter and then it will be summer (Always my favourite term).

Since I last wrote to you, a number of activities and changes have begun. The children have enjoyed a couple of lunchtime activities and this will continue next term. It was very apparent that the children were bored at lunch time which then results in 'rough play' etc. From next term, they will be kept busy and we will be trialling split KS2/KS1 lunches. This will allow more time for children to play and eat with their peers. The children will have to get used to no rushing their food and spending some quality social time together, something that we all fail on in this day and age.

After school clubs have been offered to the children for **FREE** next term. As you know, we have provided football and multi-skills. At the time of writing, numbers for each club were not great so please do take advantage of a freebie. Currently only 4 children are booked onto Y5/6 football and 5 onto Y3/4 football. Without the numbers, we can't provide the activities. These two clubs won't be viable next term with such low uptake. If successful then they may well continue into the summer. ALL children must be booked onto the club in readiness for next term. We cannot accept any 'turn ups.' Please contact the school office for more information.

Around the school, I am still working on making Pytchley CofE an attractive place for visitors, staff and the children. Painting of corridors and walls has begun and will continue during half term. If anyone has anytime to volunteer and enjoys some DIY, please do give me a shout as more painting and clearing would certainly be appreciated. Thank you to the parents who helped me with some IKEA flat packed furniture this week. New library furniture has been ordered and at some point next term, the children and staff will be able to show a far greater love of reading. You will also notice that the spiritual garden is taking shape and it will continue to do so over the next days/weeks.

Attendance remains an area that I would like to improve and certainly need to improve at Pytchley CofE. During the last week of term you may receive information regarding your child's attendance. I will follow the trust's policy and my aim is to work with you to ensure that children are in school. The latest changes to safeguarding guidance now includes poor attendance as a form of **neglect** which gives even more reason to ensure children are in school learning. I am sure that you will appreciate any communications that are sent regarding attendance. My door is always open to discuss attendance with you. If you receive a letter requesting a meeting, please do respond so that we can meet in a caring environment.

Finally, you will also receive information with regards to behaviour at Pytchley CofE. In the main, I have been impressed with children's behaviour and their lovely manners and smiles, however, like many things it can be improved for certain children. Working together will be a key to ensuring that Pytchley CofE is known for its exemplary behaved and happy pupils. More information will follow.

Have a lovely half term break. Stay safe and we will see you from Tuesday 27th February during which I hope to announce 100% attendance on that day! Check out the images below showing children caring for their environment and also new additions to our rewards for next term.

Mr Scott



Pytchley C of E Primary School

Wonderful Writer

Presented to _____

Signed _____ Date _____



Pytchley C of E Primary School

Playground

AWARD

With God, all things are possible.

Presented to _____

Signed _____ Date _____



Safeguarding - It's everyone's responsibility.



Please familiarise yourself with the safeguarding team at Pytchley CofE.

The safeguarding of our children is something we place huge importance upon. From attending school daily to the care and wellbeing for all children, we would expect that you do too. We ask that you are always vigilant and share with us any worries or concerns that you may have about your own child or another child or parent for example. If you do ever have a concern, you can contact a member of the safeguarding team and your concern will always be dealt with confidence.

Safeguarding

Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL):

Mr Scott head@pytchley.pdet.org.uk

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL)

Mrs Litchfield t.litchfield@pytchley.pdet.org.uk

Mrs Ellingworth j.ellingworth@pytcheley.pdet.org.uk

Alternatively, you can contact MASH on 0300 126 7000. For urgent matters out of hours please call: 01604 626938. Further information can be found via the safeguarding tab within the school website.



Neglect definitions

As I mentioned in my 'Welcome' notes, attendance is now described as a possible form of neglect. More information from the Government is as follows:

The persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development.

Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to:

- provide adequate food, clothing, and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment)
- protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger
- ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate caregivers)
- ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment
- **provide suitable education**
- It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs

Pancakes?

Duckling's class enjoyed their Chinese new year and pancake themed learning this week. They even delivered pancakes to the staff which went down well. These pictures show some of the learning from the week.







FOPS

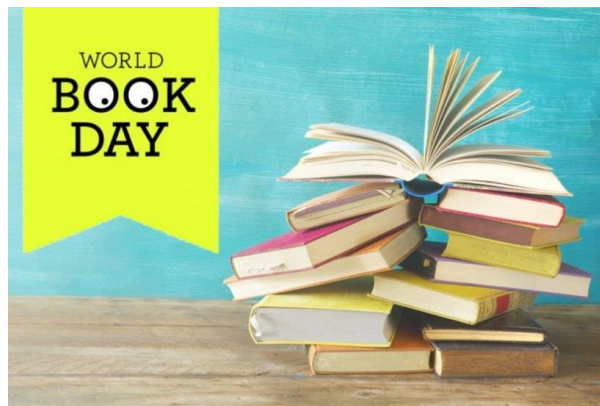
A huge thank you to the FOPS for organising the Valentines DISCO this week. It was lovely to see the children (and staff) enjoying themselves. A group of 'courageous advocates' also attended the DISCO and raised over £100 from selling bracelets. If any children are ever inspired to raise money or to help others, please encourage them to email or write to me! A huge thank you to everyone.

Sammiee, the chair of FOPS sent across this message: ***"FoPS would like to thank parents and guardians for their support of our first event of many planned for this year! We hope the young people loved it as much as we did and we cannot wait for you to see what's coming next!"***





World Book Day - Wishlist



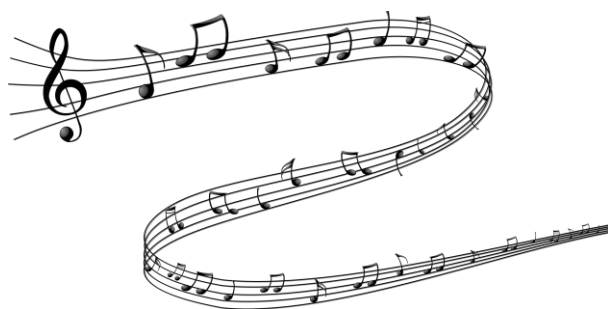
As you know, it will soon be World Book Day. Mrs Litchfield wrote to you with some info recently. This year, we are happy for the children to dress up as a favourite book character (Not a footballer!!) Or instead, we are inviting you to purchase and donate a book from our Amazon Wishlist...

[WISH LIST](#)

Any books donated will take pride of place in our new library when that is ready. The children will also receive a sticker to put inside the book to show who donated it and when. They will then be leaving a legacy. If you do want to support this - order your chosen book/s and have them delivered to your home address. Children can then bring onto school on World Book Day.

We hope many of you will get involved with this....Thank you....

Music Lessons - BOOK NOW!



As you know,

“ISM Education are pleased to announce they will be offering Violin, Keyboard, Drum and Vocal lessons at Pytchley Endowed CE Primary School after half term (February 2024).

Lessons will be held during the school day as before and will be held over 5 weeks beginning on the week commencing 26th February 2024.

Lessons over the term will consist of 5 weeks of 10 minute 1:1 or 20 minute 2:1 sessions and will cost £5.95 per session, payable in advance for the whole 5 weeks, £29.75 in total.

You can sign-up for lessons using the link below -

<https://forms.gle/Q2jnJgG6sxauufpP6>

If you have any questions or need assistance don't hesitate to contact Jamie at jamie@ismacademy.co.uk.”

At the moment, take up is not great. Please do support these sessions in order for them to continue. If your child is in receipt of Pupil Premium Funding - please contact Mr Scott as we might be able to help fund the lessons for you.

Year 4 - PDET BIG SING



A reminder that, on **Weds 26th June**, the year 4 children from all 33 schools within the trust will be performing at the Derngate in Northampton. Each school will be learning various songs/parts of songs in readiness for this exciting event. Parents and carers will be able to purchase tickets directly from the box office. This event will be popular to do look out for ticket information. We cant wait to get started and to get singing!

Homework Update - Expectations



Thank you for your support thus far in ensuring children are completing their homework. A reminder that we expect ALL children to access and complete both spellings and TTRS homework. In the new term, children in years 3, 4, 5 will be assessed on their multiplication skills. Any extra TTRS will certainly help them with their recall speed.

TTRS - 144 News

The termly average thus far for each year group is:

Y1 - 100%

Y2 - 88%

Y3 - 100%

Y4 - 92%

Y5 - 100%

Y6 - 100%

The average daily time for all year groups is just 2mins (Y4 3 mins) This can improve and the impact will be massive on maths learning across the school.

We now have 24 members of the 144 club. Quickest time is Willow and Mrs E - 2mins 19 secs!

Behaviour Communications



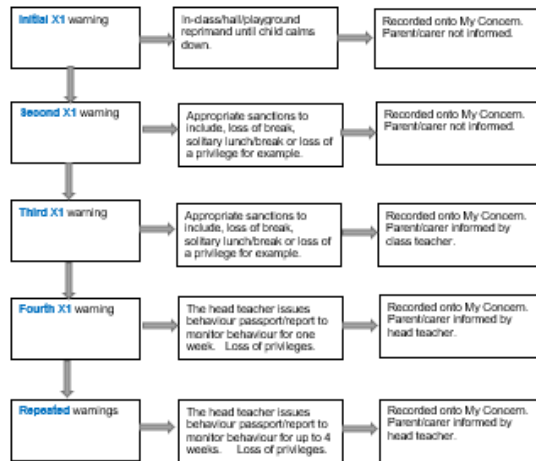
As mentioned above, there have been some changes to the school behaviour policy. This will shortly be available via the school website. In the meantime, please see the flowchart that staff will follow from next term. You will see that we aim to support initial concerns within school prior to then contacting parents/carers. Working closely between school and home will ensure that the policy is best used.

Sanction Protocol/Flowchart

This guidance is to clarify our procedures as written in the policy and may be useful for parents / carers as a checklist.

All of our children have the right to feel safe in school, not be hurt and have the right to the best education they can get. However, we understand that all children misbehave sometimes, and we expect our children to make mistakes and learn from them.

Where a child persistently misbehaves, the following sanctions will apply:



PE Update

Last week, a year 4 team took part in the County Tag Rugby finals. They performed well and certainly enjoyed the challenge. The pictures below evidence this.

We also saw 14 children take part in the Pacesetters KS1 Cube event in Northampton. Again, the children behaved well and all enjoyed receiving a certificate in worship.

You will also see pictures of children enjoying their lunch time activities in the rare sunshine last week. We look forward to more sun and activities next term.

We hope to take part in more events next term and certainly during the summer. Watch this space for more news and info.

COUNTY TRIALS AND TRAINING

BOYS AND GIRLS

U11

MOULTON COLLEGE
JOHN ASHBY SPORTS HALL
GATE 3, MOULTON
NORTHAMPTON
NN3 7SX

APRIL 28
MAY 5
MAY 12
JUNE 2

BOYS AND GIRLS

U13

MOULTON SCHOOL
POUND LN
MOULTON
NORTHAMPTON
NN3 7SD

APRIL 28
MAY 5
MAY 12
MAY 26

JUNE 9
FESTIVAL DAY

WILDCATS ARENA
45 GREENWOOD RD
THORNEYWOOD
NOTTINGHAM
NG3 7FJ

JUNE 8
TOURNAMENT



REGISTRATIONS NOW OPEN
last date to register is 22nd April 2024



COUNTY TRIALS AND TRAINING



U11 BOYS/ U11 GIRLS

JOHN ASHBY SPORTS HALL
GATE 3, MOULTON COLLEGE
PITSFORD ROAD
MOULTON, NN3 7SY

U13 BOYS/U13 GIRLS

MOULTON SCHOOL
POUND LN, MOULTON,
NORTHAMPTON
NN3 7SD

Players from Northamptonshire Primary Schools In Year 5 & 6 and no younger to try out for the two Basketball Northants Take 8 Mini-Basketball Teams with 4 girls & 4 boys in each team plus reserves

Or

Players from Secondary Schools in Year 7 or 8 BUT MUST be born in 2011/12 (separate boys & girls squads)
to attend the County u11 & u13 Training & Selection programme

Dear Parent,

Your child may have shown ability while playing for their primary, secondary school, club team or while attending an after school club. We would like to invite her/him to attend County training & selection.

The training is to help develop your child's skills and team play with the opportunity to be selected to play for the Basketball Northants County under 11 & under 13 Teams. The East Midlands Regional Mini-Basketball Festival & u13 Boys & Girls Tournaments are on Saturday 8th June and 9th June at the Wildcats Sports Arena, Nottingham, NG3 7FJ

ARRIVAL

Your child will need to turn up 15 minutes before the session starts to register. The fee for each session is £4. There could also be the additional cost of a squad T Shirt (approx £15 total) if your child is selected. Please attend in suitable basketball kit but without any club logo with a water bottle. Please do not bring valuables.

ATTENDANCE

If your child cannot attend any sessions but still wants to be considered for the team, please indicate this on the form. Please also let us know by email if there is a last minute reason they cannot attend any session. Selection will be based on ability, attitude & commitment as assessed by the coaches

We hope your child enjoys the experience.
Martin Spencer, County Teams Coordinator

REGISTER NOW

Registrations close 22nd April



[HTTPS://FORM.JOTFORM.COM/240323554526351](https://form.jotform.com/240323554526351)











Online Safety



At Pytchley C of E, Online safety is of great importance to us. Please do take the time to read the latest guide from the National Online Safety for parents and carers. We will aim to provide regular online safety notices. In this day and age it is so important that we are keeping our children safe online so that they can become strong digital citizens. In school, our firewall is very strong and prevents unwanted access to inappropriate sites and words. Is yours at home?



Parent and Church - Governors Wanted

UPDATE



Unfortunately, Mrs Allen has resigned from her position as Chair Of Governors at Pytchley CofE. I am pleased that Mr David Sharman has stepped into this position for the remainder of the term. David is the CofG at Cottingham CofE and will provide much needed support and direction for the Governing body. If this is a role that interests you - or - you know of someone who would be interested, please contact head@pytchley.pdet.org.uk to discuss further. It would be a great time to get involved whilst being able to shadow David and learn from his expertise.

You will shortly receive information regarding a Vacancy for a Parent Governor

We will be electing a new parent governor to join our Academy Governance Committee. Parent governors are very valuable members of the Committee; we rely on them to help us keep in touch with what parents are thinking.

The Directors have delegated to the AGC a range of duties/responsibilities. These are outlined in the document called 'The Role of the AGC' which can be found on the PDET website – www.pdet.org.uk.

In your role as a governor, you will be supported in your duties by other experienced members of the AGC, the Headteacher, the PDET's Central Team and the Clerk to governors.

All governors need:

- Commitment to improving education for all pupils;
- Commitment to supporting the Christian ethos of the Trust and the Academy
- Ability to work in a team and take collective responsibility for decisions;
- Willingness to learn;

If you are interested in this role, please look out for more info to follow. If there is interest there will be a ballot and voting etc will take place. Please see below for a brief flow chart of the process. If you would like to discuss the role then please do contact Mr Scott for an informal discussion.

We are also seeking a Church Governor and a Community Governor. There is a different process involved with these roles so again, please contact Mr Scott for more information.



Term Dates



Academic Year 2023/2024

Term 4 Tuesday 27th February 2024 - Thursday 28th March 2024

Term 5 Monday 15th April 2024 - Friday 24th May 2024

Term 6 Monday 3rd June - Tuesday 23rd July 2024

INSET Days

Monday 26th February 2024

School Uniform



We request that school uniform is worn by all pupils, as we feel this develops pupils' sense of belonging to the school community. Thank you for your support. To help with PE uniform, ALL children will soon be provided with a blue PE T-Shirt AND a House Team T-Shirt. Either can be worn for PE or events outside of school. Having provided these FOC, we expect ALL children to have appropriate PE kit including shorts and bottoms (Leggings/joggers etc).

Will write again soon.....

