Pyrford Church of England Primary School

19 January 2018

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Good morning. January appears to be racing by with so much filling our days here. This week Year 3 pupils have been visiting the various local Pizza Express restaurants to make pizza, which they have thoroughly enjoyed and Year 5 have been in deep thought and discussion following our 'Alien' invasion in the environmental garden this week. To add some context to the latter, as a writing stimulus, a full crime scene was set up and children were led to investigate before then being encouraged to use a genre of writing about the situation. It was wonderful to see just how many 10 year olds were totally convinced that the piles of green slime left by the aliens were absolutely real - the white suits and caution tape helped too!

Behind the scenes we have been busy meeting with teachers to continue to discuss all the individual children in the school. This is now complete and although takes up much time, it is most definitely one of the most rewarding jobs we do in the school. Teachers have a very clear measure of what children's next steps in learning should be, although we discuss your child as a whole and not just their academic ability.

We were also visited this week by an external educational consultant who comes to provide quality assurance for the work we are doing. He also joined the teaching team for a couple of hours in the evening so that we could hold professional dialogue, this time about children's writing. He commented about how well the children wrote in this school and how committed and professional the staff were in their approach to teaching and learning.

Whilst we continue to keep the school going as it should, it has been quite a difficult week for staff emotionally. This week we remembered our much loved colleague Cally Edis who died a year ago. The staff marked the day inside school by wearing something pink and enjoying a few chocolates, which Mrs Edis loved! We have also been thinking and praying for Mrs McAllister, our School Business Manager who suffered a heart attack at the end of last week. I am pleased to say that she is on the mend and desperate to get back to work. I think though that I will need to be taking her in hand over these 50 hour working weeks that she does!

I promised to feedback about the parent questionnaires that you all kindly completed last term, so over the coming weeks I will provide that feedback, particularly around issues that have been raised and how we are addressing them for you. See overleaf for the headlines.

Wishing you a good weekend.

Kathryn Krynicki
Headteacher

Reception

Please return the health questionnaire by Monday.

Year 5 Fairthorne

Please return the consent form by Monday.

Thank you.

Questionnaire feedback.....week 1

Following on from the questionnaire, much analysis has been done by leaders, governors, teachers and parents. We thought it useful to bring the main findings together and then to try and answer some of the areas you would like to see improved. Your comments have certainly made us reflect on how and what we communicate as well as where our priorities should lie. Included below is week 1 of the feedback. Each week we will address one of the areas for development. Included are some verbatim comments from parents to help give you some context. Many thanks for your feedback, it is important and helps to build our sense of community and our desire to strive for happy, fulfilled, well rounded, educated children.

The headlines

What did families think were the main strengths of the school?

The staff! "The quality of teaching is excellent." "They have a really good understanding of my children." "Teaching and learning is excellent."

Leadership "Strong and clear leadership who are approachable." "Effective leadership right at the top from the head going down each leadership level"

Christian ethos "the Christian ethos which provides a solid foundation for the children of all faiths. "A great Christian ethos and a caring environment."

Academic standards "Strong academically." "A strong academic drive and ambition." "high academic standards."

Pastoral Care "you provide such a nurturing and happy environment for my children." "The children are treated as individuals and are cared for, not just taught." "A warm nurturing environment."

What did families think were the main areas of development for the school?

Feedback to parents "One more parent meeting per year would be fantastic. I feel it's not enough at present." "Is it possible to get more regular feedback on my child's progress?" "Give parents clearer indications on children's progress against national standards."

Clubs including music, sports and arts outside of school hours "School clubs which cover all interests and are provided by the school as opposed to external providers who charge for attendance :dance, gymnastics for example." "Lunchtime clubs." "More clubs." "More sports" "More extra-curricular activities to be offered (especially after school)"

Use of the outdoor space /grounds

"More outdoor learning and utilisation of the football field." "I think the junior play equipment is fantastic, however it would be good to see some more equipment for the infants." "Better use of the grounds/outdoor space."

Sports and PE "I'd like to see school sports teams from Yr 3 onwards to compete against other schools." "There should be more sports teams which are inclusive rather than exclusive." "Bring back Run to Rio." "More sports and longer PE sessions."

Congratulations to our Golden Book winners

Squirrels - Ben Watkins for being a superstar all week.

Hazel - Charlotte Lawry for being an excellent story teller.

Beech - Thomas Wakeling for being kind and helpful.

Chestnut - Finlay Boulby for always working hard and trying his best.

Oak - Kacey Crittenden for excellent writing about the Queen.

Cedar - Ahmed Najaf for concentrating so well in all of our learning.

Hawthorn - Charlotte Robinson for amazing Maths!

Elm - Finley Jessop for fantastic work on the formation of rocks.

Juniper - Alex Krynicki for a beautifully drawn Lizard Street and Krindlekrax.

Maple - Dylan James for beautifully presented work about the formation of rocks.

Alder - Benjamin Bailey for excellent multiplication mastery work in Maths.

Larch - Josh Lines for excellent multiplication mastery work in Maths.

Cherry - Danyal Ahmed for detailed work on Mayan religious beliefs.

Rowan - James Cobbett for a fantastic poster about the features of a mosque.

Willow - Phoebe Quintal for a creative diary entry as an alien.

Laurel - Sacha Ndebele for a fantastic information poster about the Greek gods.

Holly - Katie Dearden for an informative and colourful poster on the Greek gods.

In assembly next week we are thinking about **The Holy Spirit**

Year 3 enjoyed their pizza making at Pizza Express

SCHOOL DATES FOR 2017—2018 ACADEMIC YEAR

Description	Date	Time
Yr 5 to Shah Jahan Mosque	Thu 25 January	morning
o2 Young Voices Concert	Tue 30 January	
Spring Half term	12 - 16 February	
Yr 6 Greek workshop	Thu 22 February	
Yr 5 to Warner Bros Studio tour	Tue 6 March	
Yr 4 class to Synagogue	Wed 7 March	
Spring Term Parents' Meetings	**Wed 7 March**	**15:30-17:30**
Yr 4 class to Synagogue	Thu 8 March	
Spring Term Parents' Meetings	**Thu 8 March**	**15:30-19:30**
Yr 2 to Brooklands Museum	Wed 14 March	
Friends' Quiz Night	Sat 24 March	
Yr 5 Residential to Fairthorne Manor	Mon 26 - Thu 29 March	
School Easter Service at CoGS	Thu 29 March	09:30
Last Day of Spring Term	Thu 29 March	finish at 13:30
Easter Holidays	2 - 13 April	
First Day of Summer Term	Mon 16 April	
Yr 1 to Nower Wood	Tue 17 April	
Reception to Ladyland Farm	Fri 20 April	
Yr 5 Viking workshop	Mon 23 April	
Yr 4 Residential to Hindleap Warren	Mon 23 - Wed 25 April	
Yr 3 Residential to High Ashurst (all Elm + Maple boys)	Mon 30 April - Tue 1 May	
Yr 4 Tropical Zoo	Wed 2 May	
May Bank Holiday	Mon 7 May	
Yr 3 Residential to High Ashurst (all Juniper + Maple girls)	Tue 8 - Wed 9 May	
Circus	**Sun 13 May**	
SATs Week	14 - 18 May	
Yr 4 Bikeability Course	Wed 23 - Thu 24 May	
Summer Half term	28 May - 1 June	
Yr 6 Bikeability Couse	Mon 4 - Fri 8 June	
Yr 2 to The Lookout Discovery Centre	Tue 12 June	
Yr 4 to Wisley	Wed 13 June	
PTA Golf Day	**Fri 15 June**	
Yr 6 Residential to Gaveston Hall	18 - 22 June	
Yr 1 to Chessington	Thu 21 June	
PTA Masked Ball at Brooklands	Fri 22 June	
Yr 3 class to Henley Fort	Mon 25 June	
Yr 6 Leavers' Service at Guildford Cathedral	Mon 25 June	12:30
Yr 3 class to Henley Fort	Tue 26 June	
Yr 3 class to Henley Fort	Wed 27 June	
Yr 5 Bikeability Course	Mon 2 - Wed 4 July	
Seconday School Induction Days	Tue 3 and/or Wed 4 July	
Yr 2 Pedals Course	Thu 5 July	
FS & KS1 Sports Day	Tue 10 July	am
KS2 Sports Day	Thu 12 July	
Pyrford & Wisley Flower Show	Sat 14 July	
Leavers' Service at CoGS	Fri 20 July	09:30
Last Day of Summer Term	Fri 20 July	finish at 13:30
INSET DAY	Mon 23 July	

EXTENDED REPLY DATE!

Cut-price theatre tickets at New Victoria Theatre, Woking

SHREK THE MUSICAL

FPPS (Friends of Pyrford C of E Primary School) has secured seats at great rates for Shrek the Musical, thanks to the New Victoria Theatre's group discounts. Every ticket bought through us will automatically also contribute at least £2 to our school fund. Join the fun! Please fill out the form and return to the FRIENDS box in the School office.

A NIGHT AT THE THEATRE – June 2018

No of tickets you require	Date	time	Seat location	Your price	Reduced from
	Tuesday 5th June 2018	7pm	Upper Circle – back rows	**£23.00 each**	£28.50
			Upper Circle – front rows	**£32.00 each**	£37.50

Best seats will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

I would like ____ (number of ticktes) @ £_____(price band) and therefore enclose a cheque payable to FPPS for £_____ (total amount).

Name: _____

email: _____

Tel: _____Child's Name & Class:_____

1. Please note that contact info is essential in order to receipt payment and arrange ticket collection.
2. All ticket requests MUST be received **with payment** by the 9th March 2018 but the earlier the better to secure seats.
3. Please return this slip & payment to the Friends box at the school office window, clearly marking your envelope '**Shrek**'. For any queries, please email emilykidd78@gmail.com or call 07970 870014.

THANK YOU for supporting our school and here's to a fun family evening!

Years 4 - 6 Friday Running Club 2018 - Spring Term start date tbc

Did you know that since Running Club began …

- ***25** parents have volunteered to help out*
- ***30-40** children = our average weekly attendance*
- ***66** = our record attendance for a single session!*
- ***over 140** KS2 children have taken part to date*
- ***2000+ hours of extra exercise at Pyrford** = total so far (based on average attendance!)*

These are fantastic numbers - and we want to keep them going and growing!

But we urgently need just 1 or 2 parent volunteers to join the club's core team of leaders to keep us - well - running!
Sessions are planned; children are raring to go, but we need help ….

If you can commit to a sequence of sessions a term as a team leader, please contact us!

Y3 parents, if your child is itching to join Running Club NOW and you can help, please contact us!

If you can help in any way, please contact us ….. jacquilmb@gmail.com

A message from the Church

Death is one of the few certainties of life! We are never too young to start thinking about it, making wills, etc. It shouldn't be the taboo subject it is.

Please come along to our informal session to start thinking about it. See details below.

GRAVETALK
A CAFE SPACE TO TALK ABOUT DEATH, DYING AND FUNERALS

An informal opportunity to meet and discuss the topics of death, dying and funerals.

When? Sunday 11th February 2018

Time? 3.30-5pm

Venue? Church of Good Shepherd, Coldharbour Road, Pyrford GU22 8SP.

Tea and Cake will be provided.

It would be helpful if you could let me know if you are coming.

For further information please contact Caroline Oldroyd on caroline.oldroyd@googlemail.com (01932 858153)

In November 2016, whilst training with Aldershot, Farnham and District Running Club, two of my children and I witnessed a serious road traffic accident that resulted in the deaths of two of my daughter's friends and team mates, Lucy Pygott aged 17 and Stacey Burrows aged 16.

This weekend the Pygott and Burrows families are taking part in the Farnborough Half Marathon. The link explains the foundation they have set up together with Eagle Radio to help support future sporting stars.

This is something very close to our hearts and if you would like to donate towards this very worthwhile cause, please click on the link which gives full information and then follow the link to the Justgiving page.

Many thanks.

Caroline, Gus & Eugenie Cockle

https://www.eagleradio.co.uk/farnboroughhalfmarathon.php