



Peases West Primary School

Newsletter

Friday 14th September 2018

Peases West Primary School
Billy Row
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County Durham
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Welcome back!

Welcome back to the new school year! We hope you have all enjoyed the Summer break. We have been impressed by your children's positive attitudes and readiness to learn and how very smart they look in their uniforms - thank you! A very special welcome to Charlie A, Yazmin, Isaac, Kaliyah, Bentley, Leila, Lush, Lydia and Charlie W, our new Reception children. They have settled so well into school life - thank you boys and girls in school for helping all of our new starters feel so welcome - especially our Year 6 'Buddies'! We also welcome Lennon to our school. We look forward to yet another exciting and successful year at Peases West Primary School!

2018 outcomes

Thank you for your support in helping achieving the following outcomes in 2018.

EYFS (End of Reception)

% achieving a good level of development	% exceeding a good level of development
50	0

Year 1 Phonics Test - 71% pupils met the threshold; Year 2 Phonic Test resit - 50%

Key Stage 1 (End of Year 2)

	% at expected levels	% at higher levels
Reading	76	29
Writing	76	17
Maths	76	17

Key Stage 2 (End of Year 6)

	% at expected levels	% at higher levels
Reading	71	14
Writing	71	36
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling	71	43
Maths	71	29
Reading, Writing and Maths Combined	71	14



Mrs Johnson and Mrs Morton were delighted to be invited to attend the 2018 County Durham Sport Leadership & Volunteering Celebration Event, which saw Peases West Primary school being nominated for a Primary School Contribution to Sports Leadership award, and former pupil, Evie Smith, nominated for Young Sports Leader of the Year. Congratulations to Evie who won her overall category! We are incredibly proud of you and your achievement!

This week, Class 4 were visited by Dr. Pete Edwards, an astronomer from the Department of Physics at Durham University, to help kick-start their topic on the Earth and beyond. The talk was led by the children's questions and Dr. Edwards shared a mix of photos, videos and expertise on all things space! The children especially enjoyed the travel through the galaxy footage.



Class 4 visited the Oriental Museum in Durham. They had a busy day which started with handling real Ancient Egyptian artefacts that were over 2000 years old. In groups, children explored the Ancient Egyptian gallery and completed quizzes. After lunch, they learnt about the real mummy in the museum and even got to smell her! Before home time, they mummified a Year 6 child and sent her off to Duat (a snake infested land!).

School admissions 2019

Applications are now open for September 2019 primary and secondary school places - the deadline for applications are 31st October 2018 for secondary and 15th January 2019 for primary.

Application forms are available at www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions



Staffing update

The staffing structure for 2018-2019 is as follows.

	Teaching Staff	Support Staff
Early Years: Nursery and Class 1 (Reception and KS1)	Miss C Hall	Miss L Allum Mrs L Croft Miss D Mould Mrs C Patterson
Key Stage 1: Years 1 and 2	Mrs S Scott	Mrs Z Britton Mrs J Hird
Lower Key Stage 2: Years 3 and 4	Mr J Atkinson	Mrs S Knotts
Upper Key Stage 2: Years 5 and 6	Mrs M Morton	Miss C George

Mrs Storey continues to provide 'non contact' planning, preparation and assessment time for teachers in school as well as delivering a range of intervention and our nurture class. Mrs Davis works with children across school developing Reading and Maths skills.

Mrs Cowper continues in her role as 'Learning Mentor', working closely with children and families to remove any potential barriers to learning.

Our lunchtime team consists of Mrs Bowden, our school cook, Mrs Hepple, assistant cook, and Mrs Todd, our lunchtime supervisor. School staff also support children in the hall and on the yard over the lunchtime period.

Our cleaning team consists of Mr Mason and Mrs Patey, and the school office is managed by Ms Mannall, and supported by Miss Emerson.

We continue to welcome a range of visitors and coaches to school. This term we have Darren Brown from Durham Cricket Club and Wendy Hughes from the Durham Music Service during curriculum time.

ParentPay

Thank you for your patience and understanding with our new 'cashless' payment system, 'ParentPay'. Office staff are available to help with any questions you may have relating to the 'set up' of your accounts.



Early Years Outdoor Learning Area

As you are aware, the entrance to our school is also where our youngest children play and learn. Staff will often set up learning tasks for our younger children before the start of school. Could we politely ask that you support us in encouraging our older children not to play with the resources in the outdoor area - we know how tempting it is!

We also ask that older children do not play on the slide, as it designed for children up to 5 years only and has previously been damaged by older children using it.

Thank you for your anticipated co-operation.

Termly Information

Your child will have brought home a 'Termly Information' sheet. A copy will also be available on the school website.

Polite reminder - dogs are not permitted on school grounds.

Thank you.

Celebration of Achievement

Children in Years 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 collect 'raffle tickets' during the week as part of our celebration of achievement. These are awarded by staff for positive attitudes and behaviour. At the end of the week, each class will select one lucky raffle ticket holder who will receive a small prize!

Children can also earn 'Merits' in school for their learning. Throughout the school year, children are aiming for Bronze, Silver and Gold level. We may even see some Platinum award winners by the end of the school year!

Children in Reception and Class 1 collect stickers on their own special chart - aiming for 10, which earns them a special prize!

Please ensure your child has the necessary PE kit in school - this consists of a white T-shirt, black shorts/leggings, and an appropriate change of footwear. Jewellery is not to be worn during PE. Earrings must be taped over.

Thank you.

Mobile phones in school

Information received from the Local Authority states that: *'Over the last few months there appears to have been a significant rise in the number of incidents involving KS2 pupils using a variety of apps to upload images or video particularly on social media sites. There have been two main issues, bullying and inappropriate images.'*

In recent years, we have experienced issues at Peases West Primary School that have given us cause for concern about children keeping themselves safe outside of school whilst on-line (gaming sites) and using social media. Therefore we think it pertinent to send out this information. At the same time, please be assured that we will continue to teach children about all aspects of E-safety as part of the curriculum. **At Peases West Primary School, children in Nursery to Year 4 should not bring a mobile phone to school. There may be exceptional circumstances, agreed with staff, when a child in these year groups brings a phone to school. If so, then the agreed procedure should be followed.**

We allow children in Year 5 and 6 to bring mobile phones to school if they are walking/travelling home without parents. We ask that children hand their phones in on a morning at the start of the school day and collect them at the end of the day. Children are not allowed phones in their bags or trays in the classroom, or on the school yard. We would like to remind parents that tablets, cameras and smart watches should be not brought into or worn in school as they can distract children from their learning and damage children's privacy.

If a child needs to bring a phone into school, we ask them to complete a mobile phone contract, available from the office, and then hand the phone to Ms. Mannall or Miss Emerson for safekeeping during the school day.

Parents will also want to help ensure that their children are safe when using their phone or tablet and home, and will want to know about what they are sharing online. Any Social Media site used by children will have inherent risks; the website net-aware.org.uk provides advice on many popular sites along with a suggested minimum age. Our school website also has useful links on E safety. If our pupils see unpleasant or hurtful comments they have been taught to take a screenshot and show a trusted adult. Peases West Primary School will treat cyberbullying seriously.

If your child currently brings their phone to school, please ask at the school office for a mobile phone contract letter.

Thank you.



MacMillan Coffee Afternoon Friday 28th September 2018 2pm - 3pm

We would like to invite you, your families and friends to attend a Macmillan coffee afternoon, to be held in school on Friday 28th September 2pm - 3pm.

This is a charity that is close to Peases West Primary School community, and we would like to join in this national event to show our support. With so many of our families and friends being affected by cancer we feel that we could play a part in raising money and awareness whilst opening the school to the wider community for a fun morning of tasty treats. In order to make this event a success, we would really appreciate any offers of cakes, buns and biscuits that we could sell throughout the morning.

If you are able to bring in donations of cakes etc, please hand them to the school office on the morning of the 28th September.

Please feel free to invite family and friends to come and share in this event and support us in raising money for this deserving charity.

Many thanks for your continued support.

We look forward to seeing you on the 28th!



Parent View

We value your feedback and your views on all aspects of school life help staff and governors to make Peases West Primary School the best place it can be!

You can always share you views by using the 'Have your Say' section of the newsletter. This can be handed in with your child, or posted in the 'rainbow' box in the main entrance.

Alternatively, Parent View gives you the chance to tell Ofsted what you think about your child's school, from the quality of teaching to dealing with bullying and poor behaviour. The survey can be completed at any time;

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>

Thank you!



School Lunches



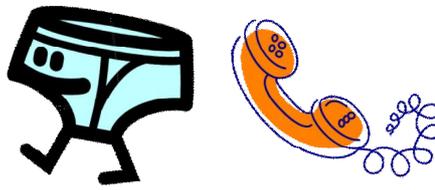
Reminder: all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are offered free school meals. Although children are offered a free school meal, if you are claiming certain benefits, you should continue to inform the school office of your eligibility for free school meals to ensure necessary school funding and further benefits for you and your child. Thank you.

School meals for Nursery, Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 cost £2.05 a child per day. Payments should be made through 'ParentPay'.

If you think you may qualify for free school meals, evidence will need to be shown to the office. You are eligible if you receive Child Tax credit, Income Tax Credit, Income Support or Income Based Job seekers Allowance. Please bring the necessary proof/ information in to the school office as soon as possible. There may be additional benefits if you are eligible.

Thank you.

Donations of spare underwear, socks, trousers, tights etc are always gratefully received - particularly in Nursery and Reception! These can be handed to any member of staff. Thank you!



Contact details

If your mobile telephone or contact details have changed, please inform the school office. Thank you.

School uniform

School uniform can be ordered online at www.stparent.co.uk. Orders are collated, so please order by 3rd of the month for same month delivery.

Water Bottles

We encourage children to drink water and to bring water bottles to and from school. Please ensure these are clearly labelled with your child's name and contain only water. Thank you.



Reporting Absence

Please inform the school office if your child is absent. Whenever possible, advance notice should be given to the class teacher or school office, concerning medical and dental appointments, giving details of the arrangements for collection and evidence of appointments. Government legislation means that we have to report all unauthorised absences. Absences for which we have not received notification are unauthorised. If we do not receive a call from you by 9.30am, school will contact home. Thank you for your anticipated cooperation.



School Crossing Patrol

We are encouraging children and families to make use of the school crossing patrol, particularly older children who make their own way home. We advise children who make their own way home to leave school by the 'Stanley Way' gate and make their way to the road to make use of the crossing.

Breakfast club

School staff continue to run Breakfast club from 8:00 a.m. with breakfast being available from 8.15am until 8:45a.m. There is a cost of £2 per day for both breakfast and supervision. Payment can be made through ParentPay. There are supervised activities for Breakfast Club children in school. Alternatively, with your permission, children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 may go outside to play. (Consent forms are available from the school office). Please note: there will not be adult supervision on the yard until 8.50am. If children are not attending breakfast club, they should aim to arrive at school between 8.50am 8.55am.

Health and Safety

Could we remind Parents/Carers/family members that we ask you not to drive cars along, or park on the lane which runs in front of the school. It is a very narrow road and we know you will agree that the safety of our children and families is more important than any inconvenience to drivers. We also ask that cars do not park on the yellow zig zag safety markings at the end of the lane. Parking tickets are issued regularly in this area. Should you see cars being driven along the school lane, please inform the school office of the registration number plate so that we can forward details to the Police. Thank you.

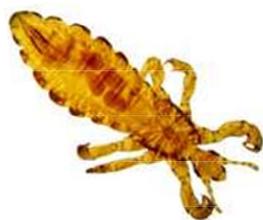
Also, could we remind children and parents that there is no supervision on the school yard before 8.50am.

Children who are coming to school on bikes and scooters are advised to wear helmets. Bikes and scooters can be stored safely in the bike/scooter rack. We ask that all bikes and scooters are pushed when on school grounds.

Learning Journals

Children from Year 1 to Year 6 will be bringing home their 'Learning Journals' this week. Children have set tasks weekly, and also a range of additional tasks, including a 'wild card'. They are a fantastic opportunity for home and school to recognise and celebrate your child's skills, talents, interests and achievements. Reception children will be introduced to Learning Journals in Spring Term. Thank you for your ongoing support with Learning Journals.

BUG BUSTING!



So far so good! We have not had any sightings or reports of head lice in school this term. Help to keep this up by checking your child's hair regularly. Our first bug busting day where we aim to synchronise bug busting in the school community is **Friday 28th September**.

Please find attached to the Newsletter a 'Yearly Planner' which details key events which will take place throughout the school year.

Additional dates will be listed on the newsletter/Facebook/website/via text message, and can be added to your planner once information is available.

Have Your Say

We value and welcome your comments on all aspects of school life. These can be shared by completing and returning the slip below. Thank you!

Praise, Positives & Progress

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Things to develop

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Suggestions for improvement

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Thank you.

Name: (optional) Date:.....

Additional comments: