

Pilgrims' Way Newsletter

Friday 16th September 2022 Term 1

Website: www.pilgrims-way.kent.sch.uk Facebook: Search: Pilgrims' Way Primary School



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the Autumn term and a new academic year which has sadly started with the news our monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, died last week. We all send her family our condolences for this very sad time. The school will be closed for the Bank Holiday on Monday 19 September for the state funeral.

Despite the recent sadness, it has been so wonderful to see, and hear, the school full of children skipping into school, proudly wearing their school uniforms, busy in their classrooms and happy to be back in school.

A warm welcome to our new families, your children have settled into their new classrooms and are starting to make friends. This week we have also welcomed into school our youngest children in Nursery and in Reception classes. Miss Annecchiarico and her team have worked hard to ensure all the children have a happy start to their nursery and school time. She has told me that the children are settling in so well, playing together, being kind and listening to their teachers.

I am delighted to welcome Mrs Kerry Jordan-Daus as our new CEO of Veritas Multi Academy Trust. Kerry has spent her career in education, as a teacher in Secondary Schools and as a senior lecturer in Higher Education. She has had numerous leadership roles both in schools and in further education and has recently submitted her Doctorate Study on gender and leadership in education. She has already met with our newly formed Parent Forum and is very keen to meet you and your children.

The popularity of our school continues to see our pupil numbers grow, resulting in us now having two classes in each year group. To support the escalation in numbers and continue to provide all our children with their irresistible curriculum and high-quality teaching and learning, I am very pleased to welcome six new members of staff to our amazing team. Mr Chappell and Mrs Cole have joined our teaching team in Years 2 & 5 and we have four new Teaching Assistants – Miss Sharp is working in our KS1 Team, Mrs Bartlett and Ms Longden in our Lower KS2 Team and Mrs Kaur in our Upper KS2 Team. We are so happy to have you join our community.

The teachers have been busy ensuring our irresistible curriculum is accessed by all children so please take some time to look at this term's curriculum newsletter. We have lots of special events planned this term including a visit from a theatre group who will be delighting our children with a performance of The Greatest Fairy Tale Ever Told to launch our Oracy week. Please continue to support your children with their learning by reading with them every night, helping them to complete their homework on time and asking retrieval questions to help your child know more and remember more. If you need any help or support, please contact your child's class teacher through DoJo.

Warm regards

Miss A M Middleton
Headteacher



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ParentPay - Payment for Trips, Lunches, Breakfast Club and Teatime Club

All children currently attending Pilgrims' Way School would have been sent home with a letter and unique login details and instructions regarding the change over to ParentPay for paid events, clubs and lunches.

Please can all parents sign up at their earliest convenience. If you need a copy of the letter please ask at the school office.



Uniform Swap Shop

Children grow so fast and we have been trying to help some families with second hand uniform.

When your children out grow their sweatshirts and fleeces please consider passing them back to us in school if they are still in good condition. We are short on larger sizes.

If we have a bigger size for your child we will happily exchange if we can.

Universal Infant Free School Meals

Universal Infant Free School Meals (UFSM) mean that all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive free school meals.

If your child is now in year 3 they will no longer receive free school meals under the UFSM scheme. If you think that you may still qualify for free school meals because you are in receipt of certain benefits you can make an application to see if you are eligible at the following site.

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/kent/>

If you are not eligible, lunches will be payable on the day or in advance via the new ParentPay at a rate of £2.40 per day.

Inclusion

We have added a new section on the school website on Inclusion at Pilgrims' Way. This contains information on SEND, Bilingual and Multilingual learners and Young Carers. It is located under 'Our Learning' on the top bar.

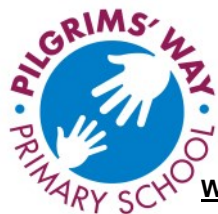
<https://www.pilgrims-way.kent.sch.uk/page/?title=Inclusion+%28SEND%2C+BML+etc%29&pid=431>

Upcoming Diary Dates

Monday 19th September
Friday 23rd September
Wednesday 28th September
Friday 30th September

Thursday 6th October
Friday 7th October
Monday 10th October
TBC

School closed (Bank Holiday for the State Funeral)
Visiting theatre company
Meet the teacher and see the classroom
Oracy week dress up day
(Fairy Tales) (more info to follow)
Coffee morning at Spring Lane Community centre
Flu immunisations (Reception to Year 6)
Family and individual photo's (more info to follow)
Harvest Festival



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Breakfast Club and Teatime Club - Please note that all children wishing to attend breakfast club and/or Teatime Club will need to be booked and paid for in advance via ParentPay.

Breakfast Club booked in advance will cost £1.50 per child/per day. If children turn up and are not booked in, this will cost £2 per child/per day.

Teatime Club can only be accessed if you have completed registration forms. Please see the office if you would like to register. There are currently 3 booking options and all include a light snack:

3pm - 4pm - cost £3 per child

4pm - 5pm - cost £3 per child (use this option if your child is attending another club from 3pm– 4pm)

3pm- 5pm - cost £5 per child

NUT FREE SCHOOL

At Pilgrims' Way we have a growing number of our community who suffer from a severe nut allergy and require significant medication if they come into contact with a nut product. They can suffer life threatening consequences if they have a reaction which can result from a simple handshake or touching a table where someone may have had some nuts in their food.

We are urgently developing our 'Nut Free School' policy and ask for your help while we develop this.

If your child has packed lunch, please check that they do not bring in anything that contains nuts.

Thank you for supporting us in supporting our community.

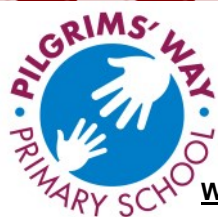


Meet the teacher and see the classroom

We would like to invite you to our first 'Meet the Teacher and see the classroom' event on Wednesday 28th September 3pm until 4pm.

Please arrive at the school at the normal pick-up time and meet your child. They can then show you their classroom and tell you all about what they have been doing. The class teacher will be there so you can say hello. However, this won't be an opportunity to have a meeting with the teacher individually as they need to be available to say hello to everyone. If you do need to talk to your child's teacher at any time you can contact them via dojo or contact the office to arrange a call.

We look forward to seeing you all, if you cannot attend the even then please feel free to send the person collecting your child from school on that day in your place (e.g. grandparent or another family member)



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We are delighted to inform you that our dedicated Nursery, Early Years & Inclusion Team have completed studies enabling the school to become the first 'BML SMART Nursery' in the country! We are excited and proud of our team's dedication to promoting and supporting bilingual and multilingual families.

This video is 1 minute long and explains what a BML SMART Nursery is and why it's so valuable.

[WIDE BML SMART NURSERY.mp4](#)

Teaching staff have been excited to adopt new teaching approaches and strategies following training to promote understanding and support for BMLs across the school. This has not only encouraged our BMLs to keep up their home languages but has given **all** children increased opportunities to develop language, which will enable them to acquire a high standard of English.

We will be taking part in research this coming year in association with the Centre for Educators of Bilingual and Multilingual Learners to further inform our teaching and look forward to sharing this with you in due course.

If anyone is interested in finding out more about BML approaches and would like to take the parent course '**Helping Your Bilingual or Multilingual Child Thrive at Home & School**' or would like to become a '**Parent Ambassador for BML**', please contact Mrs Watts via the office or email her directly

Olivia.Watts@pilgrims-way.kent.sch.uk



A BILINGUAL &
MULTILINGUAL
SMART NURSERY

Pilgrims' Way Primary

Is a nut free school



**No
Nuts!**



We have a nut
free school
kitchen

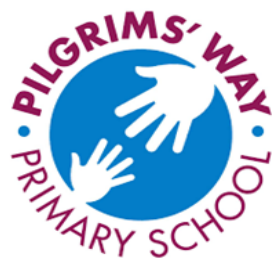


Please bring a
nut free
packed lunch
and snack

**THANK
YOU!**

Free

Just around the corner



Toddlers welcome

Homemade cakes



Everyone welcome

Join our Head Teacher Miss Middleton and Helen
our Family Liaison Officer

Thursday 6th October 2022

9.00 to 10.00

Spring Lane, Community Centre



Kent Emotional Wellbeing Teams
Medway Emotional Support Teams

Online Parent Workshops

Aimed at parents of children in primary

Supporting Your Child with Worries
& Fears 9.30-11am 30th Sep

Understanding Autism in Children
6-7.30pm 3rd Oct

Understanding Your Child's Behaviour
1-2.30pm 13th Oct

Understanding ADHD in
Children 6-7.30pm 19th Oct

September

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

October

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

Our online workshops offer information around key topics to help understand what is going on for your child and strategies to support them, based on the latest evidence and practice.

If you would like to join, please raise your interest with your child's school so that they can send you the link. If you have any questions please speak to your child's school.

Our workshops are held on Microsoft Teams. You do not need an account to join. You will need access to the internet.

We look forward to meeting you.

