

Pilgrims' Way Newsletter

Friday 21st October 2022 Term 1

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



Dear Parents and Carers

What an amazing and incredibly busy term we have had!

Our pupil numbers continue to grow with the school now having two classes in each year group. We welcomed in all our new children and families with a special well done to our youngest children in Early Years' who have all settled into school so well.

So much has happened this term from our inaugural Parent Forum, Parent's Coffee morning, visitors enhancing our irresistible curriculum to listening to our Year 5 pupils singing with professional singers. We have reinstated our Open afternoons when so many of you were able to come into class to see your children's learning and meet your child's new class teacher. We have welcomed in new staff including our new Veritas MAT CEO, Mrs Jordan-Daus.

And finally (having waited since 2017) we were visited by Ofsted who spent two days in September getting to know our community and finding we are a GOOD school with Outstanding Early Years' provision, please click [here](#) to read the report. Thank you to you all for your kind words since we published the final report - your support means so much to us all. The children enjoyed their celebration party this afternoon! The Senior Team and I will be collating Ofsted comments and next steps which I will be sharing with you next term.

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to Miss Hillary who is leaving Pilgrims' Way this term to start a new job with the NHS. We wish Miss Hillary all the best for her future and thank her for her commitment to the children and staff at Pilgrims' Way. Mrs Williams will continue to work across the school supporting Teaching & Learning in KS2.

I am delighted to tell you that I have appointed a new full time class teacher who will start in Giraffe class on Monday 31 October. Miss Hilton is an experienced teacher who knows the school and has been working alongside our staff to ensure a smooth transition.

Next term we will be welcoming three new Teaching Assistants working across KS1 & 2 to support the children's learning, Mrs Ali, Miss Bilych and Mr Dole.

I wish you all a wonderful half term break and will see you all on Monday 31 October.

Warm regards to you all.

Miss AM Middleton

Please look out for the following letters which will be issued and sent home when we return after the October half term.

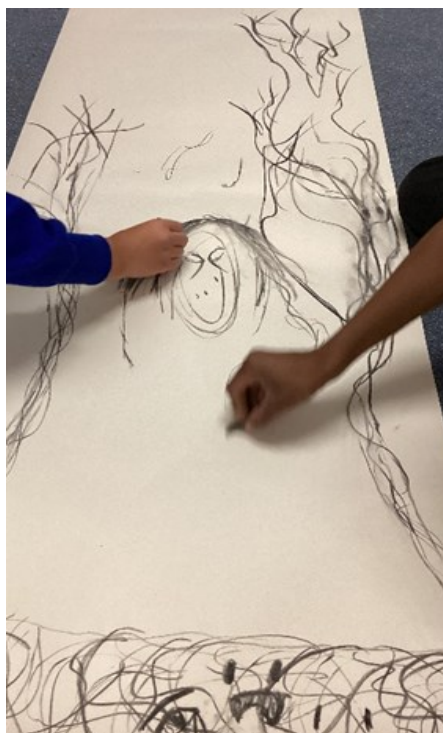
Data Collection Sheets - It is really important that the information that we hold about you and your child is correct in case we need to contact someone urgently. Please check the paperwork and return this to the school office.

ParentPay Activation Letters with unique login details for each child will be reissued to anyone that has not yet signed up to ParentPay.

Friday 21st October — Last Day of Term 1

Art workshop with children from Bridge and Patricbourne CEP Primary School

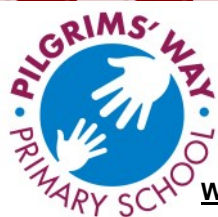
It was wonderful to welcome five Year 5 children from Bridge and Patricbourne CEP Primary school on Tuesday 11th October. The workshop was ably led by Mrs Smith and Mrs Tomsett from Bridge. Mr Hawthorne-Nelson was joined by five Pilgrims' Way children from Years 5 and 6. They quickly got to work producing charcoal sketches of scary trees, based on fairy tales. Well done: Thomas, Emily, Zane, Megi and Ismail. Our Woodland Room is truly scary!



Calling all musicians!



Mrs. Webb is looking for musicians from a variety of cultures to come into school to perform to children in order to demonstrate different music from around the world and introduce them to instruments from other countries. If you are keen to do this, or know of a musical group who could come in, please could you give details to the school office and Mrs. Webb will contact you.



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Term 1 Attendance Update

As you may have seen on Dojo we continue to strive to improve our whole school attendance. The government set the required standard as 97%, this takes into account that at times children are too ill for school (please see the poster for more information on this).

At the moment our whole school attendance stands at 94% so we have some way to go to reach the nationally expected standard. We need your help to achieve this. Remember...

Children can come into school from 8:40am, register is 8:50am

Children who arrive after 9am will be marked as late

Children who arrive from 9:20am will be marked as U which equals a whole morning's absence on their percentage attendance.

Absence = Lost Opportunities

Did you know...?

If your child's attendance during the school year was...	Your child will have missed approximately...	or they would have missed approximately...
was 95%	9 days from school	50 lessons
was 90%	19 days from school	100 lessons
was 85%	29 days from school	150 lessons
was 80%	38 days from school	200 lessons
was 75%	48 days from school	250 lessons

Canterbury Food Bank

Would a food parcel help you make ends meet or relieve some of the financial pressure?

Please click the link below for more Information.

<https://canterburyfoodbank.org/need-food/>



Is my child too ill for school?

When your child is unwell, it can be hard deciding whether to keep them off school.

These simple guidelines should help.

Not every illness needs to keep your child from school. If you keep your child away from school, be sure to inform us on the first day of their absence.

We ask for medical evidence wherever possible, this is to allow us to record the absence as authorised.

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

If you do test your child and they are positive then we ask for them to stay off school for 3 days, they can then return to school unless they still have a temperature.

Cough/Cold

It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold.

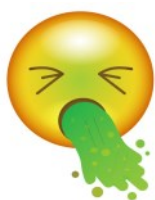
Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.



Vomiting and diarrhoea

Children with diarrhoea and/or vomiting should definitely be kept off school until at least 48 hours after their symptoms have gone.

Most cases of diarrhoea and vomiting in children get better without treatment, but if symptoms persist, consult your GP.



Headlice

Treat head lice as soon as you spot them.

You should check everyone in the house and start treating anyone who has head lice on the same day.

There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice.



Headache

A child with a minor headache doesn't usually need to be kept off school. If the headache is more severe or is accompanied by other symptoms, then keep the child off school and consult your GP.



Sore throat

A sore throat alone doesn't have to keep a child from school. But if it's accompanied by a raised temperature, that does not respond to medication, your child should stay at home



Ear Infection

If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.

An ear infection would require a trip to a GP and possibly antibiotics.



Rash

Skin rashes can be the first sign of many infectious illnesses, such as chickenpox and measles. Children with these conditions shouldn't attend school. If your child has a rash, check with your GP or practice nurse before sending them to school.



Information taken from NHS website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>



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Ofsted

Registration No : 2618215



Monday 24th - Thursday 27th October
Book now online or via mobile with our QR



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