



Pauntley Church of England Primary School

NEWSLETTER

11th September 2020



Our Termly Value: Generosity

Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will repay him for his deed.

Proverbs 19:17

It's as if we've never been away (or almost). The children have settled brilliantly and they are taking all the new COVID measures in their stride. The staff are beginning to remember how busy day-to-day life was six months ago and are well and truly up and running.

This week saw the introduction of our new sporting coaches. The school is lucky enough to have two experienced sports coaches each Tuesday to deliver the school's PE provision. This means that we can give the children a really bespoke experience that challenges all levels and abilities. Talking to the children it sounds like they have really enjoyed the sessions.

After school clubs are up and running and again it seems as though the children are really enjoying these too.

I also had the great pleasure of joining the children on the annual blackberry walk to farmer Jim's field. This was such a lovely experience and a great opportunity to get to know the children better. The walk means so much to some of the older children, particularly in Year 6 who said this was their last opportunity and they would really miss it. It was also a great chance for me to see the older and younger children working together so brilliantly and once again remind me of one of the unique qualities of Pauntley school.

As is necessary, with the lockdown and return to school, the staff have been completing quite a lot of assessments to see what gaps the children have in their learning and establish starting points for our curriculum.

Updated Early Year's Area

Our new Reception recruits have begun their first full week of half days and appear to be loving their time in school. Over the summer my family and I were in school painting and building to add a little extra to this area – a new water wall, music wall and construction area have all added to the opportunities for our youngest children to learn. More developments will be on their way including a much needed repaint of the Pauntley train. The children have been getting stuck in and getting the most out of this new provision.

Events

Unfortunately, and it will come as little surprise that this year's calendar of events will be heavily affected by the restrictions in place. I feel like the grumpy new head teacher at the moment who has nothing but bad news and more restrictions to put in place – please, please, don't shoot the messenger and be reassured that as soon as possible we will return to normal service. However, below are some of the alterations that are now necessary:

Parent/Carer evenings

Unfortunately, face to face meetings will not be possible in the previous format. The teachers will be issuing brief written statements, near the end of term, letting you know about how your child has settled; areas they

are doing well in and areas to work on. There is the opportunity, if you should require, to respond and ask any further questions you may have; more detail will be included with the report at the end of this term.

Harvest/Christmas Carols/Nativity

Usually, we would invite parents to come and see our celebration. Unfortunately, this year the children will be recorded in their classes performing their celebrations. The school will then post this online for you to view at home. A date for release will be issued nearer each event – look out in the news for more details.

Each term we will review the latest guidance and make plans accordingly. As soon as things are able to get back to normal we will let you know.

Birthday Assembly

At the moment we will be conducting these in class and we are unable to host parents. I know this is a really special part of the week and I am really looking forward to seeing my first one. As and when we can resume normal service we will.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Unfortunately, this will also need to be amended this year. The staff are planning to allow the children to purchase a cupcake to eat with their lunch to mark the occasion and all profit will go to the charity. The date will be confirmed in due course.

Year 6 Transition

Year 6 parents need to select secondary schools for Sept 2021 during the month of October. All year 6 parents should have received a letter regarding this already – the exact dates and process to follow is explained on this letter. If you have not received this please contact Gloucestershire County Council Admissions.

My own son is in year 6 this year and having done a little investigation it appears that the usual open evenings/tours etc are being arranged in various different ways around the County. Please contact individual schools or check websites for details.

After School

I know a Pauntley tradition, particularly on a Friday, is to stay and play after school on the field. I am even told that picnics and all sorts are brought in the summer months. However, once again I have some bad news. Due to the recent announcement regarding gatherings I feel we have to insist that the school grounds are cleared as soon as possible. I hope that in due course we can find an alternative solution but as this is not school time it does not fall into the exemption from gatherings that educational settings have.

Nasal Flu Programme

Your child should have brought home a letter, Immunisation Consent Form and a leaflet regarding the forthcoming Flu Programme for all children in school. Immunisation Forms must be completed online or paper copies returned to school by **Monday 14th September**, as the nurses will be in school in the next week to complete the programme.

Where possible could we please ask parents/carers to use the preferred online option for consent. This will need to be one per child. There is a link detailed in your letter. If you prefer to use the paper form, please return this to the school office by Monday latest.

Covid-19 Pupil Absence Reference Guide for Parents

Please find attached a quick reference guide regarding Covid-19 related pupil absence. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to ask a member of staff.

My Flu Spray

Today I am going to have my nasal flu spray.



The flu is a virus that can make you poorly.



Having the flu spray can help stop me from catching the flu and being poorly.



I will go to a room at school with one of my teaching assistants and will see the nurse.



There will be a yellow bin that the rubbish goes into. I am not allowed to touch this.



I will sit still for the nurse and wait for my flu spray.



The nurse will clean her hands with a special gel. This may smell funny.



I will keep my head still and then the nurse will give me my flu spray into both of my nostrils.



I will sit very still. It will not hurt but it may tickle my nose. It will be done very quickly.



The nurse will give me a tissue to wipe my nose.



Then it is all finished and I can go.



I have been very brave.



Mr Lerner's Joke of the Week :

What do you call a man floating in a swimming pool?

Bob!

Apply online for

FREE SCHOOL MEALS



Check to see if your child is eligible using the confidential online portal available on our website www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

Your child's school receives extra funding for each eligible child registered.

If you do not have internet access speak to your child's school.



You may also be able to get extra support for free milk, reduced contributions for school trips and uniform grants – check with your school.

0810 2945 230

 **Gloucestershire**
COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr Larner
Head teacher