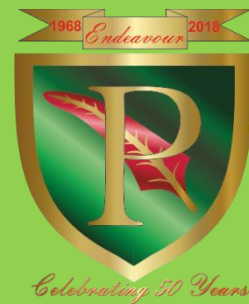


Penns Primary School

Newsletter 4
25.09.2020

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A successful return to school – As you know our focus for our return has been the well-being of our children. This is in keeping with DFE advice which draws on the principles of The Recovery Curriculum defined by professor Barry Carpenter. At the end of July, all staff had the benefit of professional development to hear first hand the rationale underpinning this approach and to build this into their teaching plans. In addition, our aim has been to continue to provide an ambitious and broad curriculum. Personal, Health and Social Education (PHSE) has been integrated into our approach to ensure children feel secure and are in a position to learn. We recognised that our children’s attention span and focus may be lower and have adapted our timetable to provide shorter bit-size lessons with short breaks. We understand the real benefits of sport activities for our children’s physical and mental health and well-being and have timetabled daily opportunities to be active. It has been very rewarding to see that this approach to our curriculum has seen our children thrive. We look forward to continuing to build on this positive start.

Home Learning – to date we have been very fortunate to have no positive test outcomes for our school community. We have had a small number of children who have isolated whilst they or a family member waited for a test result. During this time teachers have been in touch to arrange home learning. If your child should have to isolate at home do let us know so that teachers can provide continuity with learning. Of course, if your child is ill there is no expectation that they must engage with learning when they need to rest and recuperate.

Learning packs – should we have to close a bubble or face lockdown for the school we have prepared workpacks of resources to support key skills in English and Maths and we will follow up with a daily timetable of learning activities and an online session.

Cross Country – Tuesday 6th October. Although, sadly we won’t be able to invite families to join us we will post photos on our twitter page and announce the outcome. We have to maintain our class bubbles so each class will participate separately.

The children are being prepared through their mile a day sessions.

Year 3 to Year 6 Transition - we have all enjoyed celebrating the end of the previous year and welcoming the start of an exciting new year with their new teacher.

Talking Point –

Thursday's Talking Point...
Pantomimes were one of the things to get cancelled because of the coronavirus pandemic this year, but help may be finally be here! One company in Luton is planning to launch a socially distanced pantomime in time for the festive season. The show will take place inside a big top tent and rows of seats will be replaced by sofas suitable for up to four people and socially distanced.

I would like to point out that...
I agree with you and would like to add...
It could also be argued that...
I politely disagree with you and would like to say that...

What do you think about this – would you go to a socially distanced pantomime?

Once again Mrs Stapleton has given us a very topical news



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item to debate. Don't forget to add your vote.

Water bottles – please ensure your child brings a water bottle every day.

Ventilated Classrooms – as we must keep classrooms well ventilated and we are now moving into cooler autumn days, some children (and staff!!) may benefit from layering to ensure that they are always at a comfortable temperature.

Cashless Please – please make all payments online, including toast. This can be done on Parentpay. Thank you for your help.

Yours sincerely

M Jones

Headteacher

Sandwich Lunch Choice – there is a quick survey to select daily options, over a two week menu. Click [here](#) for the link. Thankyou to everyone who has already completed it. We ask that all parents inform the office of any meal changes.

Sutton Municipal Charities School Uniform Grant Application – is available from the school office for families who are resident in Sutton Coldfield and are in receipt of one of the following benefits: Income Support, Child Tax Credit, Working Tax Credit, Job Seeker's allowance, Employment Support Allowance or Universal Credit. Please return completed forms and copies of proof of benefit to the office by Friday 23rd October 2020



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