



# Pilgrim News



Warwick Crescent, Borstal, Rochester, Kent ME1 3LF

Telephone – 01634 975555

Website – [www.thepilgrimschool.co.uk](http://www.thepilgrimschool.co.uk)

October 2020

## *Proud to be... forever Pilgrim.*

*Jesus said, "I have come in order that you might have life—life in all its fullness."  
(John 10:10).*

*This is the precept upon which our Pilgrim School is founded. We are committed to enabling each member of our community to flourish. Following the role model of Christ, we constantly strive to be His pilgrims.*

Dear Parents / Carers

Your children have been truly amazing this term! They have quickly adapted to classrooms and routines that look rather different at the moment; chairs in rows, lunch eaten in class and one-way systems everywhere. So much has changed and yet as I walk around the school, I see our Pilgrim vision reflected in every child and member of staff as they work together to rebuild our community. We miss being able to come together as a whole school but our virtual worship on Mondays and Fridays have become an important part of our week when we are able to spend time as a school reflecting on God's word and celebrating our different achievements - I am so grateful that worship is still the 'heartbeat' of Pilgrim, beating away beneath everything that goes on.

Thank you so much for your amazing response to our Macmillan Coffee Morning. It was so lovely to see all of the wonderful cakes your children made on each class padlet and your generous donations to support this fantastic charity quite overwhelmed us. I am so pleased to announce that we raised a fantastic £418.55 which has been banked for Macmillan.

We have very much missed being able to invite you all into school for welcome meetings, parent consultations and our weekly celebration worship. Maintaining our contact with you as parents and carers is vital to our work at school, so I hope that those of you with children in years 1 to 6 have been able to take the opportunity to book a phone consultation with your child's class teacher.

The safety and well-being of your family and our staff remains of utmost importance to us and therefore we have decided not to reopen breakfast club or after school clubs during term two. This decision has not been made lightly and, as with all our decisions, will be reviewed and adapted accordingly.

Once again, can I remind everyone that things can change very quickly at the moment and we will continue to use the school website and school app to notify you of arrangements as soon as possible. If you are having difficulty downloading the app onto your phone, please let us know and we will try to help.

As we move towards the end of our first term, I hope you can join me in this prayer for our community:

*Gracious God,  
you call us to fullness of life:  
deliver us from unbelief  
and banish our anxieties*

*with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*

Thank you all for your continuing support.

*Mrs Mepsted*

### **Tag Day - Non-uniform – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October**

We are proud of all that we have achieved as a school in the area of IT – Mr Sverha's hard work with staff and children have enabled us to be one of the few schools in Medway to achieve the IT Quality Mark. However, we are at the stage when many of our laptops need replacing and with school funds being so stretched at the moment; this is a huge challenge for us. We would therefore like to hold a non-uniform day for the children on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October and we would be really grateful if you could make donations which will fund the replacement of our old laptops. In the current climate it is vital that we are able to train your children to access remote learning in case they have to isolate as individuals or a class at any point. We need to have the technology to make this possible. Thank you in advance for your support.

### **Goodbye!**

At the end of this term we will be saying farewell to Miss Everhurst, who is our teaching assistant in year one, as she moves on to another school. We will miss her very much but we want to wish her all the very best as she starts her new job.

### **School Photographs – Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October**

Our school photographer will be in school on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> October to take individual photographs of your children. They will also take photographs of siblings where all children attend Pilgrim. This will all take place within the current social distancing guidelines.

### **Drop Off and Collection Points**

Drop off and collection points will remain the same for term 2.

Please remember to maintain social distances with other households when waiting with your child, keeping away from the road, to ensure everyone's safety.

If you need to notify us of a different adult collecting, please can you do this before 2.30pm as all office staff are out opening the gates at the end of the day – thank you.

### **Allergies**

Just a reminder that we are a 'nut free' school! Home packed lunches should not contain any products with nuts as we have children who suffer with nut allergies. If you haven't already done so, please make sure the office has up-to-date information on any allergies or dietary requirements for your child.

### **Relationships and Sex Education Policy**

From September 2020, all primary schools are required to teach Relationships Education. They will also be required to teach Health Education. Now that our consultation period has finished, the final version of our Relationships and Sex Education Policy is now on our website for you to read:

<https://www.thepilgrimschool.co.uk/our-school/policies>

### **Admission to Secondary School September 2021**

Please note applications for secondary school places opened online on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020. All admissions must be completed by Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020. To register online, go to:

<https://admissions.medway.gov.uk/Synergy/Parents/default.aspx>