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We aim to enable and encourage all those connected with Pendock school to be the best that we can be. By living out our Pride in Pendock values, we strive to inspire children, parents, staff and our wider community to fulfil their potential and enjoy life in all its fullness.

26 January 2024 Newsletter 17

Dear Families,

Another busy week has come to an end and the children have shown bucket loads of perseverance – especially those who have been poorly or have felt under the weather. We're hoping that this round of bugs has run its course and it was fabulous to have nearly the whole school in attendance today.

A gentle reminder that the children need to be in school for 8.45am. This is when lessons or collective worship start.

Thank you to the parents who supported the Neurodiversity information talk on Wednesday. Corrine had a busy day as she led a session with our Y5/6 children, parents and staff. Any feedback on the session would be gratefully received.

We wish Reverend Julie all the best for Sunday as she is to be licensed by Bishop Martin at Castlemorton. She will be overseeing 2 Benefices of 9 churches. No easy feat!

It's been busy in classes; here is a round up from both classes.

### **Class 1 News**

This week the Year 1 and 2 children have completed their story maps for 'Around the World in 80 Days'. Now familiar with the story, we have begun to think about how to describe the settings in the story. In drawing club, the Reception children have been exploring 'Poles Apart' by Jeanne Willis and Jarvis.

In Maths, Pentagons have moved on from money to multiplication and division. We have started this by looking at equal groups. The Hexagons will be finishing their unit on place value at the beginning of next week and starting a unit on addition and subtraction within 20. The Reception children have been focusing on growing 6,7 and 8.

#### Class 2 News

This week class 2 have been improving their writing skills by delving into descriptions of characters and using their inference skills to explain what characters might be feeling.

On Wednesday we welcomed a special visitor who gave a very interesting talk to Year 5 and 6 about Neurodiversity and how everyone's brain works differently. The children gave some fantastic insights and were thoroughly engaged.

In Science, we have been learning all about reflective light and its uses in everyday life. Year 5 and 6 designed and made periscopes while Year 3 and 4 designed reflective book bags.

After a very busy week we look forward to recharging this weekend ready for Monday.















### **Staffing**

Over recent months, we have been delighted to welcome both Mrs Duggins and Miss Johnson to the staff team who are working alongside Mrs Richards, Ms White and Mrs Finch in Class 2. We also have Miss Mackinder working with us within Class 2 until after half term as she continues with her teaching placement.

Miss Chambers, Ms Powell and Mrs Haroun continue to work in Class 1, with the addition of pre-school since January and Mrs Evans continues to lead Early Years and SEND across the school.

We are very sad to announce that, after nearly 17 years here at Pendock, Ms Curnow has decided it's time to move on to pastures new and will be leaving us at half-term. She is a fount of all knowledge having worked here for so long and will be hugely missed.

Please share the link for the vacancy far and wide - <a href="https://www.wmjobs.co.uk/job/186361/school-business-manager-/">https://www.wmjobs.co.uk/job/186361/school-business-manager-/</a>

# Bringing things in from home

Please can you discourage your children from bringing toys and cuddly toys into school. Having them in school increases the risk of them being broken or mis-laid which leads to upset and distress.

There a few children who are bringing Pokemon and football cards in. Currently, the play around these and the sharing/trading of them is going well (on the whole) however, if we start to experience issues, we will ask them to be kept at home. There is no pressure for any child to bring them in.

A gentle reminder, that children need to be wearing the correct clothes for the activities of the day. And they need a water bottle, coat, book bag (including reading diaries and reading books), snack and their lunch.

## **Guitar Lessons**

We are sorry pupils missed out on these this week due to the teacher's illness but Mike Halliday will be making up the session in the final week of this term.

# **Government Tax Free Childcare Service**

If you are using this to pay for wrap around care - <a href="https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare">https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare</a> - please inform the office. Please can you also tell us each time you make a payment and let us know the amount, the date and the reference number as

without this we cannot link your payment to the amounts owed – thank you!

#### **Invoices owing to school**

Wrap around care invoices were emailed out yesterday and catering invoices to December 2023 were emailed today. If you have amounts outstanding, please make arrangements to pay the balance owing via Payments4Schools as soon as possible. Thank you.

## **Family First Magazine**

You might be interested in this online parenting magazine

https://issuu.com/sevenstarmedia/docs/ff\_winter2 024\_digital160124

#### Friends' News

The early bird pricing to enter the Spring Chicken Run finishes at the end of January, so book in now for a discount! Entries at <a href="https://www.runpendock.co.uk">www.runpendock.co.uk</a>. Please like and share our posts on the Friends of Pendock School and Pendock Spring Chicken Run Facebook pages to help us increase our entries.

In advance warning, whilst they are still fairly cheap in the shops, we will be holding a non-school uniform day on Friday 1st March for donations of Easter eggs which we use for prizes on race day on the 17th March.

Wishing you a restful and relaxing weekend, Team Pendock

# **Future Dates for Your Diaries:**

- Half Term 12<sup>th</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> February
- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March Non-uniform day in exchange for Easter egg donations
- Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March World Book Day
- Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March Pendock Spring Chicken Run https://www.entrycentral.com/runpendock
- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March Pupils' last day (Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March is a TED)
- Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April Summer term begins