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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.

23 February 2024 Newsletter 20

Dear Families,

What a wet week it has been to start our second Spring term off – let's hope drier days are around the corner! It's been a good and busy week, with lots happening around the school and the children have adapted back to school life well, settling into routines and working hard.

Our school value for the term is Justice and our collective worship has focussed on understanding what Justice is. Reverend Anthea was very impressed with the children's enthusiasm on Wednesday as they thought about how they can show 'justice' in school through the use of drama and paired/group discussion.

Class 1 have started their new enquiry question – read more about it in Class 1 news and see some of the activities that the children have been doing on Class Dojo!

Class 2 continue with their enquiry question from last term – it was lovely to see some of the children creating a Stone Age 'play' in Class Dojo time!

Thank you for the support with homework so far in Years 5 and 6 – it really is appreciated.

A few back to school reminders:

- The gates open at 8.30am and close at 8.45am with learning/Collective worship and interventions starting at 8.50am. Please can efforts be made for children to be in school by 8.45am to reduce the amount of disruption that we have experienced this week and the latter half of last term. Thank you in advance.
- Please can ALL children have a
 waterproof coat, a change of shoes and
 wellies in school. This is essential so that
 we can safely use the outside space in
 most weathers. This includes
 Wednesday when the children are in
 Forest School clothes.
- Our expectation is that children should wear uniform to school, including for PE, as shown on our website. Where there have been agreed variations, colours should be as close to 'school' colours as possible. If you need any help/support with uniform, FOPS have a second-hand uniform stock which may be of some use. Please let a member of staff know and we can signpost you in the right direction.















- Items coming in from home we try to keep these to a minimum as the likelihood is that things can get lost/broken/cause disruption amongst children. Please discourage your children in bringing things in (unless we have specifically requested them to support in their learning.
- We have talked to the children regarding Pokemon cards this week as, generally, the pleasure of having them in school outweighs the controversies that they can bring. HOWEVER, all the children know that they have to be responsible and fair with them or they will be banned from coming into school.
- This coming Friday (1st March) is a nonschool uniform day in return for Easter eggs. These are used for prizes for the Spring Chicken Run which is just around the corner! There are several deals in supermarkets at the moment – which is useful!

School Clubs

Clubs have started (3) please use the form to sign your child up if you haven't already! https://forms.office.com/e/3GaLhmzxYR

There will be NO performing arts club on Tuesday as we have staff training.

There will be NO clubs the following week as we have parents' evenings.

Class 1 News

This week the Class One children have been introduced to their new enquiry question, 'How did the Great Fire of London get its name?'. The Reception children have been exploring this in drawing club by focusing on 'Toby and the Great Fire of London' by Margaret Nash. Year 1 and 2 became detectives, finding a selection of clues to help them identify the new topic. They thought of a range of key words for each clue, then presented them and solved the mission. In English, we have been looking at non-chronological reports. The children will develop their understanding of non-chronological reports over the term and end by creating their own about the Great Fire of London.

The children have settled back into school well and we are all excited for another lovely half term full of learning.

Class 2 News

After a very wet start back to school we are finally settling back into a routine in Class 2. This week we have enjoyed seeing the results of our homemade natural dyes in our DT lesson, with some surprising (and smelly) coloured fabrics.

Year 5 and 6 have been learning all about Paris in their French lesson while year 3 and 4 have been experimenting with opaque and transparent materials in Science.

It has been a week of persuasion in our English lessons with all year groups exploring different adverts and year 3 and 4 trying their hand at making adverts for toys.

We end the week on a sad note as it is Miss Mackinder's final day with us here at Pendock. We have enjoyed having her in Class 2 and wish her the best of luck with the rest of her teacher training.

World Book Day

World Book Day takes place on Thursday 7th March and we hope you'll join us in celebrating it by supporting the activities that we have chosen to provide.

We support World Book Day as we support the charity's mission in striving to change lives through a love of books and reading.

This year we are basing our celebrations around the book 'The Word Collector' by Peter H Reynolds. We are inviting children to dress up this World Book Day as a word! For example, they can dress all in black and be 'night' or dress in sparkly clothing and be 'sparkly'.

We are very conscious of the cost of living at the moment so we have tailored our activities so there is no requirement to purchase anything additional for one day/celebration. Hopefully, the following activities will be fun and inclusive for all (3)

Our celebrations:

- 1. We encourage you to use things you already have at home to make a creative costume. I am sure we will have fun guessing/collecting words to describe each costume!
- 2. We ask the children to bring in a favourite book from home that we can read it with them and they can share it with other children within the school.
- 3. In school there will be various creative activities such as making bookmarks and decorating words for display.

Access to books

1. Getting a free £1 book for your child is easy — simply take your £1 book token to your nearest bookseller and swap it for a World Book Day £1 book OR use it to get £1 off any ANY book or audiobook costing £2.99 or more. You can find your nearest bookseller at worldbookday.com/participating-retailers 2. We'll also be hosting a very special book swap. Drop off any unwanted books in the box outside on the playground, then come and browse! Please feel free to take something you would like to read, whether you've donated a book or not.

Check out the World Book Day Family Hub for more things to do at home https://www.worldbookday.com/families

We're very much looking forward to celebrating World Book Day, which could not happen without the support of parents and carers – thank you in advance for your support.

Clerk to Governors

The vacancy for the Clerk to Governors is still open. If you know anyone who may be interested, please let them know. https://www.wmjobs.co.uk/job/187933/clerk-to-governors-/

School Business Manager

The vacancy for the School Business Manager is still open – if you know of anyone please let them know.

https://ww3.gloucestershire.gov.uk/schoolvacancies/details.aspx?ID=30819&page=0

Payments Owing to School

Please can you check to see if you have any outstanding payments to school – Wrap Around Care, Catering or Swimming and make any necessary payments as soon as possible. Many thanks in advance.

Friends' News

With the Spring Chicken Run only a few weeks away now, a last reminder that **Friday 1st March is a non-school uniform day in return for chocolate Easter eggs** of any size or make, thank you very much!

We're very pleased to announce that our sponsors for this year's race are Chris Humphreys Firewood and Agricultural Services and Steve Gooch Estate Agents. We're very grateful to both for their support.

We're still looking for volunteers to help us out for a couple of hours after school on Friday 15th March to help us set up, and on race day Sunday 17th March. Please let us know if you can help in any way. Just drop us a message on FOPS@pendockpri.worcs.sch.uk

Lastly, we are asking for **cake donations**, homemade or shop bought, to bring in on **Friday 15th March** and also **half dozen boxes of chicken's eggs if anyone keeps chickens.**Thank you for all your help – it really is appreciated!

Wishing you a restful and relaxing weekend.

Team Pendock

Future Dates for Your Diaries:

- Friday 1st March Non-uniform day in exchange for Easter egg donations
- Wednesday 6th March Parents Evening
- Thursday 7th March Parents Evening
- Thursday 7th March World Book Day
- Sunday 17th March Pendock Spring Chicken Run

https://www.entrycentral.com/runpendock

- Thursday 21st March Pupils' last day (Friday 22nd March is a TED)
- Monday 8th April Summer term begins