

31st March 2017

HAPPY EASTER

As we break up for the Easter holidays we would like to wish all our families a happy holiday break and we look forward to seeing everyone back in school refreshed and ready to start the Summer Term on Tuesday 18th April.

Well done to all our pupils for working so hard during the Spring term. Thank you also to all our volunteers who have helped with swimming lessons, school trips, reading and helping in the classroom – we really do appreciate your help. Thank you!



School Meals – Price increase

A reminder that school meal prices will rise after the Easter holidays. Hertfordshire Catering Ltd, who provide our school meals, recently announced that they are raising the cost of school meals after the Easter holidays due to the introduction of the National Living Wage and Apprenticeship Levy as well as pension cost increases.

In agreement with other local primary heads we will charge £2.30 for meals for the summer term increasing to £2.40 in the autumn term. Reception and Key Stage 1 pupils are still entitled to Universal Infant Free School Meals.

Anyone who may be entitled to Free School Meals, please speak to the school office or visit:
<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals>

Red Nose Day

Thank you to everyone who donated to our non-uniform fundraiser for Comic Relief last Friday. A total amount of £126 was raised.



Sainsbury's Vouchers

Thank you to everyone who is collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers. The vouchers end on 25th April 2017. Please remember to bring vouchers into school after the holidays so that we can start counting ready to 'purchase' new PE resources.

Spare Socks

Mrs Perry in Class 1 would be grateful to receive any donations of spare socks!

Mrs Webb's Diary Dates

It is expected that Mrs Webb will be at Pirton School at the following times during the two weeks after the Easter holidays.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|
| Tuesday 18 th April | morning |
| Wednesday 19 th April | morning |
| Friday 21 st April | all day |
| Monday 24 th April | afternoon |
| Tuesday 25 th April | morning |
| Friday 28 th April | all day |

Summer Term Learning Muscle

As we start the summer term all our classes will focus on being **Reflective**.

This involves continuing to improve and review our work, being prepared to try new things, taking risks and learning from our mistakes, feeling proud of our achievements and those of others, and looking at different ways of tackling a task.



Parent Information Meetings – Summer Term

The times and dates of the Summer Term Parent Information sessions are set out below. The purpose of these sessions is to provide parents and carers with more detailed information about the requirements for the forthcoming term and expectations for the class, to be able to share some of the teaching strategies that will be used and to explain how you can help develop these further at home. The sessions will be held in the respective classrooms.



- Class 1** – 3pm Tuesday 25th April
- Class 2** – 3pm Wednesday 26th April
- Class 3** – 3pm Thursday 27th April
- Class 4** – 3pm Friday 28th April
- Class 5** – 3pm Monday 24th April

Our Values

The DfE (Department for Education) requires schools to promote the fundamental values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Each month we launch a topic linked to one of these values in a school assembly and this feeds into our PHSCE lessons as well as other areas of our curriculum and are embedded in our daily practice.

April's value will be **Pride**. This links to our Learning Muscle of being reflective and being proud of our achievements and those of others.



PSA Bag2School Collection

Blue Bag2School collection bags have been sent home this week. Bags should be placed near the double gates in the turning circle on the morning of Wednesday 26 April by 9am. The bags are normally weighed and collected shortly after school drop off time.

With the warm weather upon us, now is a good time to sort out your summer wardrobe and pass on any unwanted winter clothes. Black bin liners can also be used if you need additional bags. Thank you for your support.

Bronze Award Celebrations!

Well done to Classes 2 and 3 who have achieved their whole class bronze award success. As a reward both classes celebrated with a Pyjama Party!



Hitchin Foodbank

We have been asked to pass on the thanks of the local Foodbank to any parents who have contributed to their collections. Their recent newsletter is attached for information. Any donations can continue to be handed into the school office.

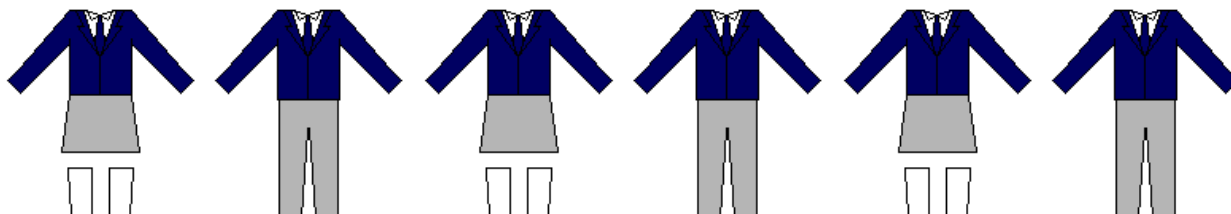
School Uniform

As the warm summer weather approaches we would like to remind parents about our school uniform requirements.

All pupils should wear shoes, **not trainers**, in black, brown or blue. During the summer months children may also wear sandals, with socks, within this colour scheme and with the additional option of white. Sandals must be sturdy, low heeled and securely fitted around the ankle and the toe. 'Croc' style shoes and flip flops are not considered suitable. Summer blue gingham dresses may be worn over the summer months.

We recommend children still come to school with a coat even in the nice weather as when it rains we still have outdoor playtimes. All children will need a pair of trainers for outside PE and may be encouraged to use these if playing on the field at break and lunchtimes, particularly if the ground is muddy. We would recommend that PE kit is left in school so that it is available at all times. PE can be taken home occasionally for washing.

A reminder too that jewellery is not allowed, other than watches and stud earrings which must be removed or taped up for PE. The school cannot take any responsibility for any lost items. Hair bands and accessories should be in the school colours.



Playground Safety

Can we politely remind parents that the school field and play equipment are out of bounds to school children and younger siblings both before and after school. Also that bikes, scooters and footballs are not allowed on the playground.

Can parents please make sure their children remain on the tarmac area of the playground before being welcomed into school by their class teachers in the morning and again at home time. We value your support in helping to keep the school a safe and enjoyable environment for everyone.

1st Pirton Rainbows and Brownies

We have been asked to pass on the following information from the Pirton Rainbows and Brownies:

Rainbows is for girls aged 5 and 6, Brownies for girls aged 7, 8 and 9. We meet in the Pirton School Hall and have lots of fun playing games, making things and completing badges. The latest badge was The Faraway Tree Challenge, based on the books by Enid Blyton. Our next challenge badge will be all about Mexico and has been created by a young leader from Hitchin who is raising funds to visit the Girlguiding centre in Mexico. We also celebrate events such as Pancake Day, have the opportunity to join Hitchin District events and have end-of-term parties! If your daughter is interested in coming to see what we do or you would like to add her name to the 'waiting to be old enough' list, then please contact me at lauraforgham@btinternet.com or 07778 427762.

Threadworms

Several families have reported outbreaks of threadworms. Please be vigilant and treat your child if necessary. Although uncomfortable, there is nothing harmful about threadworms. Over the counter treatments can easily be purchased from local pharmacies.

Attention Year 6 Parents!

You are invited to go along to The Fox pub at 8pm on Friday 21st April to discuss the Year 6 Leavers' party / year book / hoodies. The idea is to brainstorm over a few drinks and start planning! For further information, please contact Tania Testa on 01462 711318.

Year 1 Phonics Test – Parent Information Evening

The information evening, for parents of children in Year 1 who will be taking the Phonics Screening Test this summer, will take place on Wednesday 3rd May in Class 2 between 6pm and 7pm. Parents of pupils in Year 2 who did not pass the test last year are also invited to attend this meeting. For more information, please speak to Mrs Herbaut.

Summer Term Clubs and Sports Activities

| | | |
|-----------|---|--|
| Monday | Book Club Key - Stage 2 Rising Stars Activity Club – all ages | lunchtime after school |
| Tuesday | Football Club – Key Stage 2 Running Club – Classes 4 & 5 Orchestra – Key Stage 2 | lunchtime after school after school |
| Wednesday | Chess Club – Key Stage 2 | lunchtime |
| Thursday | Tennis Club – all ages Pom Pom Club – all ages Coding Club – Classes 4 & 5 Gardening Club – Classes 4 & 5 IckleDrama – all ages | lunchtime lunchtime after school after school after school |
| Friday | Football Club – Key Stage 1 Tag Rugby – Classes 4 & 5 Year 6 Maths Booster | lunchtime lunchtime after school |



Summer Term 2017

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| Tuesday 18 th April | First day of Summer Term |
| Wednesday 19 th April | Class 1 swimming starts |
| Wednesday 26 th April | PSA Bags2School collection |
| Monday 1 st May | Bank Holiday – school closed |
| Wednesday 3 rd May | Year 1 Phonics Test info evening for parents 6pm |
| Monday 8 th to Friday 12 th May | KS2 SATS Week |
| Tuesday 23 rd May | Whole school Drama Day |
| Wednesday 24 th May | Class 4 trip to Whipsnade Zoo |
| Friday 26 th May | Inset Day – school closed |
| Monday 29 th May to Friday 2 nd June | Half Term holiday – school closed |
| Monday 5 th June | Inset Day – school closed |
| Monday 12 th to Friday 16 th June | Year 1 Phonics Testing |
| Tuesday 13 th June | Athletics Rally |
| Friday 16 th June | Class photographs |
| Monday 19 th to Friday 23 rd June | Year 6 residential to Isle of Wight |
| Friday 7 th July | Reports to Parents |
| Wednesday 12 th July | Sports Afternoon |
| Thursday 13 th July | Secondary Transfer Day |
| Monday 17 th July | Open Session for Parents re Reports – 3.30 – 5pm |
| Wednesday 19 th July | Reserve Sports Afternoon |
| Friday 21 st July | Leavers' Assembly – 9am End of term |

Term Dates 2017-2018

Autumn Term 2017

Wednesday 30th August – Tuesday 19th December 2017

Half Term: Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October 2017

Occasional Days: Wednesday 30th August, Thursday 31st August, Friday 1st September 2017

INSET Day: Monday 4th September 2017

Occasional Day: Friday 1st December 2017

Spring Term 2018

Wednesday 3rd January – Thursday 29th March 2018

Half Term: Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February 2018

INSET Day: Wednesday 3rd January 2018

Summer Term 2018

Monday 16th April – Friday 27th July 2018

Half Term: Monday 28th May – Friday 1st June 2018

Bank Holiday: Monday 7th May 2018

INSET days: Friday 25th May, Monday 4th June, Wednesday 25th July 2018

Occasional Days: Thursday 26th July, Friday 27th July 2018

School Term Dates for 2018-19 can also be found on the following link:

<http://www.hertsdirect.org/services/edlearn/schlfe/termdates/>