

Mrs Fenner and all the staff would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year



A very big thank you from all the staff for presents received this Christmas. The boxes of biscuits and chocolates in the staffroom have kept staff going during our busy Christmas festivities. Many thanks from everyone!

A message from Mrs Fenner

A huge thank you to parents for your continuous support throughout the Autumn Term. It has been a pleasure to meet so many more parents and adults in and around school. I look forward to continuing this partnership in the Spring Term.

**Merry
Christmas**

Class Names

In consultation with School Council we have agreed to change the names of our five classes. These changes will take place from January and we were very excited when the new door signs arrived earlier today. School Council decided on naming the classes after birds which can be found around Pirton. The birds grow in size as they move up the school from little wrens to wise old owls with cheeky robins, busy swifts and clever kestrels in between!!

So Class 1 become Wrens, Class 2 Robins, Class 3 Swifts, Class 4 Kestrels and Class 5 Owls.

School Charity Donations

A big thank you to everyone who contributed to the retiring collections after this year's Christmas Concerts. The wonderful amount of £597 was raised which will be shared between Blue Cross (Kimpton), NSPCC and WaterAid.

Spring Term 2018

We look forward to welcoming pupils back to school on Thursday 4th January 2018.

Spring Term Sport & Activity Clubs

Please see attached letters for information about clubs and activities which will be taking place in the Spring Term.

An exciting new collaboration has been established with Stevenage Football Club Foundation for the remainder of this academic year. A big thank you to Miss McDonald, our PE Coordinator, for pursuing this opportunity.

Parent Information Meetings

The times and dates of Parent Information sessions for the Spring Term are set out below. These sessions provide parents with information about the expectations for the class, share some of the teaching strategies that will be used and explain how you can help develop these further at home. The sessions will be held in the respective classroom

Wrens	Class 1 - 3pm	Monday 8 th January
Robins	Class 2 - 3pm	Wednesday 10 th January
Swifts	Class 3 - 3pm	Thursday 11 th January
Kestrels	Class 4 - 3pm	Friday 12 th January
Owls	Class 5 - 3pm	Tuesday 9 th January



Primary Admissions 2018

The application process for Primary admissions for children born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014 is drawing to a close.

Please make sure you make your application by the closing date deadline of 15th January 2018.

Online applications can be made on www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/admissions.

Class Assemblies

Class Assemblies will take place in the New Year. Parents are invited to attend the assembly of the class in which their children are taking part. All assemblies will start at 9am in the School Hall.

Class 5	Friday 12 th January
Class 4	Friday 19 th January
Class 3	Friday 26 th January
Class 2	Friday 2 nd February
Class 1	Friday 9 th February

Spring Term Parent Evenings – Change of Date

Please note a change of date for our spring term Parent Evenings. They will now take place on Tuesday 6th February from 3.30pm to 6pm and on Thursday 8th February from 5pm to 8pm.

Volunteers

We are always pleased to welcome volunteers to school and our list has grown this term! Thank you to all – from Lunchtime Maths, to Code Club, to classroom readers, to helping with swimming, to name but a few.

If you have a hidden talent and/or time to spare, please let us know.

School Performance Data and Comparison

As many of you are aware, our school performance can be compared against that of other schools, locally and nationally, via www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk. The latest statistics for 2016-17 KS2 data have now been published. This shows pleasing improvements in results for Pirton and we are proud of how we compare with other local schools. There is always room for further improvement and we aim to achieve greater results and progress this academic year. However, we hope that you will celebrate this improved level of success with us, as with your support, your children can reach huge heights that we know they are all capable of achieving.

Mrs Fenner will be holding a parent information meeting, which will outline the progress Pirton School has made recently, the planned next steps and vision for the future, on **Tuesday 16th January 2018 at 9.00am and 6.30pm**. We hope that this will give an opportunity for us to share achievements and also be a chance for you to have any questions answered. We look forward to welcoming you on the day.

Y6 Cohort = 16 children	Level	Herts%	National %	Pirton %	Average scaled score <i>Aim 100+</i>	Average progress Score <i>Aim 0+</i>
Reading	Expected	76	71	81	107 (104 national)	0.81
	Greater Depth	30	25	38		
Writing	Expected	79	76	75	N/A	0.7
	Greater Depth	24	18	38		
Maths	Expected	77	75	75	106 (104 national)	0.07
	Greater Depth	26	23	38		
Grammar, Spelling & Punctuation	Expected	79	77	75	106 (104 national)	N/A
	Greater Depth	34	31	38		
R, W, M combined	Expected	65	61	75		
	Greater Depth	11	9	31		

Key: Represents statistics which are higher than National and Hertfordshire averages.

Flashmob

A big thank you to Mrs Partridge who organised our 'Jingle Bell' orchestra flashmob on the playground yesterday. It was wonderful to see so many enjoying the surprise. Well done to all who took part!



Staff CPD (Continual Professional Development)

During the Autumn Term 2017 staff attended training as listed below. We hope by publishing this information parents are aware of how we continually strive to ensure our staff remain up to date with new initiatives and developments in the education sector and to meet the needs of our individual pupils.

Safeguarding Level 1
RM Finance Online
Safer Recruitment
School Business Manager Briefing
Maths & English Subject Leader Cluster meeting
Assessment Update
NQT (Newly Qualified Teacher) Tutor update
Effective Safeguarding
GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation)
Single Central Record
NESSie Conference (North Herts Emotional Support in Schools Service)
Phase 2-4 Phonics
Moderating Early Years – Securing Starting Points
Emotional Regulation
Paediatric First Aid
PE Coordinator Day
EYFS NQT Induction training (Early Years Foundation Stage)
Analysing EYFS Data
Nailing the SEF (Self-Evaluation Form)
Supporting children to become Effective Writers
Headteacher Seminar
Year 3 and 4 Moderation
Designated Senior Person for Child Protection training
Ofsted Update
Analyse School Performance
SEND Conference (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities)
Autism Education Trust Tier 1 training
SEND briefing
DSP (Designated Senior Person for Child Protection) refresher training
Asbestos refresher training
Planning a Science Week



Spring Term Dates 2018

Wednesday 3 rd January	INSET Day – school closed for pupils
Thursday 4 th January	Spring Term begins
Friday 5 th January	Whole school panto trip to Stevenage
Monday 8 th January	Class 1 Parent Information Meeting – 3pm
Tuesday 9 th January	Class 5 Parent Information Meeting – 3pm
Wednesday 10 th January	Class 3 swimming starts Class 2 Parent Information Meeting – 3pm
Thursday 11 th January	Class 3 Parent Information Meeting – 3pm
Friday 12 th January	Class 5 Assembly – 9am School Hall Class 4 Parent Information Meeting – 3pm
Tuesday 16 th January	Whole School Parent Information Meeting 9am and 6.30pm in the School Hall
Friday 19 th January	Class 4 Assembly
Thursday 25 th January	Class 2 Egyptian Workshop
Wednesday 26 th January	Class 3 Assembly
Friday 2 nd February	Class 2 Assembly
Monday 5 th February	Young Voices Concert (Years 4, 5 & 6), O2 Arena
Tuesday 6 th February	Parent Consultation Meetings – 3.30pm – 6.00pm
Thursday 8 th February	Parent Consultation Meetings – 5pm – 8pm
Friday 9 th February	Class 1 Assembly
Monday 12 th to Friday 16 th February	Half Term holiday – school closed
Wednesday 21 st February	Class 2 swimming starts
Friday 23 rd February	Class 5 visit from a Magistrate
Thursday 1 st March	World Book Day
Monday 5 th March	9-10 Class 5 Maths Morning – parents invited 6.30pm Year 6 SATS Parent Information Meeting
Tuesday 6 th March	9-10 Class 4 Maths Morning – parents invited Class 5 Knex Challenge
Wednesday 7 th March	9-10 Class 3 Maths Morning – parents invited
Thursday 8 th March	9-10 Class 2 Maths Morning – parents invited
Friday 9 th March	9-10 Class 1 Maths Morning – parents invited
Monday 12 th – Friday 16 th March	Cycle Training – Level 1 and Level 2
Friday 23 rd March	PSA Bags2School Clothes Collection Sport Relief
Thursday 29 th March	Last day of term

Summer Term Dates 2018

Monday 16 th April	First day of Summer Term
Wednesday 18 th April	Class 1 swimming starts
Monday 7 th May	Bank Holiday – school closed
Monday 14 th to Friday 18 th May	Year 6 SATS Week
Friday 25 th May	Inset Day – school closed
Monday 28 th May to Friday 1 st June	Half Term holiday – school closed
Monday 4 th June	Inset Day – school closed
Monday 11 th to Friday 15 th June	Year 1 Phonics Testing
Tuesday 12 th June	Athletics Rally
Friday 15 th June	Class photographs
Wednesday 4 th July	Key Stage 2 Performance 2pm and 6.30 pm
Thursday 5 th July	Key Stage 2 Performance 6.30pm
Friday 6 th July	Reports to Parents
Wednesday 11 th July	Sports Afternoon
Thursday 12 th July	Secondary Transfer Day (to be confirmed)
Monday 16 th July	Open Session for Parents re Reports – 3.30 – 5pm
Wednesday 18 th July	Reserve Sports Afternoon
Tuesday 24 th July	Leavers' Assembly – 9am End of term

Term Dates 2017-2018

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