



Happy New Year!

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

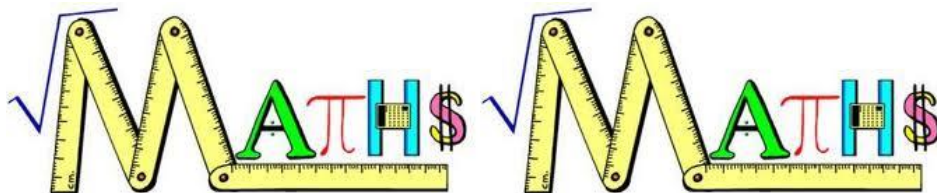
We welcomed the children back into school after the Christmas break and we are looking forward to the remainder of the academic year. We have lots of exciting activities, workshops and trips planned for the coming months.

We are delighted to announce that Mrs MacKellar will be staying with us in Kestrel class until the end of the summer term. We will be saying goodbye to Mrs Herbaut at February half term and are currently in the midst of the recruitment process for her replacement. We will keep you informed of progress.

Curriculum Information and Timetables for the Spring Term

Curriculum letters and timetables for the Spring Term are being distributed with this newsletter. This information will enable parents to see what we will be teaching this term and how the days will be structured. The timetable also allows you to see when the children will need additional equipment such as their PE kits in school.

Maths Mornings



Our diary dates at the end of this newsletter show a schedule of Maths Mornings which will take place in March. This follows feedback from the Parents Maths Evening last term. These sessions will give parents the opportunity to come into school to learn about the maths being studied and also experience a maths lesson with their child. We hope that you can put the dates in your diary.

Parent2Parent

We are excited to announce that a programme for parents, Parent2Parent®, will soon be available for parents at Pirton School. The programme has been developed by Herts for Learning in response to national research which has repeatedly demonstrated that parents and carers are the most influential factor in the long-term academic success of their children.

The Parent2Parent® programme is not designed to challenge or promote any parenting style but shares a number of simple, proven and effective ideas that can be adopted to help your child be the best learner they can be. Parents and carers are offered manageable and practical ways of supporting learning through family life and are shown how making small adjustments to your approach at home could have a huge impact on your child's learning and long-term achievement. It is not focused on the curriculum and homework but on generic learning themes.

The programme runs over a six week period with modules focused on:

- Understanding how our minds work
- Understanding how confidence affects our learning
- Exploring how to model and build positive relationships
- Understanding how we learn and why this is important
- Developing ways to support the growth of our child's talents and skills
- Understanding the importance of thinking

If you are interested in attending or you have any questions Mrs Marsh and Mrs Fenner will be available at the Parent Information sessions on Tuesday 16th January at 9 am or 6.30pm. A representative from Parent2Parent will also be holding a stall at our Parent Consultation meeting on Tuesday 6th February from 3.30 pm in the School Hall. Alternatively you can email or phone Mrs Marsh at school – senco@pirton.herts.sch.uk .

We are looking at running the sessions in the first half of the Summer Term. Please note that spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

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 5 started our series of class assemblies this morning with their topic on World War II. 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 4	Friday 19 th January
Class 3	Friday 26 th January
Class 2	Friday 2 nd February
Class 1	Friday 9 th February

Emergency Contact Numbers

Have you received a new phone for Christmas?

Please make sure that any new mobile phone numbers are passed to the office staff so that our pupil records can be updated.



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.

January's value is JOY. Each month we will have a different focus so watch out for the notice on the entrance door and please discuss these changing values with your children.



Spring Term Parent Consultation 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.

Information was sent home at the beginning of this week. Don't forget to return your slips to the school office so that we can organise time slots.

Change of Date

Fun Day Lunch Menu Thursday 18th January

On Thursday 18th January, Herts Catering have planned a special lunch offering a Kentucky Baked Chicken Burger and Ice Cream Factory treat for dessert.

If your child normally has a school dinner on Thursday, they will automatically receive this meal. If your child, normally has a packed lunch on Thursday, you can opt to take part in this lunch. Leaflets were distributed earlier in the week or please ask at the school office.

Spring Term Dates 2018

Tuesday 16 th January	Whole School Parent Information Meeting 9am and 6.30pm in the School Hall
Friday 19 th January	Class 4 Assembly
Tuesday 23 rd January	Mad Science Assembly
Thursday 25 th January	Class 2 Egyptian Workshop
Friday 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
Tuesday 27 th February	Gordon Craig Theatre workshops – whole school
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 16 th March	Whole school North Herts Sports Partnership Day
Thursday 22 nd March	Classes 3 & 4 trip to Verulamium Museum, St Albans
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