

9 November 2018

World War I Activities

A big thank you to Mrs Fryer who organised and led our WWI activities this week. Also to parents and grandparents who kindly loaned us family medals, photographs and memorabilia to share with the children during their workshops. A further thank you to Mr Jonty Wild for talking to the children and sharing his knowledge of Hertfordshire World War I history. The Morrow family have kindly presented the school with a commemorative Centenary Edition of a newspaper history of World War I – this will be a great resource for the pupils of Pirton School for many years to come. Thank you to everyone!

We ended our week of activities with a commemorative Assembly this morning. Our poppies were on display – see photo below. The village Act of Remembrance will take place at the War Memorial in Crabtree Lane on Sunday morning and Mrs Fenner will be laying a wreath on behalf of the school.



Discovery Zone Reorganisation – Help Needed!

We are still looking for additional help to reorganise the Discovery Zone on Monday afternoon. Any further offers of help would be much appreciated!

Over the summer holidays we moved the library from the school house into the old Class 5 classroom. We have renamed the room our Discovery Zone and we hope to develop it over the coming months. Following the move, the library books need to be rearranged into order.

No DBS is needed, just a willingness to help sort the bookshelves! Tea and biscuits will be provided! Please complete the return slip or speak to the school office if you are able to help.



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.

In November our value is
BRAVERY



Christmas Lunch

We would like all our children to share in our Christmas Lunch which this year will take place on Tuesday 18 December.

If your child normally has a packed lunch on a Tuesday and would like to have a Christmas dinner, the cost will be £2.50

The choice will be turkey and trimmings or a vegetarian option of roast Quorn fillet. Please indicate this preference on the slip attached which should be returned to the school office by **Monday 19 November**.

If your child normally has a school lunch on Tuesday, we will presume that their choice of menu will be turkey (except those children who normally have the vegetarian option) unless you indicate otherwise on the slip below.

Pantomime Trip – Parent Helpers

We may need additional support for the Pantomime trip on Thursday 20 December. If you would like to accompany the trip, please complete the slip below and return to the school office. Please note that you may not be allocated to your child's class but we will do our best to accommodate this. If we receive more offers of help than are needed, names will be drawn from a hat. We will contact you if your help is needed. We will be leaving school shortly after morning registration and will return to school for a late lunch. All volunteers must hold a valid DBS certificate.

Mrs Snell's Art Club

From Tuesday 27 November to Tuesday 18 December Mrs Snell's Art Club will focus on Christmas activities. All year groups are welcome. Places limited to 10 on a first come, first served basis. Please speak to the school office to secure a place.



Sporting Events.

We wish to say a massive thank you to all the support family members have given to our sports clubs, teams and events at Pirton School. Without your ongoing support, the children's participation in all of these activities would not be possible. Whether it is by spectating, organising transport to events or even running training sessions, your dedication, experience and time is truly valued by our children and staff.

Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

Open Morning for Prospective Parents

Our Open Morning for prospective families will take place on Tuesday 27 November between 9am and 11am. Our older pupils will escort families around school and there will be the opportunity to talk to Mrs Fenner at the end of the tour to answer any questions you may have. There is no need to book – just turn up on the morning.

Please pass this information onto family, friends and neighbours who have children due to start school in September 2019.



Christmas Crafts Afternoon

Our Christmas Crafts afternoon is being held on Friday 7 December. We would like to invite parents to come and work with their own child, or others, in a creative way under the direction of the class teacher.

We will make every effort to accommodate your choice of class in which to work, although a spread of volunteers across all classes would be most beneficial and numbers may have to be limited in any one class. Helpers will remain in the allocated class for the whole afternoon to ensure consistency of provision. Unfortunately we are not able to accommodate younger or older siblings at this event.

To enable us to manage the afternoon effectively, please return the reply slip below by **Monday 26 November**.

When arriving for the Craft Afternoon, please sign in at the school office at 1pm. We look forward to sharing the afternoon with you. It is usually great fun!



A Message from Lizzie, Chair of Pirton PTA

A total of £402.65 profit was made at the Bonfire Night BBQ.

“A huge personal thanks for making this event possible goes to Gemma Hennen, Izzy Cooper, Tony Dodd (Sam Winfield’s Dad), Zoe Venn, Owen Graham, Lindsey Parker, Kate Scottow, Greg Lewis, Richard Easterbrook, Tom Park, Richard Sugden, Kirsteen Wilshere and Inese Bokisa. Apologies if I’ve missed anyone, it was very dark!”

Thank you also to the PTA committee and members for arranging the BBQ to raise vital funds for the children at Pirton School.

Primary Admissions 2019

The application process for Primary admissions for children born between 1st September 2014 and 31st August 2015 opened on Monday 5 November 2018.

The closing date deadline is 15 January 2019.

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

Outdoor PE Kit and Uniform

As the colder winter weather commences, a reminder that pupils should have jogging bottoms in their PE kits. PE takes place outside whenever possible over the winter months.

A reminder too that although boots can be worn on the journey to school and in the playground, pupils should change into school shoes in the classroom. Thank you for your support.

Children in Need

On Friday 16 November we will be holding a Children in Need non-uniform day. Children are invited to come to school wearing spotty outfits to support this event. Donations of £1 are recommended for this worthwhile national initiative.



PTA Christmas Card Project

The children produced their Christmas card designs before October half term and these were sent to APfS for processing. We have now received the artwork and ordering instructions. Copies of the designs are being sent home today along with codes for making online orders. The ordering deadline is 16 November and delivery of cards to school will be 29 November.



Working It Out Together

Our next Working It Out Together session will take place on Thursday 22 November at 9am. The topic will be the school website. Mrs Fenner looks forward to receiving parental input to consider whether any amendments or improvements can be made to the website.



World War I Trenches Recipe

During our WWI workshops this week, the children enjoyed tasting a biscuit based on a recipe from the trenches. Thanks go to our Cook, Mrs Pearce, for making the biscuits for us. The children seem keen to try out the recipe at home so here are the instructions! Thanks to Mrs Fryer for supplying us with the recipe.

MILK & BISCUIT PUD - WW1 Trench Adapted Recipe.

Serves 6-8

7oz digestive biscuits

4oz mixed dried fruit and peel

2 x 370g tins condensed milk (plain milk not the new caramel)

You need a 3 pint ungreased baking dish with at least one inch of space around the top. The initial liquid mix will rise during baking and literally needs room to rise.

Crush biscuits finely.

Combine with fruit and peel in baking dish.

Pour the condensed milk over it and stir thoroughly.

Leave to soak for 3 hours.



Bake in preheated oven at 150 degrees for one and a quarter hours or until it is browned on top and looks like a Christmas cake (!).

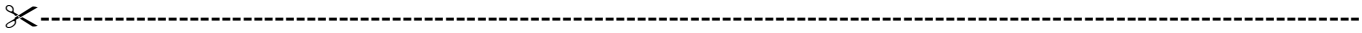
Exhibition

The Herts at War Exhibition
@ The British Schools Museum
41-42 Queen Street, Hitchin, SG4 9TS

Open Fridays & Saturdays 10 - 4pm, & Sundays 2 - 5pm

 LOTTERY FUNDED

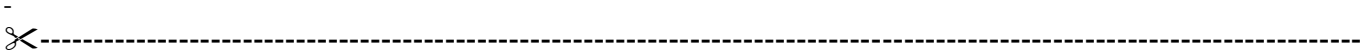


Discovery Zone Reorganisation – Monday 12 November 1pm

Name (s).....

I / We will be able to help with the reorganisation of the Discovery Zone on 12 November.

Signed

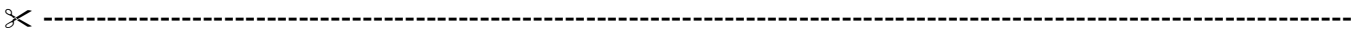


Parent Helpers for Pantomime Trip

Name:

I would like to help with the Pantomime trip on Thursday 20 December.

Signed



Christmas Crafts Afternoon – Friday 7 December

Name of Child Class

Name of Helper

Preferred Class in which to work (Location will stay the same throughout the afternoon)

Alternative Class

Please return slip by Monday 26 November

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Christmas Lunch – Tuesday 18 December

Please complete if your child normally has a packed lunch on Tuesday and would like to join in the Christmas lunch. Those pupils who normally have a school meal on Tuesday will automatically be provided with a Christmas lunch.

I enclose £ (£2.50 per meal – cheques made payable to Herts Catering Ltd).

Name of Child	Turkey and Trimmings	Vegetarian Option Roast Quorn Fillet

Please return slip by Monday 19 November so that catering supplies can be ordered.

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Working It Out Together – School Website

Name:

I will be able to attend the Working It Out Together session on Thursday 22 November at 9am.

Signed

Autumn Term Dates 2018

12-16 November	Anti-Bullying Week
Monday 12 November	Nasal Flu Vaccines YR, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Discovery Zone reorganisation – parent helpers
Tuesday 13 November	NSPCC Assemblies
Monday 19 November	Year 1 and 2 visit to Hitchin British Schools
Thursday 22 November	Working It Out Together – School Website - 9am NSPCC Workshops
Tuesday 27 November	Open Morning for Prospective Parents 9am – 11am Rural Football
Friday 30 November	Occasional Day – school closed
Friday 7 December	Christmas Crafts Afternoon
Tuesday 11 December	Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance – 2.30pm in the School Hall
Wednesday 12 December	Key Stage 1 Christmas Performance – 6.30pm in the School Hall
Tuesday 18 December	Christmas Lunch Key Stage 2 Carol Concert – 2.30pm
Wednesday 19 December	Key Stage 2 Carol Concert – 6.30pm
Thursday 20 December	Whole School Panto visit – Gordon Craig Theatre Children’s Christmas discos 4pm to 7.30pm
Friday 21 December	End of term

Spring Term Dates 2019

Monday 7 January	INSET Day – school closed for pupils
Tuesday 8 January	Spring Term begins
Wednesday 9 January	Class 3 swimming starts
Tuesday 15 January	Primary School Admissions application deadline
Thursday 24 January	Y6 SATS Parent Information Evening
Monday 28 January	Writing Parent Information Evening (at Hexton School)
Wednesday 13 February	Working It Out Together – SEN – 2pm
Monday 18 to Friday 22 February	Half Term holiday – school closed
Tuesday 26 February	Parent Consultation Meetings – 5pm – 8pm
Wednesday 27 February	Class 2 swimming starts
Thursday 28 February	Year 6 Knex Challenge Parent Consultation Meetings – 3.30pm – 6.00pm
Thursday 7 March	World Book Day KS2 Netball competition
Friday 8 March	Class 3 Assembly – 9am
Friday 15 March	Class 4 Assembly – 9am
Friday 22 March	Class 5 Assembly – 9am
Friday 29 March	Class 2 Assembly – 9am
Wednesday 3 April	Year 3 & 4 Performance – 2pm
Thursday 4 April	Year 3 & 4 Performance – 6.30pm
Friday 5 April	Class 1 Assembly End of term

Summer Term Dates 2019

Tuesday 23 April	First day of Summer Term
Wednesday 24 April	Class 1 swimming starts
Monday 6 May	Bank Holiday – school closed
Monday 13 to Friday 17 May	Year 6 SATS Week
Friday 24 May	Inset Day – school closed
Monday 27 to Friday 31 st May	Half Term holiday – school closed
Saturday 8 June	Pirtonfest
Monday 10 to Friday 14 June	Year 1 Phonics Testing
Tuesday 11 June	Rural Athletics
Friday 14 June	Class photographs
Monday 1 to Friday 5 July	Year 6 Residential to the Isle of Wight
Monday 8 July	Year 5 & 6 Performance 2pm
Tuesday 9 July	Year 5 & 6 Performance 6.30pm
Monday 8 to Friday 12 July	Transition Week
Thursday 11 July	Secondary Transfer Day (to be confirmed)
Wednesday 10 July	Sports Afternoon
Friday 12 July	Reports to Parents
Monday 15 July	Open Session for Parents re Reports – 3.30 – 5pm
Wednesday 17 July	Reserve Sports Afternoon
Wednesday 24 July	Leavers' Assembly – 9am End of term

Term Dates 2018-2019

Autumn Term 2018

Monday 3rd September - Friday 21st December 2018

Half Term: Monday 29th October – Friday 2nd November 2018

INSET Day: Monday 3rd September, Tuesday 4th September, Wednesday 5th September

OCCASIONAL Day: Friday 30th November 2018

Spring Term 2019

Monday 7th January – Friday 5th April 2019

Half Term: Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd February 2019

INSET Day: Monday.7th January 2019

Summer Term 2019

Tuesday 23rd April – Wednesday 24th July 2019

Half Term: Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May 2019

Bank Holiday: Monday 6th May 2019

INSET Day: Friday 24th May 2019

School Term Dates for 2019-20 can also be found on the following link:

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