

## Farewell

We will be saying a fond farewell to Mrs Keating at February half term as she leaves us after almost 18 years' service to the school. We wish her well in her new ventures and thank her for all her work with a generation of Pirton children.



## Swifts and Robins Parent Lunch

We were sorry to cancel the Swifts parent lunch last week. This will be rearranged as soon as we are able to fix a new date in the diary. We are hoping that the Robins lunch on Wednesday 12 February will still go ahead. If we need to cancel, we will give as much notice as possible.

## Parking Arrangements

It has been brought to school's attention that there have been a number of 'near misses' in the mornings and afternoons when parents have used the village hall car park. Please could we ask drivers to be aware of pedestrians when crossing the pavement upon entrance and exit and also ask those walking with children to be mindful of vehicles using this area. Thank you.

## Year 6 SATS – Parent Information Evening

Mrs Fenner and Miss McDonald will be holding a SATS Information Evening on Wednesday 26 February at 6pm for the parents of those pupils in our current Year 6. The meeting will be held in Owls classroom.

The meeting will focus on how the tests will be administered, the timetable for the week, how results will be shared with parents and secondary schools and how you can help your child in the run up to the SATs tests in May.



## Discovery Zone Reorganisation

For the past few months staff have been re-organising the discovery zone to make it a more suitable space for group lessons, phonics teaching and the library. Mrs Sexton, Mrs Allen and Mrs Keating have led the way in transforming the room and we are thrilled with the outcome.

Reading is an essential aspect of primary education and the room not only provides a great learning space, it also promotes reading for pleasure and encourages children to read a wider variety of non-fiction books too.

Thank you to all staff who supported this project and we look forward to seeing how it develops over the coming months.

## 2020-21 Term Dates and Inset Days

We have now set our term dates for the 2020-2021 academic year. Details can be found at the end of this newsletter.



## Class Assemblies

Class Assemblies will take place after the February half term break. 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.

Swifts Class 3	Friday 28 February
Kestrels Class 4	Friday 6 March
Owls Class 5	Friday 13 March
Robins Class 2	Friday 20 March
Wrens Class 1	Friday 27 March

## Bags2School

The next Bags2School collection will take place on Thursday 13 February. Collection bags have already been sent home. Please leave bags under the porch at the main school entrance by 9am on the morning of the collection.

If you need additional bags, black bin liners can also be used. Thank you for supporting this PPTA fundraising initiative.

## 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.

February's value is **Love**. 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.



## Reading Workshop

A reminder that a Reading Workshop has been arranged for the evening of Wednesday 5 February. Refreshments will be served at 5.40pm with the workshop commencing at 6pm.

The workshop will be run by Martin Galway who is a Hertfordshire Teaching and Learning Advisor and an expert in primary age reading.



# READING

## Reading Photographs

Don't forget to send in photographs of your children reading at home so that Miss Pidgeon can display them in school. Photos can be sent into school either directly to the class teacher or via the school office.

We look forward to seeing our pupils working hard on their reading skills at home.



## World Book Day

World Book Day takes place on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March and pupils are invited to dress up as a book character on the day and bring in the book which the character relates to

At 5.30pm on the same day pupils are invited back to school in their pyjamas and dressing gown to listen to a bedtime story. We will serve hot chocolate towards the end of the session before children are collected at 6.15pm. Children can be dropped off and collected from the school hall.



## Ickledrama

A big thank you to Valerie from Ickledrama for running a series of drama workshops with our Key Stage 2 children this week. Valerie runs an after school club in the School Hall every Thursday for all ages and we are always delighted when she comes into school to share her love of drama. If your child is interested in joining Ickledrama on Thursdays after school, please contact Valerie direct on 07961 426268 or email on [ickledrama@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:ickledrama@hotmail.co.uk)

## E-Safety Information Meeting for Parents

We have arranged for our Data Protection Officer to give a talk to parents about online safety. In the fast moving world of social media, there is so much to keep aware of. We hope this session will help parents to find out more about how to keep your children safe when using technology. The meeting will take place on Tuesday 17 March at 2.30pm – just before pick up.



## Reading Parent Workshop - Wednesday 5 February

I confirm that I/we are able to attend the Reading Workshop.

Name(s) .....

# Term Dates 2019-2020

## Spring Term 2020

Monday 6 January – Friday 3 April 2020  
Half Term: Monday 17 February – Friday 21 February 2020  
**INSET Day: Monday 6 January 2020**

## Summer Term 2020

Monday 20 April – Tuesday 21 July 2020  
Half Term: Monday 25 May – Friday 29 May 2020  
**Bank Holiday: Friday 8 May 2020**  
**INSET Day: Friday 22 May 2020**  
**INSET Day: Monday 20 July 2020**  
**INSET Day: Tuesday 21 July 2020**

# Term Dates 2020-2021

## Autumn Term 2020

Wednesday 2 September - Friday 18 December 2020  
Half Term: Monday 26 October – Friday 30 October 2020  
**INSET Day: Wednesday 2 September 2020**  
**INSET Day: Thursday 3 September 2020**  
**INSET Day: Friday 4 September 2020**  
**OCCASIONAL Day: Friday 27 November 2020**

## Spring Term 2021

Monday 4 January – Friday 26 March 2021  
Half Term: Monday 15 February – Friday 19 February 2021  
**INSET Day: Monday 4 January 2021**

## Summer Term 2021

Monday 12 April – Thursday 22 July 2021  
Half Term: Monday 31 May – Friday 4 June 2021  
**Bank Holiday: Monday 3 May 2021**  
**INSET Day: Friday 28 May 2021**

## Spring Term Dates 2020

Tuesday 4 February	Young Voices – O2 Arena
Wednesday 5 February	Parent Reading Workshop 5.40pm for 6pm
Friday 7 February	Key Stage 2 trip to Bletchley Park
Monday 10 to Friday 14 February	Feeling Good Week
Tuesday 11 February	Parent Consultation Meetings – 3.30pm – 5.30pm
Wednesday 12 February	Safer Internet Day Robins Parent Lunch 12 noon
Thursday 13 February	Parent Consultation Meetings – 5.00pm – 7.30pm
Monday 17 to Friday 21 February	Half Term holiday – school closed
Wednesday 26 February	Robins swimming starts 6pm Year 6 Parent SATS Information Meeting
Friday 28 February	Swifts Assembly – 9am
Thursday 5 March	World Book Day and Bedtime Story session at 5.30pm
Friday 6 March	Kestrels Assembly – 9am
Monday 9 to Friday 13 March	Cycle Training Sport Relief
Friday 13 March	Owls Assembly – 9am
Tuesday 17 March	Parent E-Safety workshop – 2.30pm
Friday 20 March	Robins Assembly – 9am
Friday 27 March	Wrens Assembly – 9am
Thursday 2 April	Year 3 & 4 Performance – 2pm and 6.30pm
Friday 3 April	End of term

## Summer Term Dates 2020

Monday 20 April	Summer Term begins
Wednesday 22 April	Wrens swimming starts
27 April to 1 May	Arts Week
Thursday 7 May	Knex Challenge – Kestrels and Owls
Friday 8 May	Bank Holiday – school closed
Monday 11 to Friday 14 May	Year 6 SATS Week
Friday 22 May	Inset Day – school closed
Monday 25 to Friday 29 May	Half Term holiday – school closed
Monday 8 to Friday 12 June	Year 1 Phonics Testing
Friday 12 June	Class photographs
w/c 15 June	Year 4 Multiplication Tables tests
Thursday 25 June	Year 5 & 6 Performance 2pm and 6.30pm
Monday 29 June to Friday 3 July	Year 6 Residential to the Isle of Wight
Monday 6 to Friday 10 July	Transition Week
Tuesday 7 July	Sports Afternoon
Thursday 9 July	Secondary Transfer Day
Friday 10 July	Reports to Parents
Monday 13 July	Open Session for Parents re Reports – 3.30 – 5pm
Tuesday 14 July	Reserve Sports Afternoon
Friday 17 July	Leavers' Assembly – 9am End of term
Monday 20 and Tuesday 21 July	Inset Days – school closed

