

Headteacher: Mr Chris Johnson

Tel: 01233 622510

Email: [reception@phoenix-primary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:reception@phoenix-primary.kent.sch.uk)

Web: [www.phoenix-primary.kent.sch.uk](http://www.phoenix-primary.kent.sch.uk)

Twitter: @Phoenix\_Ashford

Owls: 07395 128273

Phoenix Community  
Primary School  
Belmont Road  
Ashford  
Kent  
TN24 9LS



*Creating opportunities  
for everyone*

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020

## Upcoming Events

Below is a quick overview of the events due to take place at school in the next two weeks. Please read the newsletter for further information. If your child is directly involved, then you will receive a separate letter.

Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar	9.00am – Year 4 trip to Kent Life		3.30pm – Rotakids to St Valery's back at 4.45pm
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mar		12.30pm – Year 3 swimming	3.15pm – Free children's books in the hall
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> Mar			1.00pm – Year 5 booster swimming lessons
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> Mar	9.00am World book Day – dress up as a book character		
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> Mar			1.00pm – Road safety assembly Year 3 & 4
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> Mar	9.00am – Year 6 NHS Health questionnaire		
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> Mar		12.30pm – Year 3 swimming	2.15pm – PTA meeting
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> Mar			1.00pm – Year 5 booster swimming lessons
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> Mar			
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> Mar		11.30am – Science workshop Sandwich	
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> Mar	9.00am – House treat		
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> Mar		12.30pm – Year 3 swimming	
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> Mar		11.45am – Option 1 Mothers Day Lunch	1.00pm – Year 5 booster swimming lessons
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> Mar			2.00pm – Cooking club parents invite
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> Mar	9.00am – Mothers Day stall	11.45am – Option 2 Mothers Day Lunch	



# Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer,

We hope you all had a good half-term. We always look forward to Term 4, not least because it includes **World Book Day** celebrations! Fostering a love of reading and quality books is something that is really important to us. We will always include activities on World Book Day to share with children the best children's books out there but we are unashamed that it is also about fun. As Phoenix staff we always try to go along with this and hope pupils will really enjoy our team effort this year (even if not all of us are that keen on our chosen costume!). Don't forget that World Book Day is next Thursday. There will be a book token winner in every class, normally for costumes that are home-made and/or reflect interesting books.

**Online Safety:** I regularly write about concerns regarding keeping pupils safe online. Recently we had a case of a pupil not following the code of conduct and accessing other pupil accounts. As a result some passwords have been changed and this may cause some disruption as pupils learn their new ones. We have gone over the regular lessons about keeping your username and password details private but most importantly we have reiterated that misuse of school technology will result in a ban or very restricted use in school. I would like to thank all parents that helped resolve this issue swiftly.

**Social Media** is something else I write about regularly. I have mentioned before that some in the older year groups have reported problems on Whatsapp and there have been some really unkind things said on these groups amongst older children recently. Encouragingly, some pupils are being more vocal about how leaving the group is the best thing in these circumstances. Please be aware and check what your children are saying if they are using these sites. They are unmoderated and children find it all too easy to say the wrong thing and their comments can escalate extremely quickly and get out of hand. The age limit is 13 so ultimately removing your child/not allowing them on would be the best advice to keep them safe from bullying or from them bullying others.

**Coronavirus/Covid-19:** I have sent a separate letter by email to parents with the latest (rapidly changing) advice on the virus. We will keep you informed of any other updates.

Regards

Chris Johnson,  
Headteacher

## Attendance

Week commencing Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February – Whole school attendance was **95.1%**

Week commencing Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February – Whole school attendance was **97.4%**

Attendance below 95% is a concern to the school and Ofsted. Your child's attendance will fall below 95% after 10 missed days; every 2 weeks of school is 5% so it is vital that your child attends every day.

Please bear in mind that:

- children will have coughs and colds and maybe feel under the weather but if possible please send them to school. If your child deteriorates over the course of the day we will always call you to come and collect them.
- having doctor/dentist appointments first thing in the morning will affect your child's attendance. Please try and arrange any appointments for later in the day or after school.
- the KCC ruling is that NO holiday is to be taken during term time and that penalty notices will be issued to any parent who takes their child on holiday, so please avoid taking your child on holiday during term time.

## Informing school

Informing school of your child's absence and the reasons for this is a parent/carers responsibility. If your child is unable to attend school please ring the school as early as possible and leave a message on the answer phone. If we do not hear from you we have safeguarding responsibilities to follow up and try to ascertain that the child is safe. Where you do not contact the school, it will be recorded as 'unauthorised' absence.

# Newsletter

## Not Late Gate

### Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February – 11 children were late on this day!

Clear evidence shows that being late can:

- Embarrass/Upset your child
- Affect achievement
- Disrupt lessons and the learning of others in class

**10 minutes per day adds up to 6 days lost days of learning a year!**

## World Book Day

World Book Day is on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March. Children are encouraged to come to school dress up as a book or film character. Please feel free to wear a shop bought costume but obviously home made costumes are the best! No money donation is required.

## Free reading books

Children who read at home either alone or to an adult achieve better academically. We are always looking for ways to encourage any kind of reading. On Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March we will have a selection of used reading books on display in the hall for you to come and help yourself too. I cannot express enough how important it is for you to share a book with your child every day.

## Mothers Day Lunch

This year we are offering you a choice of 2 separate dates that you can come and join your child from lunch. If you are unable to attend either date then perhaps Nan or Aunties or Family friend could attend instead!

The choices are:

1. Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March – roast turkey or vegetable cobbler
2. Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March – fish or pizza and chips

Due to the restriction on space each family can attend on ONE date only. Forms have been sent home this week; make sure you return your form and money by **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March**

## NHS hearing and vision test

School nursing will be coming into school on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March to undertake the Year R hearing and vision tests; unless you have opted out with NHS nursing your child will be tested.

## Junior bake off

Love Productions; the company behind The Great British Bake Off are looking for applications for the 6<sup>th</sup> series of Junior Bake Off; a Channel 4 programme that celebrates the culinary talent and ambition of the younger generation in Britain. They are looking for young budding bakers between 9 -15 years old. Filming would take place from July 2020, but applications close on Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2020. Interested bakers can apply online at - [WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK](http://WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK).

## Downe Scout Residential trip

Year 5 (Year 6 in September 2020) will once again be going to Downe Scout Activity in Orpington for their residential trips. They will be going between Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> and Friday 18<sup>th</sup> September. If your Year 5 child would like to attend please ensure you complete the permission slip and return it with the deposit by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March. If you need any assistance with payment please speak to the office to make your own repayment schedule – we do not want any child to miss out .

# Newsletter

## ParentMail

We are in the process of setting up a new way of sending texts and emails to you called ParentMail. You should have received an email recently with the instructions on how to register. You DO NOT need any bank details just your child's name, date of birth and your telephone number. This will soon be our only way of contacting you so please ensure you register as soon as possible.

## PTA

Summer Fayre – Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June. We are looking for any acts to perform in the arena and outside stall holders to attend; if you know of any who maybe interested in coming along please ask them to contact the school.

Mothers Day Stall – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March. Children can bring £1 to school to purchase a gift for a special female; Mum, Nan or Auntie.

Unwanted gifts – if you received any gifts that you are not sure that you we will use but you would like to them to be made use of we would happily accept them from you and find a use for them! All donations can be left at the school office. Thank you

Next meeting – Tuesday 10th March at 2.15pm; all welcome.

## Communication and collaboration

Communication between school and home is vitally important. If you have any issues with anything that happens in school please speak to a member of staff immediately so that we can work together to resolve the issues for you.

The best way for children to learn is for them to be working towards the same expectations and goals both at home and at school. By working together and supporting each other we can provide your child with clear targets.

## PE kit – outdoor

As the weather is getting colder can you please make sure that your child has an outdoor PE kit in school at all times as well as their normal PE kit. They need a sweatshirt and a pair for joggers (any colour). Please make sure everything is clearly named.

## School Uniform

Please ensure your child comes to school in an appropriate school uniform including black school shoes. Children are permitted to wear either black or grey school trousers/shorts/skirts with a plain white polo shirt or a blue and white checked dress for the girls. Please DO NOT send your child to school in leggings or jeans and no trainers.

Wearing the correct school uniform helps children to take pride in their school work and helps with their behaviour. We do have some donated school uniform in the school office if you would like to take a look.

## Owls club

This is available to everyone. This clubs runs from 3.15pm to 5.30pm every night and is available to you as a one-off session or on a regular basis. There is a charge of £5 per child, per night which can be paid via our envelope service at the office. Children will undertake a variety of activities and receive a snack and drink. If you need to use this service please call the office and book your child in.

# Newsletter

## Important dates

Please find below a list of dates for upcoming events at Phoenix for this school year. These dates are only provisional. We will do our best not to change them but unfortunately at school sometimes unexpected things crop up which may mean we will need to amend things. Hopefully you will find this helpful.

Dates are as follows:

Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	World book day (dress up as a character)
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Mothers Day lunch (option 1)
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Mothers Day lunch (option 2)
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Mothers Day stall
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Learning exhibition – parents invited from 2.00pm
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	School closed to children
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	School closed to children
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Class photos
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	School closed to children
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Summer Fete
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Fathers Day lunch
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> June	Transition Into School meeting
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Sports day
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	PTA discos
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 production
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 production
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Learning exhibition – parents invited from 2.00pm

## Term dates

- Term 1 – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September to 18<sup>th</sup> October 2019
- Term 2 – Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October to Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019
- Term 3 – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020
- Term 4 – Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February to Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020
- Term 5 – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April to Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2020
- Term 6 – Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June to Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2020

## House Points

Who will win the house reward this term!

Don't forget you can help your child earn points by ensuring they have a P.E kit in school every day and that they are wearing the correct school uniform and shoes.

