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Phoenix Community  
Primary School  
Belmont Road  
Ashford  
Kent  
TN24 9LS



*Creating opportunities  
for everyone*

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September 2019

## 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 23 <sup>rd</sup> Sept			
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> Sept		12.30pm – Year 6 swimming	2.30pm – PTA meeting (all welcome)
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> Sept	9.00am – Year 3 trip to Dymchurch		
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> Sept			
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> Sept			
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> Sept	9.00am – Year 4 trip to Dymchurch		
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> Oct	9.00am – NHS height and weight Whole school	12.30pm – Year 6 swimming	3.30pm to 5.30pm – Parents evening Year R, 4 & 5 3.30pm to 6.15pm – Cross country
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> Oct	11.15am – Year R Kentish photo		3.30pm to 7.30pm – Parents evening whole school
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> Oct			3.30pm to 5.30pm – Parents evening Year 1, 2, 3 & 6
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> Oct			
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> Oct			
Tuesday 8 <sup>h</sup> Oct		12.30pm – Year 6 swimming	
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> Oct	8.20am – School council to Houses of Parliament		
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> Oct			
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> Oct			



# Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer,

## School Council

Congratulations to our new school council who have just been announced after last week's election. They will begin their roles with a trip to the Houses of Parliament on the 8<sup>th</sup> October. They are:

Year 1: Brae & Freya

Year 2: Harry & Lexie

Year 3: Brooke & Kitty

Year 4: Charlotte & Thomas

Year 5: Robert & Miking

Year 6: Jessica & Bailey

**Not-Late-Gate is back!** Our aim is to have 100% attendance from all pupils as we know fantastic attendance leads to pupils doing better at all points of their schooling. Being on time and ready for learning is one of these important areas. Last year we started our Not-Late-Gate Day where all children on time (8:50am or before) gets a raffle ticket in a draw to win a prize in the following celebration assembly. You will know it is Not-Late-Gate Day if you see Miss Town or myself dressed wearing a onesie!

**Safeguarding:** With a new school year it is always worth talking to your child about how to keep safe to reinforce the message we are giving them in school. Stranger danger is one important part of this and I would urge all parents to regularly discuss this. We teach children that a stranger is someone they don't know, even if they say they know your child or you. Depending on age, giving your child a scenario is often a good way of testing this. For example, someone you don't know approaches you and says your Mum has asked them to pick you up – what would you say or do?

I have been informed that there was some discussion on Facebook about our safeguarding policies in regards to Disclosure and Barring Service Checks (DBS) for visitors. It is important that parents with queries or concerns should come and speak to me directly so I can give them accurate and clear information about our strong safeguarding procedures and policies.

To clarify, individuals in a 'regulated activity' are always DBS checked by the school, for example employees, volunteers and people we contract such as our sports coaches. An activity is 'regulated' if it is carried out frequently (once a week or more) or 4 or more days in a 30 day period.

As a community school there are so many other opportunities we provide to our pupils from visits to retirement homes, inspirational speakers and our planned maths based board games with retirees. In all of these member of staff supervise these activities to safeguard our children and provide great experiences. This is the same as when parents are invited in to events such as learning exhibitions, joint learning with pupils, sports day, mile run and joint lunches. Our community and parental focused events are the heartbeat of our school and vital for our pupils' personal development and happiness at school. To not lose this community spirit in our school it takes staff supervision but also the co-operation of parents, carers and wider family. This is why ask for photos of events (showing other children) to not be shared on social media unless you have that parent's permission or rules such as no mobile phone use in reception which is largely respected in the interests of our children.

If you have any questions please come and ask.

Chris Johnson, Headteacher

# Newsletter

## **Penguins Kentish Express First Class photo**

The Kentish Express will be coming to school on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October to take a photo of the Penguins class as part of their yearly article 'First Class Photo'. Best smiles Penguins!

## **Swimming Year 6**

Eagles will be going swimming every Tuesday until October half term so please ensure they have their swimming things with them.

## **Parents Evening**

It is really important for your child's development that we have the opportunity to discuss your child with you at Parents Evening. There is a choice of 2 different evenings for each class and the appointments last for 10 minutes. Please make sure you make an appointment either via our website or with the school office.

## **Owls club**

This is a service which is on offer to everyone if needed. This club runs from 3.15pm to 5.30p every night and is available to you as a one-off session or on a regular basis if you need this for work reasons etc. There is a charge of £5 per child, per session 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.

## **Year 6 secondary school viewings**

If your child is in Year 6 they will soon need to decide which secondary school they will attend next year. The secondary schools will be offering sessions for you and your child to go and have a viewing.

Available sessions:

Ashford School – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September, Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October, Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November (please call them to make an appointment 01233 625171)

The Lenham School – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> September 5.30pm to 8.00pm (Headteacher talk at 6pm and 7pm)

The Lenham School – Monday 30<sup>th</sup> September, Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October (please call them to make an appointment 01622 858267)

The North School – Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 5.00pm to 8.00pm (Headteacher talk at 5.15pm, 6.15pm and 7.15pm)

The North School – Monday 7<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October (please call them to make an appointment 01233 614600)

If you are going to take your child during school hours please let the office know in advance.

## **Affordable bike sale**

The next 2 affordable bike sales will be held at The Goldwyn School TN23 3BT on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October and Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November between 10am and 1pm. All welcome to attend

## **Aldi stickers**

If you shop in Aldi we are hoping you will be able to help us! From 6 September, when you spend £30 in any Aldi store, you'll receive a special Team GB athlete sticker. If you can bring these into school we will try to complete a poster with 300 stickers to receive a school sports kit, and be entered into a prize draw to hopefully win one of twenty **£20,000 cash prizes!**

# Newsletter

## Communication

Communication between school and home is vitally important for your child's happiness and progress. Email is the main form of communication and so it is important that we have your correct email address. Please ensure you check your emails regularly to ensure you don't miss out on events taking place at school.

Following us on Twitter at @Phoenix\_Ashford or via our website is also a great way of finding out what is happening in school.

## Attendance

Good attendance is extremely important for your child's development. 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. Please check the school policy and guidance for the consequences of taking your child out of school and speak to us before doing so.

## 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.

## PTA

The next PTA meeting will be held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 2.30pm – all welcome.

## Collecting children from after school clubs

To ensure the children's safety can we please ask that when you collect your child from an after school club that you come to main office door so that the member of staff seeing the children out can see you collecting your child.

## 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

# 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 14 <sup>th</sup> November	School photos
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	KS1 Cinema trip
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas fair
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity (1.45pm)
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity (9.30am)
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	PTA discos
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Class photos
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	PTA discos

## House Points

Remember that children can earn house points for displaying any of our six Phoenix Values: Resilience, Collaboration, Courage, Independence, Reflectiveness and Responsibility plus there will a chance to win points by being the best house to show good lining up, completing homework on time and having a P.E kit in school, so you can help your child's house to win! You can now see the weekly updated figures on the website.

