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*Creating opportunities
for everyone*

Friday 22nd November 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 25 th Nov	9.00am – Year R Garden of light trip		
Tuesday 26 th Nov	9.00am – Year 2 parent/child maths session	12.30pm – Year 3 swimming	
Wednesday 27 th Nov	9.30am – PCSO talk to Year 5 and 6		
Thursday 28 th Nov	7.50am – Year 5 Kew Gardens trip		
Friday 29 th Nov			
Monday 2 nd Dec			2.15pm – PTA meeting 3.15pm Rotakids to St Valerys
Tuesday 3 rd Dec	9.00am – Year R parent/child Christmas decoration session	12.30pm – Year 3 swimming	
Wednesday 4 th Dec	9.00am – Year 6 parent/child maths session		2.00pm – Christmas fayre
Thursday 5 th Dec			
Friday 6 th Dec			
Monday 9 th Dec			5.00pm – Carols by Candlelight at Ashford Inter Hotel
Tuesday 10 th Dec	9.00am – Year 1 parent/child Christmas decoration session	12.30pm – Year 3 swimming	
Wednesday 11 th Dec			1.30pm – KS1 Nativity
Thursday 12 th Dec	9.15am – KS1 Nativity		1.00pm – Whole school to St Mary's Church
Friday 13 th Dec			



Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am always really proud of our pupils and this week there has been so many noteworthy events where pupils have demonstrated great amounts of responsibility. Just some to point out are:

- Our School Council and Eco Council met and have some really fantastic ideas as to how they can make the school a better place. Thanks to Miss Turner and Miss Wood for leading this.
- Well done to our new Chair of the School Council Kitty whose speech to bid for the Chairship was one of the most passionate, persuasive and well-thought out that we have ever had.
- Well done to Charlie who has been through a number of football trials and was selected for the Kent Schools FA Under-11 squad from a few hundred players. This is an amazing achievement and we are very proud of you.
- Our Year 5 pupils took responsibility for showing around potential new Year R parents for September 2020. I think our children are our best advert for our happy, caring and fun school and they conducted their tours with a real sense of pride in their school.
- KS1 walked to Cineworld on Wednesday to watch The Grinch and I have had a number of compliments for their behaviour.
- Year 5 pupils (again) were very excited to have some parents visiting to join in with Miss Hills maths lessons. They really enjoyed having those parents that could make it working with them.

Parking continues to be a problem on the streets around the school and my email comments are repeated. Apart from the effect on our neighbours, my biggest worry is the safety of children coming to school. Our local PCSO was monitoring parking today and handing out warning notices. I think it is likely that the Police will visit again and hand out parking fines to people parked on double yellows or especially pavements. Please park legally and if need be, park on surrounding streets and walk to school. Thanks

Chris Johnson, Headteacher

Not Late Gate

Week commencing Monday 18th November – held on Wednesday. **Only 2 children** were late on this day. Well done everyone!

Why do we do it?

It is not just because we like dressing up (although we do!!)

Phoenix Community Primary School believes that arriving at school on time is essential for children to fulfill their potential. We want your child to succeed and be happy and we know that you do too.

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 each year and they miss vital 'early work' that happens every day during registration

Attendance

Week commencing Monday 11th November – whole school attendance **95.6%** - **top class was Robins with 96%**

Week commencing Monday 18th November – whole school attendance **94.3%** - **top class was Pelicans with 97%**

Good attendance is extremely important for your child's development and so it is vital that your child comes to school as much as possible. Please bear in mind that:

Resilience ~ Reflectiveness ~ Independence ~ Collaboration ~ Courage ~ Responsibility

Newsletter

- at this time of year 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. Please check the school policy and guidance for the consequences of taking your child out of school and speak to us before doing so.

KS1 Nativity

There will be 2 performances of this year's KS1 Nativity. Due to the popularity of these performances you will need to obtain tickets in advance. Every family in KS1 is entitled to 3 tickets over the 2 performances. If you need extra tickets you can place your name on a waiting list. Please collect tickets from the office by Friday 29th November. We will be holding a crèche for younger siblings; we would be grateful if you could use this facility so the children can concentrate on their performance without any distractions.

PTA Christmas Fayre

The Christmas Fayre will be held on Thursday 5th December between 2.00pm and 4.00pm so children can be collected at 2.00pm; any children not collected will be kept at school until 3.15pm as normal.

Please collect your child from the classroom and then enter the fayre through the main office where you will find a variety of game stalls ranging from 10p a go to £1 a go as well as Santa's Grotto (which is free!)

If possible we are still looking for donations of any 'unwanted' bottles of wine or prosecco and helpers to run a stall. We are hoping that instead of a few people doing a long session that hopefully we would be able to get a lot of people doing a short session! We are hoping that parents will be able to 'Find a Friend' to share a stall with. The idea being that one parent will run the stall for the first hour while their children go around the fayre with the other parent and their children and then they swap ready for the second hour. This way all parents will get to spend some time with their children as well as helping out. If you are able to 'Find a Friend' and come and help out for an hour or provide us with a bottle please come to the office or speak to Kelly. We would be most grateful.

A lot of work goes into arranging the fayre so hopefully you will be able to attend with your child. The next meeting will be held on Monday 2nd December at 2.15pm.

Christmas dinner and Christmas Jumper day

Both of these events will be taking place on Friday 13th December. Your child does not have to wear a Christmas jumper or t-shirt if they don't want to; and there is no donation needed, this is just a fun event.

If your child is in KS1 or they are entitled to free school meals you do not need to complete a slip for them to have dinner on this day. If you need to pay for a school dinner please ensure you have returned your slip and payment by Friday 7th December.

Children in Need

Thank you for your support again this year. We raised £78.95 on cake sale and £179.86 for dress down.

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 of joggers (any colour). Please make sure everything is clearly named.

Newsletter

Head lice

In order to help prevent the spread of head lice can you please ensure that all long hair is tied up. If you notice any head lice on your child please inform a member of staff so the rest of the class can be informed so they can be on lookout!

Owls club

This is a service which is on offer to everyone if needed. This club runs from 3.15pm to 5.30pm 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.

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.

Term dates

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

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 th December	Christmas fair
Wednesday 11 th December	KS1 Nativity (1.45pm)
Thursday 12 th December	KS1 Nativity (9.30am)
Friday 13 th December	Christmas dinner and Christmas jumper day
Monday 16 th December	Learning exhibition – parents invited from 2.00pm
Thursday 13 th February	PTA discos
Thursday 5 th March	World book day (dress up as a character)
Wednesday 18 th March	Mothers Day lunch (option 1)
Friday 20 th March	Mothers Day lunch (option 2)
Friday 27 th March	Learning exhibition – parents invited from 2.00pm
Friday 22 nd May	Class photos
Saturday 6 th June	Summer Fete
Friday 19 th June	Fathers Day lunch
Thursday 25 th June	Transition Into School meeting
Wednesday 1 st July	Sports day
Thursday 9 th July	PTA discos
Wednesday 15 th July	Year 6 production
Thursday 16 th July	Year 6 production
Friday 17 th July	Learning exhibition – parents invited from 2.00pm

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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.

