

Headteacher: Mr Chris Johnson

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Primary School
Belmont Road
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*Creating opportunities
for everyone*

Friday 24th September 2021

Monday 27 th September	Year 2 French Day	
Tuesday 28 th September	Private music lessons	Year 6 swimming
Wednesday 29 th September	Year 1 Forest School Year 5 & 6 PE	WOW stall at 3.30pm
Thursday 30 th September	Dress down day in exchange for a bottle	
Friday 1 st October	Year 1, 2, 3, 4 PE	
Monday 4 th October		
Tuesday 5 th October	Private music lessons	Year 6 swimming
Wednesday 6 th October	Year 1 Forest School Year 5 & 6 PE	
Thursday 7 th October		PTA AGM 3.30pm
Friday 8 th October	Year 1, 2, 3, 4 PE	
Monday 11 ^h October		
Tuesday 12 th October	Private music lessons	Year 6 swimming
Wednesday 13 th October	Year 1 Forest School Year 5 & 6 PE	
Thursday 14 th October		PTA meeting 2.15pm
Friday 15 th October	Year 1, 2, 3, 4 PE	

School hours

Gates are open between 8.40am and 8.50am. Any child arriving at school after this time will need to enter through the main office. Any child arriving after 9.00am will be recorded as 'unauthorised' and this will affect their overall school attendance for the year and this could lead to a penalty notice being issued.

Dress down day

On Thursday 30th September children can come to school dressed in their own clothes in exchange for a bottle donation for the PTA. This can be a bottle of anything; water, alcohol, shampoo, squash. This will then be used a prize on the tombola at the Christmas Fayre on Friday 3rd December.



Responsibility ~ Courage ~ Collaboration ~ Reflectiveness ~ Independence ~ Resilience

Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer,

Many thanks to all the parents who either came along to parent consultations or had these over the phone. If you haven't had the chance to discuss with your child's teacher how they have settled in and the main targets for the year, please speak to them at school pick up once they have released the children or drop us an email. Many of the messages will have been the same as we know what children need to do to succeed (read, read and read some more!) but also where progress has been hardest hit due to the pandemic and lockdowns. We are getting through it together as a community and filling these gaps.

This is especially true for writing and handwriting and this will be a huge focus throughout the year. Most of you will now have received all your passwords for MyON (reading), Spelling Shed, Purple Mash as well as brand new ones for the Seesaw Family App but also Doodle Maths. Accessing spelling reading and maths programs as part of home learning will really help your child build confidence and catch up so please do get them up and running and ask for help if it doesn't work.

We can no longer use the Seesaw 'Home Learning Codes' that were a great help during lockdown and have purchased 'Seesaw Family App' as part of our overall subscription. The differences are:

- You will need to download the separate [SeeSaw Family App](#) (scroll down to see link)
- You will be able to 'toggle' between all your children from the dashboard (no more logging in and out)
- It works as a window into your child's completed work (You can't post work back)
- It allows you to send positive messages back tagged to their work - the aim is for you to see some of what they are learning but also build more positive praise to boost their self-esteem and their progress
- You can allow up to 10 other family members to access and comment - it may take a little time to check and approve all of these so please bear with us
- Comments only become live once school staff approve them
- Please bear in mind that some work is collaborative and the Seesaw agreement is not to share work identifying other children e.g. on social media. All comments should be positive and constructive

Can I finally say thank you for all the kind comments to staff over the period of Covid but especially the last 3 months. We have had a mammoth task to effectively move the majority of the school and get up and running and learning. I have had parents expressing appreciation about Mr King, the kitchen, the office, teaching staff, pastoral provision and many more. It is very much appreciated. We know we are not perfect but we care about both the well-being and the academic progress of your children and try to be open and honest in everything we do.

Mr Johnson Headteacher

Parent Mail

Since returning to school in September we have experienced some issues with our Parent Mail system and we have been advised this may take some time to correct. Unfortunately, children have NOT been rolled up to their new class; so when booking Parent Evening appointments etc your child will still be under last year's class. It will also mean that we are NOT able to email anything to Penguins class so everything will come home on paper until further notice. We will let you know as soon as this has been correct.

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Year 6 residential trip

If your Year 6 child would like to attend the residential trip to Kingswood between Friday 24th and Sunday 26th June, please ensure you have paid the full deposit by 22nd October 21.

Newsletter

WOW stall

The PTA will be holding a WOW stall (What's on Wednesday) stall on Wednesday 29th September. This is opportunity for the children to spend some of their pocket money on a variety of items. This stall will be held every couple of weeks and items will range from 10p to £1. This is a great way for children to understand the value of money and maybe having to save for the item they really want. This stall will be held outside the front of the school; your support will be really welcome.

PTA AGM

The PTA will be holding their Annual General Meeting in the school hall on Thursday 7th October; anyone who is interested in joining the PTA as either the Chair, Treasurer, Secretary or committee member is invited to come along.

The next meeting is arranged for Thursday 14th October at 2.15pm.

School meals

School meals are provided by an external company The Contract Dining company. As a business they do not offer a credit system and therefore all meals **MUST** be paid for in advance in cash via the main office. If you do not pay for meals in advance they will not be able to provide your child with a meal. Meals cost £2.20 per day and can be taken any days needed (no need to book in advance).

Behaviour System

Our behaviour systems is as below:

- School Council have agreed the 'school rules'
- A universal 'script' is used across the school by all adults for warnings and yellow and red cards. This ensures consistency and reminds children their behaviour is a choice and has consequences and gives them some short thinking time to change their behaviour
- Emails for red cards sent to parents so you are aware the behaviour and can support us at home by working together with us.
- 'Report Cards' for consistent poor behaviour. For those children who have 6 separate days of either red or yellow cards in one term, they will go onto a weekly 'report card'. They will need this card signed by their teacher and House lead adult (red, green, blue & purple team) to confirm positive behaviour before being able to go out to play. This card is signed by parents each evening and will be reviewed at the end of the week. Whilst on report, children will not be eligible for any treats or be able to represent school at events including sports events.

The aim as always is to support pupils to regulate their behaviour and to create that positive work atmosphere that allows children to make good progress. Working in partnership with you is vital for this.

Head lice

As with every school head lice are an ongoing problem. The best advice we can offer is that you brush your child's hair for 5 minutes **every night** with a special designated 'nit comb'. If your child should 'welcome an uninvited guest' during the day, it will take 24 hours before that visitor can lay an egg and so if you brush out that visitor every night then they will not be able to breed. If you could include this as part of your normal daily routine this should soon resolve the issue. You could combine this task with hearing your child read to you; or while you are watching some TV together or while you are just chatting about what they have done during the day. We do have some free combs so please come and get one. Children with visible lice will be sent home to have their hair treated as it can be very uncomfortable for a child but also not fair on their classmates.



Newsletter

Sickness and diarrhoea



In order to keep the amount of sickness and diarrhoea in school to a minimum please ensure that your child remains at home for 48 hours after their last bout of sickness and/or diarrhoea.

Attendance

Attendance is an area that is extremely important both for safeguarding your child and to give them the best chance of succeeding in their school work. Please contact the school via phone or email first thing in the morning with the reason your child is absent including all symptoms they have.

- It is a parent's responsibility to inform the school of absence. Where this is not done, the absence will be recorded as 'unauthorised' in all but exceptional circumstances.
- We have a legal duty to follow up any absence that a parent has not reported for safeguarding reasons
- A child with very low attendance (90% or below) or extended absence (more than 3 days) will need medical evidence for the absence to be authorised.
- Low levels of attendance will be referred to the Local Authority attendance service and may be subject to a Fixed Penalty Notice

Holiday requests/penalty notices

Any request for holiday leave will need to be made in writing to Mr Johnson. Following KCC guidance and the School's Attendance Policy leave will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. Any leave taken without authority will be recorded as G (unauthorised leave). Any leave of 10 sessions (5 days) within a 100 session period will be reported to the KCC Attendance office and will result in a penalty notice being issued. The Penalty Notice gives you the opportunity to pay a penalty fine instead of being prosecuted for the offence of failing to secure your child's regular attendance at school. The amount of the penalty is £120 per parent, per child, but if payment is made by you within 21 days of receipt of the Penalty Notice it will be reduced to £60 per parent, per child. If you pay the penalty within the time limits, no further action will be taken against you in connection with the offence as set out in the notice, i.e. your liability for the offence will be discharged.



Email Communication

Communication between school and home is vitally important for your child's happiness, progress and to ensure you don't miss any event. Email is our main form of communication and so it is important that we have your correct email address. If you need to amend or add a second email address, please either speak to the office or email us on reception@phoenix-primary.kent.sch.uk.

Using Seesaw and following us on Twitter at [@Phoenix_Ashford](https://twitter.com/Phoenix_Ashford) on [Facebook](#) or via our [website](#) is also a great way of finding out what is happening in school. If you have any questions, suggestions or comments for us please feel free to talk to a member of staff on the gate in the morning or email us at reception@phoenix-primary.kent.sch.uk

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.

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| • Thursday 21 st October | PTA disco |
| • Thursday 21 st October | Dress down day in exchange for sweets/biscuits |
| • Friday 22 nd October | Year R Pumpkin picking trip |
| • Thursday 11 th November | Year 6 cinema trip |
| • Friday 12 th November | Flu vaccinations; whole school |
| • Monday 15 th November | Individual photos |
| • Tuesday 16 th November | Year 2, 3, 4 and 5 cinema trip |
| • Friday 19 th November | Year R and 1 cinema trip |
| • Friday 19 th November | Children in Need day |
| • Friday 3 rd December | PTA Christmas Fayre 2-4pm |
| • Tuesday 7 th December | Whole school church visit |
| • Wednesday 8 th December | Afternoon Nativity performance |
| • Friday 10 th December | Morning Nativity performance |
| • Friday 10 th December | Christmas dinner and jumper day |
| • Thursday 23 rd June | Class photo's |
| • Friday 24 th June | Year 6 residential trip to Kingswood |
| • Wednesday 6 th July | Sports day |
| • Friday 8 th July | Musical spectacular |
| • Wednesday 13 th July | Year 6 evening production |
| • Thursday 14 th July | Year 6 evening production |

New Term dates – 2021-22

Term Dates

Term 1 – Friday 3rd September to Friday 22nd October 2021

Term 2 – Monday 1st November to Thursday 16th December 2021

Term 3 – Tuesday 4th January to Thursday 10th February 2022

Term 4 – Monday 21st February to Friday 1st April 2022

Term 5 – Tuesday 19th April to Friday 27th May 2022

Term 6 – Tuesday 7th June to Friday 22nd July 2022

Staff Development Days (Children not in school)

1st and 2nd September 2021

17th December 2021

11th February 2022

6th June 2022



Newsletter

House Captains

Well done to our new house captains;

Red House: Maisy and Marley

Purple House: Mia and Lily

Blue House: Mollie and Anthony

Green house: Fatima and Thomas

They all provided an excellent written application and showed great courage in taking part in a face to face interview. We were really impressed with their ideas and look forward to seeing them embrace the responsibility of this important role.

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.

