

Phoenix Community Primary School

15th September 2023



We would like to welcome all our new Penguins into school. They have all come into school lovely; we hope they are enjoying their first taste of school.

All parents/carers are encouraged to speak to the class teacher or any member of staff on the gate in the mornings if they have any worries or messages for us.

Enjoy the lovely weather this weekend everyone.

Attendance this week

Good attendance is essential to ensure children reach their full potential. Please ensure your child attends daily; any child arriving after 9am will receive one unauthorised session. Any issues with attendance please speak to a member of staff.

Congratulations to all those children who have attended on time, every day this week.

- 25 children in Penguins
- 24 children in Pelicans
- 23 children in Parrots
- 28 children in Robins
- 23 children in Ravens
- 22 children in Flamingos
- 28 children in Eagles

Other news this week:

- **Clubs** – Club allocation letters were sent home this week. Clubs start next week; please note the finish time of all after school clubs is now **4.00pm**.
- **Secondary school applications for Year 6** – If your child is in Year 6 you will need to apply online for a Year 7 space for them at your chosen secondary school. Applications are open now and **MUST** be completed by Tuesday 31st October 23 via this link [Secondary school places - Kent County Council](#). We would suggest that you and your child go and look around all the schools that you are interested in. Dates have been sent to you separately.
- **Calpol/Piriton** – We hold a small amount of these medicines in school for emergencies only. If your child needs medicine please provide this to the office.
- **Weekly Mile** – every Tuesday morning the children will take part in our 'weekly mile run' around the school

If you need to report your child absent please email office@phoenix-primary.kent.sch.uk

Whole School Attendance target is 100%

Whole school attendance:

Year to date: 96.5%

This week: 96.6%

Best Attendance this week is: Robins with 99%

Having 5 days off school a year will take your child's attendance below 97%



grounds. Children can walk or run for the allocated time. Please ensure your child comes to school in their trainers every Tuesday.

- **Uniform** – Please only send your child to school in a plain white polo t-shirt and plain black or grey trousers/shorts/skirts or the girls can wear a blue and white checked dress. What the children wear makes a huge difference to their ability to concentrate and thus their learning.
- **2023-2024 Term dates** – Dates listed below.
- **School dinners** – Just a reminder that school dinners are now £2.53 per child.
- **Breakfast club** – You will need to book pre-book and pay for a space before your child can attend.

Donation uniform

We have donated school uniform in the office. If you can make use of any of these items please come and collect.

Owls club

Owls club is available to everyone. Sessions run from 3.15pm to 5.30pm. Each booked session is £6 per child; this will include a snack and drink. Spaces must be booked and paid for in advance; if you need a space please book ASAP as spaces are limited. To book a space go to 'Accounts' in the main menu on Parent mail.

If you need an 'On the day space' please call the office first to ensure a space is available; then payment can be made via Parent Mail.

When collecting your child from Owls please call the number on the door for assistance; 07955 337459

Any child who is not collected by 3.30pm will be sent to Owls club and this will incur a £7 charge.

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club – open to all every day for £1.75 per child. If your child attends you will need to make payment on Parent mail. You will need to book and pay for a space beforehand.

Free hot bagels with dairy free butter on offer most mornings; make sure you arrive in time to get one!



Diary Dates:

11 th October	Parents meetings
13 th November	Individual photos
13 th December	KS1 Nativity PM
14 th December	KS1 Nativity AM
19 th December	Christmas dinner
21 st December	School closed
5 th January	School closed
24 th May	School closed
26 th June	Sports day
22 nd July	School closed

Yearly House points total:

Well done to **Red** for winning this week

Don't forget to try and do the following over the weekend:

- 10 minutes Doodle maths
- Spelling shed
- 10 minutes reading

Thank you for your support

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ACE Book Shed

We have free books for the children and adults to take home and enjoy in our Ace Book Shed outside the main office. Please feel free to help yourself. Thank you to Ace Sheds for donating this book shed; 01233 822042

<https://www.acesheds.co.uk>

Illness

If your child is ill and unable to come to school please ensure you call the office and leave a message (24-hour answer machine available). If they have a bug (sickness or diarrhoea) which they could pass on to another child they will need to stay at home for 48 hours; if they are sick for any other reason (i.e. headache) they should return to school as soon as they feel well enough.

Holiday requests/penalty notices



All holiday leave requests will need to be made in writing to the Headteacher. Following KCC guidance and the School's Attendance Policy leave will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. Any child whose attendance for the past 12 months is below 95% will be monitored regularly and letters will be sent home. Having 6 days a year off will take your child's attendance below 95%. This will have a negative effect on their learning.

School trips

At Phoenix we like to give the children as many varied learning opportunities as possible and this includes class trips which are only possible because we are lucky enough to have our minibus. Obviously, school trips involve extra costs which puts a strain on the school budget but by having our minibus does mean the cost of all trips at kept at a minimum. However, to allow trips to take place we do have to ask parents/carers for a voluntary contribution towards these events. We understand that times are hard but unfortunately without these contributions we will not be able to provide class trips. Contributions can be paid via Parent mail or by cash at the office and can be made in instalments. If you need a longer period to fulfil the contributions please speak to a member of staff who will arrange this for you. Thank you for your continued support.

PE Kits

Wednesday Year 5 and 6. Friday Year R, 1, 2,3 and 4.

Please ensure that your child comes to school in their PE on their allocated day. **Children need to wear their house PE top, school sweatshirt and plain black joggers/shorts. Earrings must be removed for health and safety purposes. This should happen at home. Our staff are unable to remove or replace earrings.**

Email Communication

All letters and messages will be sent to you via Parent Mail so it is important that we have your correct email address. If you need to amend or add a second email address, please let us know.

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'.

Bybrook Nature Reserve

The Bybrook Nature reserve volunteers meet on the third Saturday of the month. They are looking for new volunteers; if you have some time to spare please go along. For more information please visit their website at bybrooknaturereserve.wordpress.com or email them at friendsofbybrooknaturereserve@gmail.com.

Meeting dates are as follows: 16th September, 21st October and 18th November. All sessions run between 10am and 1pm.

Home learning

This is sent at the end of every week via the Seesaw Family App. Once you sign in you will have a message in your Inbox from the class teacher. Please open the message to see all the homework set i.e. Doodle, Spelling Shed and writing homework.

Each week the class teacher will set writing homework. The writing task will always reflect the skills the children have been learning in class that week.

Your support with this will help your child build on their learning!

School meals

School meals are provided by Contract Dining company. As a business they do not offer credit and therefore all meals MUST be paid for in advance. Meals cost £2.53 per day and can be taken any days needed (no need to book in advance). Any issues with payments please contact them direct on 07908 662878 or email Hilde at hilde-marie.smith@thecontractdiningcompany.co.uk. All lunches need to be ordered by the children with the class teacher in the morning; if your child is in KS1 they are entitled to a free meal.

Term Dates 2023 – 2024

Term 1 – 1st Sept to 20th October 23

Term 2 – 30th October to 21st December 23

Term 3 – 5th January to 9th February 24

Term 4 – 19th February to 28th March 24

Term 5 – 15th April to 24th May 24

Term 6 – 3rd June to 22nd July 24

Staff Development Days (children not in school)

1st September 23

21st December 23

5th January 24

24th May 24

22nd July 24