

# Phoenix Community Primary School

20<sup>th</sup> October 2023



Just a quick note to say thank you for your support in term 1. We have seen some wonderful progress from our children in their reading, writing and maths. The involvement in the foundation curriculum has been superb! We are looking forward to term two being just as, if not more successful.

With the weather changing and the temperature falling, it is important that children arrive at school with the appropriate clothing. We will endeavour to ensure that children are having their break times outside so please make sure that they come with a coat every day. On the days where the children have PE, please send them in wearing their school jumper only. Finally, just a reminder that we do not encourage children to wear jewellery to school. Stud earrings are permitted but have to be removed for PE.

We hope you have a very pleasant half term break and the wet weather doesn't dampen any plans you have.

## 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.

**Attendance this week is an issue; let's work together to improve this next term.**

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

- 24 children in Penguins
- 22 children in Pelicans
- 25 children in Parrots
- 26 children in Robins
- 25 children in Ravens
- 25 children in Flamingos
- 20 children in Eagles

## Other news this week:

- **Packed lunches** – As a healthy school we encourage children to have a healthy packed lunch. Please do not send your child to school with any fizzy drinks/energy drinks, sweets or chocolate bars as these are not permitted.

***If you need to report your child absent please email [office@phoenix-primary.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@phoenix-primary.kent.sch.uk)***

***Whole School Attendance target is 100%***

***Whole school attendance:***

***Year to date: 94.6%***

***This week: 92.3%***

***Best Attendance this week is: Robins with 97.3%  
No other class achieved 97% this week***

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



- **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 31<sup>st</sup> 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.
- **NHS visits** – NHS are coming to school on 5.12.23 to carry out the National Child Measurement Programme for Year R and 6 only. If you do not want your child to take part please make sure you opt out before 3<sup>rd</sup> November 23.
- **No jewellery** – in the interest of safety please ensure that NO child comes to school wearing any type of necklace, bracket or hooped ear-rings.
- **PE kits** – Please ensure that your child comes to school in the correct PE uniform on their PE day. This makes a huge difference to their learning, behaviour and their ability to concentrate. Children need to wear plain black or blue joggers/shorts, their house colour PE top with black trainers.
- **Breakfast club** – in order to ensure the correct supervision of the children in breakfast club it is vital that you pre-book and pay for a space for your child. Children and siblings who attend morning boosters will not have to pay or pre-book a space. As boosters have now started spaces are limited so please book early.
- **Flu vaccinations** – NHS will be visiting school on 3<sup>rd</sup> November to carry out the flu vaccinations. Please ensure you complete the online form via <http://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/imms> before midnight on 30.10.23 to state Yes or No.

### 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.

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



### Diary Dates:

13 <sup>th</sup> November	Individual photos
13 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity PM
14 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity AM
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas dinner
21 <sup>st</sup> December	School closed
5 <sup>th</sup> January	School closed
24 <sup>th</sup> May	School closed
26 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports day
22 <sup>nd</sup> July	School closed

### Yearly House points total:

Blue	1 <sup>st</sup>	3669
Red	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3386
Green	3 <sup>rd</sup>	3250
Purple	4 <sup>th</sup>	3140

Well done to **Blue** 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

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.

If your child attends without pre-booking unfortunately the cost will be £2 per child.

If you have any issues booking please speak to a member of staff.

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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](http://bybrooknaturereserve.wordpress.com) or email them at [friendsofbybrooknaturereserve@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofbybrooknaturereserve@gmail.com).

Meeting dates are as follows: 21<sup>st</sup> October and 18<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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** – 1<sup>st</sup> Sept to 20<sup>th</sup> October 23**Term 2** – 30<sup>th</sup> October to 21<sup>st</sup> December 23**Term 3** – 5<sup>th</sup> January to 9<sup>th</sup> February 24**Term 4** – 19<sup>th</sup> February to 28<sup>th</sup> March 24**Term 5** – 15<sup>th</sup> April to 24<sup>th</sup> May 24**Term 6** – 3<sup>rd</sup> June to 22<sup>nd</sup> July 24**Staff Development Days (children not in school)**1<sup>st</sup> September 2321<sup>st</sup> December 235<sup>th</sup> January 2424<sup>th</sup> May 2422<sup>nd</sup> July 24