

# Phoenix Community Primary School

1<sup>st</sup> December 2023



We will be having a special Christmas visitor on the 15th December at 8:30 am. We would love to invite the younger families in our community to the school from 8:30 am to meet our special visitor and his helpers and have a mince pie. If you have a toddler who would enjoy meeting someone (or something) Christmassy then please pop along and meet us on the 15th.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank the community for all the support they have given the school through-out the year and we wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Phoenix Community Primary School.

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

- Penguins – 37 missed learning sessions this week. 18 children achieved 100% attendance. This is massively down from last week.
- Pelicans - 24 missed learning sessions this week. 20 children achieved 100% attendance. This is a massively down from on last week.
- Parrots – 22 missed learning sessions this week. 18 children achieved 100% attendance. This is a massively down from last week.
- Robins - 4 missed learning sessions this week. 28 children achieved 100% attendance; well done to you. This is a really impressive achievement.
- Ravens - 14 missed learning sessions this week. 21 children achieved 100% attendance. This is down from last week.
- Flamingos - 7 missed learning sessions this week. 23 children achieved 100% attendance. This is a really impressive achievement.
- Eagles - 22 missed learning sessions this week. 23 children achieved 100% attendance. This is down from last week.

***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 94.1%***

***This week; same as last week: 93.6%***

***Best Attendance this week is: Robins with 98.6%***

***Well done to Flamingos for also exceeding 97%***

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

### Other news this week:

- **Year 5 swimming** – swimming has finished for this term. The next swimming session will be on 9<sup>th</sup> January 24.
- **KS1 Nativity** – The children in Penguins, Pelicans and Parrots will be performing their Nativity at 2pm on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December and at 9.30am on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December. We are limited to the number of seats we can get in the hall and so unfortunately, we can only offer 2 seats, per performance, per family. Please book your tickets via Parent mail. Tickets are free however the PTA will be holding a raffle so if you would like to support them please bring £1.
- **Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December** – this is the last day of term. School will finish at 1.30pm; there will be no Owls club this day. Please pick your child up from class as normal.
- **Christmas jumper day** – On 19<sup>th</sup> December children will be allowed to wear a Christmas jumper/t-shirt to school instead of their school sweatshirt. If you have any Christmas jumpers/t-shirts that no longer fit your child and you would like to donate them to school please bring them to the office.
- **Refurbished bike sale** - Just a quick message to let you know that the last Affordable Refurbished Bicycle sale of 2023 is this Saturday (2nd December), 10-1 Goldwyn School (TN23 3BT). Plenty of clean, fully serviced bikes in most sizes - just in time for Xmas!
- **Clubs** – next week will be the last club sessions for this term however there will be NO drama club on Wednesday or dance club on Thursday.

- **Christmas fair** – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December from 2pm onwards. Please collect your child from the classroom at 2pm. Any child not collected at this time will be taken to Year R and you will need to collect from there.
- **KCC attendance officer visit** – we recently had a visit from Sue Davies our KCC attendance officer to discuss why the whole school attendance is so low. We are hoping that we can all pull together to increase the attendance before her next visit. If you have any issues around attendance please speak to a member of staff immediately so we can work together to overcome them.
- **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.
- **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.



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



### *Diary Dates:*

5 <sup>th</sup> December	NHS vision and NCMP visit
6 <sup>th</sup> December	The Nutcracker trip
7 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3 Roman Museum trip
11 <sup>th</sup> December	NO SWIMMING
13 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity PM
14 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity AM
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Special visitors
18 <sup>th</sup> December	Year2-6 Church visit
19 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas dinner
19 <sup>th</sup> December	NO SWIMMING
20 <sup>th</sup> December	School closes at 1.30pm
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:**

<b>Blue</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>6288</b>
<b>Red</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>6014</b>
<b>Green</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>5737</b>
<b>Purple</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5516</b>

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

- **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.

### 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.

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.

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

### PTA (Parent Teacher Association)

The next meeting will be held in January; date and time to be confirmed.

### Donation uniform

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

### Follow us on Instagram



### Or Facebook



### 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'.

### 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 23

21<sup>st</sup> December 23

5<sup>th</sup> January 24

24<sup>th</sup> May 24

22<sup>nd</sup> July 24