

# THE PAKEMAN PRESS



**Pakeman  
Primary  
School**

**Thank you for taking the time to read this weekly newsletter. We hope you will find its contents useful.**

Issue 10, Autumn Term 2018

Friday 23rd November 2018

## Dear Parents/Carers

### Playground Meeting for Parents

Thank you to all the parents/carers who came to the meeting with Michael Follett from OPAL on Monday to find out about our exciting new playground initiative. It is fantastic to know that so many of you support this project. For those who missed the meeting, the following points explain the rationale of the Opal initiative.

- Research shows that play contributes to children's physical and emotional health, as well as their learning and enjoyment of school.
- Playtimes make up 20% of children's school experience and need a strategic and well-planned approach.
- Well planned playtimes can help to reduce the amount of playtime-related behaviour issues throughout the school and make children happier.
- Improved playtimes result in happier, more creative, and well exercised children who settle into class much more quickly.
- OPAL is founded on the principles and values of play work, where the role of the adults is to understand, celebrate, resource, nurture and support the play process.
- Lastly, play is a human need and all children have the right to play!

We are constantly adding new play items to the playground, so a big thank you to everyone who has so far donated toys, books and other resources. Please keep on bringing in any toys or other items that you think the children would enjoy.

Finally, please look out for your invitation to come into school and play with the children and experience the new playground for yourselves. We look forward to seeing you there!

## Important Information about Medicines in School

If your child has an asthma pump in school and is **diagnosed** with asthma you must have a yearly appointment with your GP/asthma nurse at the surgery to check that their needs have not changed. It is the responsibility of parents to get this check done and to let the school know if there are any changes to your child's asthma medication or the dosage they take.

We check medication is in date and if we find it is out of date we will try to call you to ask you to replace it, but it is the responsibility of parents/carers to provide up to date medication for their children. This includes Epi pens/auto injectors and any other emergency medication.

If you need any further information please come into the school office and speak to Ann or Estelle.

### Cinema Trip

All the children in Years 1 to 6 were treated to a trip to the cinema on Monday to see Peter Rabbit. They were absolutely delighted and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. EYFS watched the film in school and they loved it!

### Winter Reading Challenge

Islington Libraries are running a Winter Reading Challenge for children aged 4-11. It involves reading 6 books between 1st December and 28th February for some cool stickers, a certificate and the chance to win a prize. For more activities taking place in Islington libraries, please visit [www.islington.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.islington.gov.uk/libraries) or follow them on @islingtonlibs.



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### Ideas to support behaviour issues

A 5-week course for parents/carers of EYFS children on Tuesdays 9.05-11.15am starting Tuesday 6th November

### Parents' Evening

Tuesday 27th November

### Christmas Fair

Tuesday 4th December after school

### Christmas Production

13th December pm  
14th December am and pm

### EYFS Nativity

21st December am

### Last day of Term

Friday 21st December

**Please note that holidays are not authorised during term time. Unauthorised holidays could result in a penalty charge being issued to each parent with parental responsibility.**

## P4C QUESTION

Discuss this question at home, sharing your thoughts and ideas:

**Is it better to be a big fish in a small pond or a small fish in a big pond?**

## BEST OF THE OSCARS

**Maryama  
(Pink Class) for  
outstanding effort  
both in and out of  
class**



**Last week's best classes for attendance and punctuality**

Year Group	Best Attendance	Most improved Attendance	Best Punctuality
EYFS & KS1	Crimson	Crimson	Green
KS2	Pink	Orange	Pink & Blue

**Word of the week**

**Thrive**

**Definition:** to grow or develop well

Use of the word **thrive** in a sentence:

Plants cannot **thrive** without water and sunlight.

**Year 3/4 RE**

In RE Years 3 and 4 have been learning about different religious figures and celebrations. This week they have been learning about Sikhism and the life of Guru Nanak. Last week, they studied the Hindu festival of light, Diwali and created special Rangoli patterns using salt, cous cous and lentils. During Diwali, Hindus put Rangoli patterns outside their homes as a sign of welcome.



**Barclays**

A huge thank you to Barclays' 25-person strong Business Services team (Corporate Banking) who spent last Friday here for a MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY, which is part of their citizenship commitment programme ... and what a fantastic difference they made to us here at Pakeman! The team worked fantastically together, doing several useful jobs, including painting the Lodge and the football pitch, weeding the garden at the front of the school, tidying the Lodge's games cupboard and laminating documents. Thank you so much to Sulthana, one of our lovely parents, who works for Barclays and coordinated the event, and to Emma, Steve and Lynne.

