

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 4, Spring Term 2019

Friday 8th February 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

Soft Start

Our Soft Start to the day, introduced in September 2018, has made several really positive differences. It has resulted in a calmer and more relaxed start to the school day for everyone, removed congestion in the entrances, halls and on the stairs. It has helped children to develop greater independence in their behaviour and given them the opportunity to work on a range of activities to build on and embed their learning. In addition, learning now starts promptly at 9.00am, as the children have already been registered and are ready in their classrooms.

The playground opens at 8.30am and parents/carers are welcome to bring their children and wait with them in the playground from this time. **However, please can we remind parents/carers that soft start begins at 8.45am and children MUST NOT be left in the playground before this time.**

Parents/carers can only leave children earlier than 8.45am, if they are 4 years or older **AND** going to Breakfast club in the Lodge. Breakfast Club starts at 8.00am each morning and your child must be registered to attend.

Attendance and Punctuality

All the education research shows that attendance and punctuality are vital to children's education outcomes. So, please ensure that your child attends school regularly and on time.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT NUT ALLERGIES

Please DO NOT send nuts or food containing nuts into school with your child. We have a number of children with nut allergies and nuts pose a serious health risk to them.

Please can we remind parents/carers that while they can take photographs and record videos of their children during our assemblies, school productions, nativity and other school events, they MUST NOT post any images or video content onto any form of social media.

2+ Centre Places available for April 2019 intake

We have morning and afternoon places currently available in our fun, exciting and nurturing 2+ centre for children born between:

1st January and 31st March 2017

Places are allocated on a first come first served basis. If you would like to apply for one of these places for your child, then please firstly check your eligibility on the Islington Council website under Admissions. Once you have a letter confirming your eligibility, then please contact Ann in the school office on 020 7607 2575 or email her at adwyer@pakeman.islington.sch.uk



Chinese New Year

Thank you to Vida and all the lovely kitchen team (see below) who treated the children to a fantastic special menu for Chinese New Year yesterday. The Chinese-inspired menu was beef in black bean sauce with sticky rice, BBQ vegetable quorn with sticky rice, vegetable spring rolls followed by banana cake with cinnamon syrup. The food was so tasty and children absolutely loved the dinner and the occasion.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Last day of Half-Term

Friday 15th February

First day back at school

Monday 25th February

World Book Day

Thursday 7th March

Parents Evening

Thursday 28th March (until 7pm)

Tuesday 2nd April (until 5pm)

Nursery Consultation Day

Monday 1st April

Reception Consultation Day

Friday 5th April

Last day of Term

Friday 5th April

First day of Summer Term

Tuesday 23rd April

May Day Bank Holiday

Monday 6th May

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 everything in the world connected?

BEST OF THE OSCARS

Michael (Brown Class) for always being helpful in the playground



Last week's best classes for attendance and punctuality

Year Group	Best Attendance	Most improved Attendance	Best Punctuality
EYFS & KS1	Crimson	<95%	Over 3 lates
KS2	<95%	<95%	Pink

Word of the week

Conurbation

Definition: an extended urban area, typically consisting of several towns merging with the suburbs of a central city

Use of the word *conurbation* in a sentence:

The West Midlands conurbation includes the cities of Birmingham and Wolverhampton and the large towns of Sutton Coldfield, Dudley, Walsall, West Bromwich, Solihull, Stourbridge, and Halesowen.

Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 5th February was Safer Internet Day and this year it focused on how consent works in an online context, in terms of giving and receiving consent online in friendships, how children take and share images and videos and how they manage their privacy and data. There was lots of discussion in the classrooms about staying safe online. In addition, using laptops and iPads, the children took part in various Internet activities during the day, using some of the resources available on:

www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/young-people/resources-3-11s, including films, storybooks fun sites and lots of other resources, which you and your children can also access. Years 1/2 and 5/6 also took part in a 'Now Press Play' online safety experience, while Years 3/4 enjoyed a drama activity.



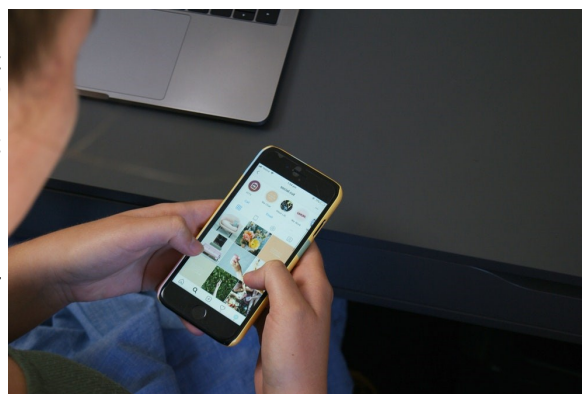
Limitless Possibilities

We have a brilliant new display on one of the boards on the stairs which is called Limitless Possibilities. What this shows is the number of hugely successful people who have various conditions. For example, did you know that Einstein, who developed the theory of relativity, was autistic? Did you know that Michael Phelps, the most successful Olympian of all time has ADHD? Did you know that the entrepreneur and highly successful businessman, Richard Branson has dyslexia? What this tells us is that there are no limits to what children can achieve. All children have talents and the capacity to learn, and what they all need is nurturing and encouragement to learn and develop to fulfil their potential.



Children's Mobile Phones

We understand parents/carers allowing their child to bring a mobile phone to school if they walk to and from school without adult supervision. However, no other pupils should bring mobile phones to school due to potential problems, such as loss, theft or bullying, arising from this. When a child needs to bring a phone into school it must be left in the school office at the start of the day and collected at the end of the day. Children should not bring any earphones into school because they pose a risk of children not paying attention to traffic and what is going on around them. Parents/carers are advised that Pakeman Primary School accepts no liability for the loss or damage to mobile phones which are brought into school or school grounds. If any pupil is found by a member of staff to be using a mobile phone during the school day, the phone will be confiscated from the pupil and kept in the school office. The parents/carers will be informed and disciplinary action will be taken in line with our Behaviour Policy. The child will be able to collect the phone from the school office at the end of the day, but if this happens again, the school will confiscate the phone until their parent/carer collects the phone from a senior teacher.



Perform workshops

On Wednesday the performing arts school, 'Perform', came into school and provided EYFS and KS1 with free drama workshops around the theme of 'Heroes'. If you are interested in your child having drama or dance lessons outside school, Perform is currently offering a free trial session and a **special introductory discount of £40 for children at Pakeman Primary School** if they sign up by Tuesday 7th May. Parents should quote PSKD070519 when they book their free session by going to perform.org.uk/try. You can call 020 7255 9120 to find out the price of classes and there is also some information available at perform.org.uk/try.