

Aspire - Believe - Achieve

Pucklechurch CEVC Primary School
PUCKLECHURCH NEWS

Issued weekly
Email: admin@pucklechurchprimary.org.uk
www.pucklechurchprimary.org.uk

28 April 2023
Issue 172

Dear Parents/ Carers,

One of our recent reviews in school has been around the way we communicate with parents about your child and we wanted to let you know some of the key avenues we use.

Learning meetings take place in terms 2, 4 and 6. These are important times to meet with your child's teacher to discuss progress across the curriculum, your child's social and emotional development but also an opportunity to raise any concerns. We also produce a one page report from these meetings which will be e-mailed out to you shortly after the meeting.

Parent workshops run throughout the year which are focussed around learning. These normally entail parents learning about the curriculum and how we operate in school followed by some time being spent in class with your child.

For children who qualify for Pupil Premium, our vulnerable groups TA will run sessions for them throughout the year focussed on pastoral well-being. She will regularly call to check in which provides an opportunity to raise any worries or concerns.

Teachers are happy to meet for informal conversations as the need arises. They should always be your first point of contact if you are concerned over something or want to let them know about something.

Teachers will call you if they want to have a more private conversation or they haven't been able to catch you at the end of the day to update you. If needed, they are happy to have meetings with you to discuss things in more detail. They will also send emails celebrating positives that have occurred.

The school newsletter comes out every week and is emailed along with being put on the school website. We try to put useful information in this that will help with everyone's busy lives.

We run a closed facebook account for parents which serves to show what has been happening within the school week.

My Support plans are in place for some children and teachers meet with parents throughout the year to review those and ensure parents are happy and understand the support in place as well as add their perspective to their child's progress.

Letters regarding trips, or whole school closures etc... will be sent out via email. It is important that we always have your up to date contact details.

Text messages are sent out as a reminder of key activities such as trips or non-school uniform days.

Our website is a huge source of information. It details PE days for the children along with the medium term plans for the term (which we are also emailing out to you) so that you can see what your child is learning. There are also subject specific pages which explain how we operate within the curriculum, along with many other useful sources of information.

If you have any other ideas that you would find useful, please do let us know. We are always keen to discuss any issues or concerns face-to-face so they can be readily understood and resolved promptly.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Capel



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Term 5 dates

1st May – Bank Holiday
5th May – Coronation Celebrations 230pm
8th May – King's Coronation Bank Holiday
WC 9th May – KS2 Sats
WC 15th May – KS1 Sats
18th May – School Census day – Please book a meal
24th May – Writing workshop for parents 9am-10am
26th May – End of term

Term 6 dates

5th June – Start of Term 6
14th June – King trip to Underfall Yard
15th June – MaD Olympiad
16th June – Newton trip to Living Rainforest
19th June – EYFS/KS1 trip to Noah's Ark
21st June – Sports day
WC 26th June – Learning Meetings week
12th July – King Performance to parents 13.30
13th July – King Performance to parents 9.00
20th July – Year 6 leavers service at the church
20th July – End of term 6

Class Attendance

Seacole CD – 95.6%
Armstrong SD – 95.4%
Armstrong MN – 93.7%
Newton RF – 93.6%
Newton JB – 94.4%
Newton LB – 94.4%
King IJ – 94.5%
King AB – 95.8%

Attendance



Parking

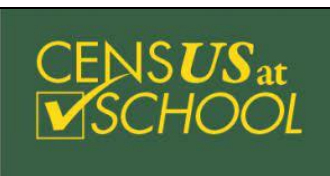
We have been contacted by the Road Safety team, along with some parents to say that unfortunately people are still not parking safely around our school. A reminder that it is illegal to park on double yellow lines and is clearly not safe for our community. We do speak to anyone who we are made aware of parking illegally. If you notice car parking illegally you can report it by ringing 101 or via the website [Report | Avon and Somerset Police](#)

E-mails to the School Office

Any messages relating to a child's absence, appointments or pick-up times need to be sent directly to the school office and not to the class teacher. This ensures messages can be recorded appropriately and actioned on a timely basis. They can be reached on admin@pucklechurchprimary.org.uk.

The school office can be contacted by phone or e-mail for such matters – staff are available to talk to from 8.30 am – 4.00 pm each weekday, with an answerphone system outside those hours.

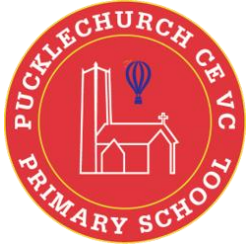
The absence line answerphone is open 24 hours a day (Option 1 when calling the school).



School Census

It is the school census on the 18th May and we will be offering Beef Burger and Chips!

This is when we need the maximum number of children taking a school meal on this day, as this has an impact on our school funding. Please book a school meal for your children on this day - it will help massively! Thank you



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Reading



Seacole CD – 47%
Armstrong SD - 50%
Armstrong MN –60%
Newton RF –57%
Newton JB – 66%
Newton LB – 54%
King IJ – 82%
King AB – 90%

Well done to King AB with a score of 90%. Can any other year groups meet our target of 90% next week? Do not forget that reading regularly is part of our homework expectations.

Numbots



hard at improving their maths skills using Numbots.

Most practice this week:

1. Toby - Seacole
2. Mia - Seacole
3. Ayda-Leigh - Seacole

EYFS and KS1 have been working



Times Tables Rockstars!

Well done to our Pucklechurch Top Rockers this week!

These 3 students have accessed TT Rockstars the most out of everyone in the whole school this week

1. Archie – King IJ
2. Aleena – Newton LB
3. Caitlyn – Newton LB



Well-Being Week

As part of our well-being week in June, we would like each child to decorate a jar with the things they are thankful for. Children will add to it each day then bring it home at the end of the week.

Please could children bring in a jar to decorate.

Trips

We are very excited that we have booked our trips. Seacole/Armstrong hub are going to Noah's Ark Zoo Farm on 19th June, Newton hub are visiting The Living Rainforest on 16th June and King hub are off to The Underfall Yard on 14th June. Please can we ask you to log into Arbor to pay and give your consent.

If anyone has any problems logging into Arbor, please contact the school office.



PTA

The PTA are looking for someone to take over as Chair.

The role of chair will include being a trustee of the Charity and responsible for the bank account jointly with the treasurer. Currently the role includes organising meetings, planning events, running the website, social media posts, delegating tasks to others.

Please do think about stepping forward so that the PTA can continue with their important work.



Year 3 Music Lessons

Newton JB and Newton RF have started their sequence of ukulele lessons. They are being taught how to play the key chords, and will also include singing as part of their lessons. There will be a concert for parents in their final session at the end of June.



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English at Pucklechurch

At Pucklechurch, we expect all children to read five times a week, regular reading is the key to expanding vocabulary and linking knowledge to develop connections, improved word recognition, builds fluency and secure understanding.

Reading should be logged in children's reading records or on the recording sheet, our target is 90% of all classes reading 5 times per week.

Each week children should be bringing home a 'Big Cat' book which matches their reading level and a 'Zone book' which the children can choose based on their interests. Children then have opportunities to change these books throughout the week, when they have practised reading them and built up their fluency.

During the week there are many opportunities to read, including Whole Class reading lessons where we focus on a specific reading skill such as: retrieval, inference, vocabulary and summarising. In our Guided reading sessions children read in small groups with an adult and answer specific questions about the text they have read. They will also apply a range of their reading skills to work independently on either a seen or unseen text. In smaller groups some children will also be having phonics sessions 5 times a week, 2 phonics and 3 reading sessions to help with recall and fluency.

Little Wandle is our phonics scheme which promotes the learning of sounds, early reading skills and promotes a love of reading. It is important that children are regularly practising their sounds at home and these are being referred to when reading their 'Big Cat' books. At the front of these books it has the sounds which will be covered, along with tricky words the children may encounter when reading.

For our spelling scheme we use Essential Spellings, this focuses more on the teaching of spelling so that children understand how to apply patterns, strategies and knowledge to all words. It also provides links to prior knowledge and tracks back. It promotes spellers for life, rather than just learning spelling for a week. We have spelling lessons each day and a spelling test once a week.

Maths at Pucklechurch

At Pucklechurch, we follow White Rose. Learning is broken down into small steps to embed knowledge through activities focussed on varied fluency, reasoning and problem solving.

A CPA approach where we use concrete resources such as counters and cubes before using pictorial representations followed by an abstract approach where children can apply what they know is used. In every Maths lesson, we use a See, Share, Do approach where the adults model the concept being taught before working through a question as a class. After this, the children will complete a question on their own. They might either continue to work independently or may be supported in a guided group.

We also have regular arithmetic and times table sessions where we focus on key number facts and calculation strategies. In our arithmetic sessions, the week's questions follow the same structure so that children know previously difficult questions will appear in the same position throughout the week.

For homework, children will receive questions based upon what they have been learning in class. KS1 are also expected to access Numbots and KS2 are expected to access TT Rockstars as part of their weekly homework. We award certificates in our achievement assembly on a Friday to celebrate successes using these programs.



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Relationships, Health and Sex Education (PSHE)

On 15th May 2023 at 5.15pm we will be holding an RSHE

information session for those of you who are new to the school or if you were not able to attend the previous sessions and would like to hear more about the Jigsaw programme and our approach to Relationship, Sex and Health education. This will take place in school at 5.15-5.45. If you would like to attend this session please book in at the office.

Writing Workshop for Parents

Just a reminder that we are holding a Writing workshop for parents on 24th May 9.00 – 10.00. Parents are invited to come and learn about how we teach writing in school and then join your child in their classes to complete some writing with them. If you have more than one child in school you will be able to move between their classes.

Road Safety workshop



In year 2, we had a road safety workshop on Thursday. We learned lots about the 'Green Cross Code' where we have to 'think,



stop, look and listen' before we cross a road. We did lots of activities where we had to sort out different pictures into 'transport' 'safe places to cross' and rules for the 'Green Cross Code'.

Girls Football Match

A team of year 6 girls had a football match against Christchurch juniors on Thursday afternoon. In tricky conditions, the girls produced some fantastic play and won 6-3. They showed great spirit in the torrential rain and their enthusiasm and hard work felt throughout the school during the week. Well done, we are very proud.

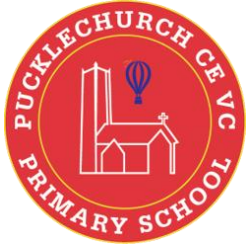


Attendance Reminder

Regular school attendance is essential for children to not only make progress both academically and socially but also to feel settled, safe and secure. The DfE publication 'Working Together to Improve School Attendance' May 2022 notes that "pupils with the highest attainment at the end of key stage 2 have higher rates of attendance over the key stage compared to those with the lowest attainment.."

It is important that any absence is recorded correctly on Arbor, therefore we ask that parents email the school office with information of planned absence for medical appointments etc and/or call the school office to report sickness. Broken weeks, this means 2 or more weeks interrupted by sporadic periods of absence, can have the most impact on a child's learning as they keep missing key points of learning. An attendance rate of less than 90% is equivalent to missing one day a fortnight. Anything below 95% is considered low. Taking a holiday during term time will compromise good attendance and should be avoided. Where holidays reach the criteria of more than 10 sessions or 5 days of unauthorised leave over a 7-week period, we will need to complete a penalty notice form and return it to the local authority.

We recognise that some pupils may find it harder to attend school than others, if your child is experiencing difficulties please speak to their class teacher in the first instance or ask to speak to Mrs Jones, our SENCO, so we can all work together to build trusting relationships and ensure support is in place. Due to the importance of good attendance, we will be monitoring it closely across the year, as part of this we may be in touch to discuss any issues or patterns in absence we notice.



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Behaviour

We want our children to feel safe, happy and able to learn within a Positive Learning Culture. We encourage them to develop self-discipline, a respect for themselves, for others and for the environment. We value all God's children and celebrate and respect their differences. We follow our Christian Values, most notably in this context the value of Forgiveness, when resolving differences or supporting children to make positive choices.



The Pucklechurch Way:

Our philosophy can be summed up very simply: we expect our children to be safe, respectful and ready to learn. The meaning of these key aspects will be discussed regularly with children in class and in collective worship assemblies. To support them to demonstrate these aspects, all children belong to our Positive Learning Culture.

How we create a Positive Learning Culture

- o We are all responsible for creating a positive culture with clear expectations for how we behave – how staff behave provides a model to children, including engaging with children around the school environment (saying hello in the corridor, holding the door open, etc.);
- o The school values support our Positive Learning Culture;
- o Children are welcomed into the classroom each morning by an adult;
- o The school takes a growth mindset approach to learning and celebrates effort and progress, rather than just pure attainment;
- o We positively reinforce good behaviour with praise and rewards. Sometimes, children might also share their achievements with other members of staff and be rewarded with a sticker;
- o Each class agrees a 'class contract', which is displayed clearly in the classroom;
- o In class, names are displayed to celebrate behaviour that is 'above and beyond' and children are rewarded with house points;
- o House points are awarded in lessons, along with the nomination and recognition of the 'Top Learner' of the day and week. Each class teacher also awards certificates to children each week for demonstrating the school values. These are given out in Celebration Assembly on a Friday;
- o Children who have consistently demonstrated the value of the term (one per class) are awarded with an afternoon tea with the head teacher at the end of term in recognition;
- o Staff regularly share children's successes with parents in a variety of ways, including face-to-face meetings, posts on social media, emails etc.
- o Attitudes to Learning and Social & Emotional skills are discussed with parents and children at the Autumn, Spring and Summer Learning Meetings;
- o Children are given jobs around the classroom and school to promote responsibility and self-esteem;
- o Y6 children work with Reception children to model positive behaviour;
- o Children are awarded additional responsibilities around school, such as membership in a 'crew', because of their good attitude and behaviour. They are then expected to model this behaviour to the rest of the school;
- o We celebrate children's successes within our achievement assembly each week (these can be out of school too).



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