

# Pilgrim Primary Academy

Headteacher: Mrs L Meek (BA Hons, PGCE)  
Oxford Street, Plymouth, PL1 5BQ  
Tel: 01752 225319  
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22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021

Dear Parent / carers

As we reach the end of this first term, I would like to thank you all for the continued support you have given your children and their education. Getting children to school on time, with all the things they need is a challenge in itself but this year we have really seen an increased engagement in homework and home learning activities - the children have been proud of all their models, research, writing and pictures that they have done linked to their theme subjects. We can also see a positive impact of children learning their basic facts at home (spellings, number facts, times tables, etc.) and have seen many children achieve their certificates and awards. Thank you for supporting this.

**This Newsletter is a celebration of our learning across the term – I hope you enjoy the photos!**

## Assemblies

This term we have enjoyed welcoming parents and carers back into school to help us celebrate learning in our Friday Assemblies. We had presentations from our Dolphin class (who told us about 'Material Magic'), our Chameleon class (who shared their learning about the Rainforest) and today, from our Lions (who have been learning about the Victorians) this term. We also enjoyed our **Harvest Festival assembly** last week where we were joined by a visitor from Plymouth Foodbank. They were extremely grateful for the generous donations of food you sent into school and asked to join us in saying a very big thank you to you all. **THANK YOU!**

In other assemblies this term we have celebrated National Recycling Week, European Languages Day, discussed the importance of responsibility, and had Black History Month assemblies about Martin Luther King, Rosa Parks, Nelson Mandela and Barack Obama. The children have engaged thoughtfully in these assemblies and have completed some fabulous home learning tasks linked to these topics including designing Recycling information Posters, creating fact files about Rosa Parks and finding out more about the life of Nelson Mandela.

The home learning assembly challenge this week, after an assembly about Barack Obama, is to create a poster or fact file about a modern day Black Hero. These are all optional activities should children wish to be involved. The outcomes from our assemblies have helped create these wonderful pupil displays in school:



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## Next terms key assembly dates:

Date	Assembly
Friday 5th November	No assembly - class photos in hall
Friday 12th November	Class Assembly 1MS - Seahorses
Friday 19th November	Children in Need
Friday 26th November	Class Assembly Y5 RH - Orcas
Friday 3rd December	Class Assembly Y3 CB - Geckos
Friday 10th December	Class Assembly Y4 KP - Tigers



**Christmas Play dates to follow.....**



## Learning this term: what did we enjoy most?

**Year 1** took their learning outdoors with a trip to Patna Park! As part of their science work, they have been learning about body parts and the different ways we can move. They loved jumping, swinging, sliding, running and spinning!



**Year 2** As part of our R.E learning about sacred places, we enjoyed a trip to St Peter and The Holy Apostles church in Stonehouse. Father David welcomed us and talked to us about his church. We searched for things we had learned about which are usually found in churches, such as a font, bibles and stained-glass windows. We all agreed that seeing the church for ourselves was much more interesting than just looking at pictures! We are looking forward to continuing our R.E learning by talking about other sacred places like Mosques and Synagogues.



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**Year 3** have moved through their Rainforest theme to their science learning, where they have been learning about plants. They have learned about pollination, fertilisation and seed dispersal. They enjoyed planting seeds, which helped them when writing instruction texts in their English lessons.



**Year 4** have immersed themselves in learning about life in Victorian times and how the Industrial Revolution changed Britain. We visited the Box Museum and had a Victorian school day chanting times tables, copying a poem and even doing Drill!



**Year 5** have been investigating the theme of 'Material Matter.' In science we have been conducting experiments to investigate the 3 states of matter, observing chemical changes and are able to talk about reversible and irreversible changes. Through history we have delved deeper into alchemy and chemistry, focussing on famous national scientists. Here are some photos of us separating materials during our science investigations!



In **Year 6**, we have been investigating how light travels. We have conducted several experiments and have learnt that light travels in a straight line and about refraction.





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In **Cosy Cottage** we have had a 'spooktacular' time this week. We have been carving pumpkins which also link to our maths learning. We were looking at all the different shapes we could carve then estimated how many seeds we would find. Apparently, there were 200 billion!!!!



## **School Photographs - Jelly Images - Friday November 5th**

Jelly Images will be in school on Friday 5th November to take INDIVIDUAL pupil photos only. We are not able to take sibling photos or family photos on that day due to limitations of space and time - sorry. We will try to put a date for sibling and family photos into the diary for later this academic year if this is something that is wanted.

## **Parent Consultation Meetings and Autumn Term Reports - w/c November 8th**

The teachers are busy writing the children's Autumn term short reports at the moment and these will be shared with you during consultation meetings on the second week back after half term. The reports will inform you of the children's targets and an indication of your child's attitude to learning, behaviour and key learning attributes. Currently we are looking at ways that we can offer a choice of either face to face or virtual appointments and we will give more information about this when children return after half term.

## **Children in Need 19<sup>th</sup> November**

We are going 'On Safari' down to the jungle with an animal themed Children in Need day this year! Children can dress as animals and go wild with face paints as we spend the day raising money but having fun!

We will be asking for a minimum donation of 50p per child via this Parentpay link ONLY

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Foc/Default.aspx?shopid=3930>

Here are the Star Learners for the Upper Phase w/c 22/10/21:

Mia M-W	Year 4 RO
Jamal A	Year 4 KP
Mason S	Year 5 SR
Arshad S-H	Year 5 RH
Jessica W	Year 6 SS
Ajie J	Year 6 LJ

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Here are the Pat on the Back awards for the Lower Phase this week:

George T	Year 1 MS
Alexander S	Year 1 JP
Lucca J	Year 2 TH
Hector C	Year 2 RG
Charlie R	Year 3 BF
Oscar B	Year 3 CB

## Parent Survey...there is still time!

We have had many responses to our quick survey this week. If you haven't already, then please click below and give us your feedback. Many thanks.

<https://forms.gle/VC96TXskB66DVoB66>

## Dates for the Diary

25/10/2021	Half Term
01/11/2021	<b>Non pupil day</b>
05/11/2021	Individual Photos - Jelly Images
w/c 08/11/2021	Reports and Parent/Carer Consultations
23/11/2021	Royal Eye Infirmary Screening (Foundation and Year 1 only)
17/12/2021	Last day of Autumn Term

## Cases of Covid 19 in school and our wider community

We have seen some cases of coronavirus in our school this week (see letter sent yesterday) and, as predicted, nationally we are seeing a rise in cases generally.

During the half term break I ask that you maintain your cautious approach when looking for signs and symptoms in your children. If your child has any of the following (or other concerning symptoms) please seek guidance from NHS or GP and if in doubt, consider getting PCR tested:

- Persistent and/or unusual cough
- High temperature
- Loss of taste and/or smell

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As winter is coming and with rising cases, it is especially important that children do not return to school unless they are well. If your child does test positive (on a PCR test) over the course of the half term holiday, please email this information immediately to [covidalert@ppsonline.org](mailto:covidalert@ppsonline.org) and then, of course, do not send your child back to school until all isolation periods and guidance from the NHS has been followed.

We have a Non Pupil Day on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November and so  
**the children return back on TUESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> November**  
– see you all then!

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'L Meek'.

Mrs Meek  
Headteacher