



# PEAR TREE SCHOOL

## NEWTLETTER

31st March 2022

[www.peartreeprimary.co.uk](http://www.peartreeprimary.co.uk)



Many thanks for all your support over what has been a very challenging 3 weeks. Having 12 staff succumb to COVID has pushed us to the absolute limit but thanks to your help and the tremendous dedication of the staff we kept school open and the children learning. We only hope as the new term begins and the next chapter in the 'Learning to live with COVID' begins we can negotiate a less disruptive path through it all!

From our return on April 19<sup>th</sup> we will no longer be required to test or isolate. We don't want or expect parents to test with cost of LFTs being so high. But we do ask that you support us by being vigilant. If your child is displaying symptoms of COVID or are unwell you must keep them off school until they are well enough to return. If in doubt keep them out and ring us so we can work out the best, next steps together.

What we know so far is that Cheshire East Public Health will monitor the situation and the level of school absence and will continue to have a role in advising and implementing actions if necessary.

Schools are now being asked to continue normal infection reduction actions so we will maintain our rigorous hand washing routines, we will maintain good ventilation across the school and reduce excessive sharing of equipment. The stated aim now is to raise natural immunity.

Some parents may consider vaccinating their child which is now available for primary- age children. This has been effective in reducing case numbers in secondary school in the past few months. Please see the attached poster with more details of the vaccination programme locally.

How all this this will look in practise we don't know.... I just hope we have a smoother return to the new term than we have had over the past three weeks across our school community.

We thank-you for making the school so superb and wish you a very happy and healthy Easter break.

### **Volunteers in school**

With a positive outlook for the summer term, from our return after Easter, all volunteers are welcome to return too. If in any doubt, then just contact the class teacher you are working with to finalise details.

Lunches will go back to the hall, Pips will mix, choir will start and assemblies will resume in the hall.

### **Trips and Events**

Despite illness, it has been superb that we have still managed to see so many trips and events in school and beyond over the past month. Well done to Red team for rearing their chicks. The little yellow balls of fluff leave school today for a happy life at Mrs Newman's family farm. They have been a wonderful experience for the children. A library visit with their buddies was another highlight to the term.

There was a super trip to Nantwich library and the church for Orange class and on Tuesday they all took a trip to space with Betty Bear – an amazing concert for parents that I had a special invitation to on Wednesday so I didn't miss out!

Yellow have re-enacted the great Fire of Nantwich on the school field and enjoyed a trip to the Museum and library.

Green have marched with Romans around Chester, visited the library, mastered the basics of violin playing and done an amazing group sing at Congleton Town Hall as part of Singfest.

Blue class have been swimming avoiding building work, storms and COVID and still stayed afloat and visited the library.

Indigo absolutely shone at the New Vic on Tuesday performing their extract from Macbeth, have learnt to play the SAMBA drums and head off to Nantwich church tomorrow for an Easter adventure.

Violet have completed three mental health workshops, developing their understanding of how to keep themselves fit and well mentally and physically and are off to Nantwich tomorrow with Indigo after visiting the library with their buddies in Red class earlier in the month.

Your children have had a really 'different' last two years and missed out on many of the events we love to offer. Now these have restarted, we are extremely proud of how well they have coped. We look forward to next term when we have more enrichment opportunities planned including residential visits, day trips, sports events and a Jubilee celebration 'playground' party on the afternoon of Thursday May 26<sup>th</sup> (more details nearer to the day).

### **Tattenhall Residential**

On Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April we would like to invite all Year 4 and Year 6 parents into school for a short presentation about the residential to Tattenhall. The meeting will run from 3:30pm for around 30 minutes and will discuss itinerary, accommodation, staffing and some other key bits of information. We hope to see you then.

### **Holidays in term Time**

Sadly, holidays in term time cannot be agreed unless in exceptional circumstances despite all we have missed out on over the past two years and the rising cost of living! Thank-you to all who are honest with us, put in the holiday form and accept that the holidays won't be authorised, it's just easier that way.

### **River Family News**

Each child at Pear Tree is part of a River Family within the school which also includes any siblings. Usually during the year, we enjoy taking part in activities within these family groups in and out of school but unfortunately due to Covid these have been unable to happen. Each family has random selected children from each year group, a teacher and support staff allocated to it.

**Bollin** - Mrs Hadfield, Mrs Maumy and Mrs Costa

**Checkley** - Mrs Lacy, Mrs Boughey and Miss Rowe

**Dane** - Mr Greasby, Mrs Howard, Miss Butler and Mrs Steele

**Dee** - Mrs Swallow, Mrs Ryles and Miss Threadgold

**Gowy** - Mrs Newman, Mrs Yeomans and Miss Shepherd

**Mersey** - Mrs O'Connor, Mrs Cliff and Mrs Degg

**Weaver** - Miss Addis, Mrs Benson and Mr Pickup

We also have River Family Captains, and these are voted for by the children and are two or three Year 6s that are part of that family. They are their representatives and are there to support the children and encourage them.

Over the last term I have reintroduced some of our River Family competitions to encourage teamwork, competitiveness, positivity, and most of all fun.

Firstly, the children are taking part in the 'River Mile' which was our old golden mile track. Eight laps of the river mile equate to 1 mile. At different stages the children will receive certificates for their achievements. Children will go out during the school day with their teacher to complete this and at the end of each half term there will be a winning river. Who will be our first winner?

Another activity is at lunchtimes. All children are encouraged to be polite and helpful during their time in the hall and outdoors at playtime. Staff will issue points which are recorded, the scores will be collated, and the winning river will have an extra 15-minute play together.

I am so excited to be running these events in school and think it's such an important part of our school life at Pear Tree. Mrs Cliff

### **Primary School National Offer Day**

Reception school places are confirmed on Tuesday April 19<sup>th</sup>. If your little one is due to start at Pear Tree in September, please confirm your places online by May 3<sup>rd</sup> and we will be in touch by the middle of May to tell you all about new starter events.

**School closes for Easter tomorrow – April 1<sup>st</sup> and reopens on Tuesday April 19<sup>th</sup>**



### **Dates for your diary**

Tues 19<sup>th</sup> April – Blue class Bikeability

Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> April – Tempest photographer classes and leavers

Fri 29<sup>th</sup> Apr – Green class swimming for 6 weeks

Mon 16<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> May – Blue class residential to Tattenhall

Weds 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> May – Violet class residential to Tattenhall

Tues 24<sup>th</sup> May – Red class to Blue Planet Aquarium

Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> May – Queen's Jubilee Playground party and break for half term.

Return Tues 7<sup>th</sup> June

Wed 8<sup>th</sup> June – Yellow class to Beeston castle

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> & Tues 14<sup>th</sup> June – Violet class Bikeability

Mon 20<sup>th</sup> June – Town sports at Cumberland sports ground, Crewe

Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> June – Town sports Barony Park, Nantwich

Thurs 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Green class to Chester Zoo

Fri 24<sup>th</sup> June – Yellow class swimming for 4 weeks

Mon 4<sup>th</sup> & Tues 5<sup>th</sup> July – Violet class to South Cheshire College

Fri 8<sup>th</sup> July – Sports day KS1 am and KS2 pm

Wed 20<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 leavers assembly – time tbc