



Plumpton Primary School

Newsletter

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! Welcome to an exciting new term at Plumpton School. We are really looking forward to welcoming you into our school for our class assemblies and class 'meets' over the coming weeks. Our pupils are looking forward to the opportunity to showcase their learning this term.

Mrs Ketley's Christmas Hamper

I can now reveal the total amount raised for our PPTFA from Mrs Ketley's Christmas Hamper...a whopping **£800**. £200 up on the previous year! I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mrs Ketley who worked tirelessly to: source the prizes; create the wonderful hamper boxes; and organise and the Grand Hamper Draw on the final Monday of term. Thank you for always going above and beyond, Mrs Ketley – we will invest this money into delivering the best education for our pupils.

Twelve Days of Reading Challenge

Thank you to everyone who took part in our radical Reading Challenge over the Christmas break. I enjoyed sharing your photographs and experiences in my assembly last week. I hope you appreciate now how easy it is to become one of our Reading Stars each week (Reading Stars reading 4+ times per week).



Help us to keep in touch with you

Please ensure that our School Office has your up-to-date contact details. We will need these if we ever need to contact you about your child feeling unwell during the school day. East Sussex County Council's 'Safeguarding Best Practice' requires schools to have at least **two** contact details for each family – so please make sure we have all the information we need.

Topics and English focus texts this term

Our marvellous Robins are learning all about 'The Farm' this term and are visiting a local farm at the end of January. Their focus text is *What the Ladybird Heard* by Julia Donaldson – recently awarded a CBE for literature – which sees two 'crafty' robbers seek to steal the farmer's prize. The wonderful Woodpeckers are learning all about India and will read *The Tiger Child* – a folktale set in an Indian village. Kingfishers and Owls are learning all about the astonishing Ancient Egyptians. Owls are reading *Secrets of a Sun King* by Emma Carroll with a young girl called Lil as its protagonist; it charts her journey to King Tutankhamun's tomb in the Valley of the Kings. Kingfishers will be reading *The Egyptian Cinderella* about a slave's elevation to the highest echelons of power: beside the Pharaoh himself.



Attendance

We are really looking to consolidate our attendance figures this term as the local authority and Department for Education expectation is 97%.

Therefore, as ever, please make every effort to get your child in school every day on time. If your child is unable to attend school (due to illness) please contact the school office daily by 9.00am on 01273 890338.

Here are the attendance results up to today:

- Robin Class – 91.3%
- Woodpecker Class – 96.3%
- Kingfisher Class – 96.4%
- Owls Class – 97.1%

This week, **Congratulations** go to Owl Class!

Coats and Shoes – a reminder

The weather is becoming colder and wetter. Please ensure that your child has a warm, waterproof coat to wear when they are outside for playtimes and lunchtimes. Also, please ensure that their shoes are appropriate for winter conditions. We want our children dressed appropriately for the weather and the activities that they are doing.

Raising the profile of Maths

You will soon receive a letter inviting you to participate in a Maths workshop with our Maths Leader Mrs Buchan. Mrs Buchan will share with you our Calculations Policy and explain how we teach different topics in Maths. Watch this space!

Class Blogs

The class blogs are updated regularly and offer a wealth of information. You can access them using the links below:

Robin Class:

plumptonrobins.wordpress.com

Woodpecker Class:

plumptonwoodpeckers.wordpress.com

Kingfisher Class:

plumptonkingfishers.wordpress.com

Owl Class:

plumptonowls.wordpress.com

Thoughts for the weeks ahead – Mr Hughes

By now you will have received a letter from me welcoming you to our new term, and looking ahead to an exciting few weeks to come. You may have also noted that I shared with you my priorities for the coming weeks; I will be spending time in each of our classes and getting to know a little more about 'The Farm', 'India' and 'Ancient Egypt'. Quite a variety of topics! Looking ahead, our wonderfully diverse topics this term allow us to hone in on our key School Development Plan foci: developing our creative curriculum and developing a love for reading.

Class 'meets'

Next week (w/c 14th January) each of our teachers will be holding a 'class meet'. Very similar to our old 'curriculum meetings', teachers will share with you the topics being covered this term and recommended age-appropriate reads for children in each year group.

Owls – Monday 14th January – 3pm

Woodpeckers – Tuesday 15th January – 3pm

Kingfishers – Thursday 17th January – 3pm

Robins – Friday 18th January – 3pm

Wrap-around provision – our clubs

Breakfast Club will continue to run from 07.45 every day and After-School Club from 15.00 to 17.30 (Monday to Thursday).

Dates For Your Diary

January 2019	
Thursday 10 th	Year 4 Forest School begins
Thursday 10 th	Clarinet lessons recommence
February 2019	
Tuesday 5 th	Internet Safety Day
Thursday 7 th	Owls Class Assembly
Thursday 14 th	Kingfisher Class Assembly
Friday 15 th	Last day of Term 3
Monday 18 th – Friday 22 nd	February Half-Term Holiday
Monday 25 th	Term 4 starts
March 2019	
Friday 1 st	Woodpecker Class Assembly
Thursday 7 th	Robin Class Assembly

Best wishes,

Jonathan Hughes

Caitlin Yapp

Stewart James

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