



**Pound Hill
Junior School**

Newsletter 65

September 2017

Pound Hill Junior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects everyone to share this commitment. If you have any concerns about the welfare of any child please contact one of the designated members of staff.

Mr White, Ms Hatton and Mr Chilton

School News and Views

Welcome Back

We have all been so very impressed with how the children have returned to school this year. From Year 6 being perfect role models for the rest of the school through Year 5 making learning fun during their Roald Dahl day and Year 4 making progress already to Year 3 who have settled in as though they have been here for ages already.

The children have made us proud and although we always have very high expectations the children have met them and many times surpassed them. Well done to everyone!



Changes to learning

We continue to work hard to provide the best education we can for all your children and the teachers have planned a year of exciting learning opportunities within a broad curriculum. We continue to value all aspects of learning and we will not solely focus on those subject that are tested at the end of Year 6. This is always a balancing act as it would be unfair on the children not to prepare them for these test but we don't teach to the test. Instead we offer exciting opportunities to read and discuss, write in a wide variety of contexts, work out complex mathematical problems and enjoy subject such as PE, music and art which are all part of a healthy and balanced life.

There are some positive changes to how we deliver learning this year. We have changed our topic approach giving the children opportunities to compare themes such as "homes and housing" and "medicines" across human civilizations both in this country and abroad.

We are training the teachers on a new approach to spelling which should provide a more robust understanding of the developmental stages of spelling and give them more skills to develop your child's ability. We will support you to continue our strong partnership in home school working.

If you've ever wondered what teachers do on INSET days we ensured we were up to speed on safeguarding your children, keeping them safe and improving our understanding of spelling.

We really believe that this year will be even better than before but please contact the office to arrange an appointment with your child's teacher if you have any concerns as timely communication alleviates any concerns and worries.

Please remember that white t-shirts are no longer part of the PE uniform!

School Uniform

In addition to our original supplier, Price and Buckland, you can now also order items of uniform with the school logo from Tesco. You can order items on line and either have them delivered to your home or your local store. All purchases will earn you Clubcard points and Tesco will give 5% cashback to the school. The jumpers and cardigans are 100% cotton rather than the sweat shirt style offered by Price and Buckland. Both companies provide coloured PE tops. Both sites can be accessed via the school website

www.poundhilljunior.org.uk.

General Boys and Girls

White shirt and school tie

Summer dresses (pink gingham)

Maroon jumper or cardigan with school logo

Fleeces with school logo for **outdoor** wear only (optional)

Grey or black shorts or trousers (not jeans), skirts or skorts (at or around knee length).

Leggings can be worn under skirts and dresses for religious reasons

Plain, white or dark socks or tights

Plain black school style shoes (not boots, trainers or canvas shoes. No open toed shoes or high heels)

Headscarves must be maroon in colour and plain and removed for PE

Hijabs must be maroon in colour and plain and removed for PE

Patkas must be securely fastened for PE.

Hair

Long hair (shoulder length) must be tied back into ponytail or similar

No extreme styles (shortness, lines or patterns, faux hawks, over generous use of styling products, colour, beads)

PE

House coloured T-shirt with school logo

Maroon shorts

Tracksuit (House coloured, *plain* black or grey) when cold **and** outdoors (not school jumper)

Trainers for outside (the field does get muddy)

Bare feet for PE in the hall

For religious reasons, plain black or grey tracksuit bottoms can be worn for all PE

From September we will no longer be providing PE kits if children forget to bring them in.

Please ensure that PE kit is in school every day.

Swimming

Trunks (not baggy style) above the knee

One piece swimming costume (not bikini or tankini)

Full legged swimming costumes can be worn for religious reasons

Jewellery - must be removed for PE

One pair of small, plain, metal studs may be worn in both ears

Watches

Religious jewellery only when it is a necessary part of the faith

Make-up and Nail Varnish

None

Thank you!

School meals

Please ensure that you order and pay for hot meals via ParentMail as soon as possible. If your child has not had hot meals before, do look at the menu as we have worked hard this year to ensure that the meals not only meet nutritional guidelines but are also what the children enjoy. You do not have to order a meal every day. Research shows that hot school meals are the most cost effective way to ensure that your child has a healthy nutritious meal.



GP Services - Extended Access Survey 2017

Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) plan and buy healthcare services for the local population in your area. From 2018 there is new national funding available to provide a mixture of same day and routine appointments on weekday evenings after 6.30pm, and at weekends based on local needs.

The local CCGs are interested in hearing your views about extending access to GP services. Please follow this link to complete the survey

<http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/GPExtendedAccessSurvey> by Friday 15th September

Middy Meal Supervisor Vacancy.

Would you like to join our friendly team? We have a vacancy for a midday meals supervisor on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 11.45–1.15. The role involves supporting the children during lunchtimes both in the dining hall and also whilst playing in the playground. The rate of pay is £8.86 per hour. If you would like to find out more about this role or to request an application form please send an email to

kcrockford@poundhilljunior.org.uk.

Support, Believe, Foster

Could you support a child who is going through a difficult time in their lives by becoming a foster carer?

West Sussex County Council is looking for more people in West Sussex to become approved foster carers. In return you will receive local training, support and a competitive fostering allowance. The County Council would be especially keen to hear from people from ethnic minority backgrounds and people who could support a parent and child in a foster placement.

A series of local information events is taking place; dates and times below:

- 20 September 6.30-8.30pm, Broadfield Children & Family Centre
- 26 September 6.30-8.30pm, County Hall North, Horsham
- 28 September 6.30-8.30pm, Angmering Village Hall
- 4 October 6.30-8.30pm, The Wave Centre, Worthing

You can also call the Fostering Recruitment Team on 0330 222 7775 or visit www.westsussex.gov.uk/fostering

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY POLICY

PLEASE BE AWARE

IF YOUR CHILD IS AWAY FOR 5 DAYS OR MORE, YOU MAY INCUR A FIXED PENALTY FINE OR BE TAKEN DIRECTLY TO COURT.

The Government expects:

- Schools and local authorities to: promote good attendance and reduce absence, including persistent absence; ensure every pupil has access to full-time education to which they are entitled; and, act early to address patterns of absence.

- Parents to perform their legal duty by ensuring their children of compulsory school age, who are registered at school, attend regularly.
- All pupils to be punctual to their lessons.

To enable children to achieve all they are capable of, it is essential that they attend regularly and punctually.

All schools are expected to achieve an overall rate of 95% attendance. It is the responsibility of all school staff to be welcoming to children and their parents, creating an atmosphere where they both feel able to raise concerns and share any information that could affect the children's attendance. Due regard will be given to the fact that a register is a legal document and, taking this into account, registers will be marked regularly and conscientiously at the beginning of both the morning and afternoon sessions. The times after which a child is marked late or absent are given by individual schools. Pound Hill Junior School state that, unless there is prior agreement or good reason, should a pupil arrive more than 15 minutes late after the registration closes (9am), this should be an unauthorised absence (U). It is important that all children arrive at school punctually. If a child is late, s/he should report to the school office to be marked in and ensure that in case of emergency the school has an accurate head count. It is most important that parents discuss any problem with either the class teacher, Family Liaison Assistant or the Headteacher so that appropriate help can be offered. Equally, if a child needs to leave school for a medical appointment during school hours s/he must be signed out, and in again on return, at the office. Parents/carers are asked to make every possible effort to make appointments out of school hours.

If a child is absent for the day, the school expects parents/carers to make contact as early as possible, giving the reason for the absence and the expected day of return. If no word is received from the parent/carer the school will initially contact the parent/carer then other recorded contacts. The school follows up absences where no reasons are given. If the reasons for these absences remain unspecified they will be classed as unauthorised.

It is the parents' legal responsibility to ensure their child's good school attendance and punctuality. If attendance or punctuality is persistently unsatisfactory, initially the school will liaise with the parent verbally and/or by letter. If the situation does not improve i.e. the child's unauthorised absences build up to 10 days, the school will consider a referral to Pupil Entitlement Investigation (PEI) of West Sussex County Council (WSCC). Should a child's attendance/punctuality still not improve, PEI will consider whether legal action should be instigated against the parent/carer under the Education Act 1996. Alternatively, PEI may seek an Education Supervision Order in the family proceedings court.

The Education (Penalty Notices) (England) Regulations 2007 and Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006

Amendments to the 2006 regulations remove references to family holiday and extended leave as well as the statutory threshold of ten school days. The amendments make clear that headteachers may not grant **any** leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. If the leave is granted, they should determine the number of school days a child can be away from school. Parents must state why they consider it **essential** for them to take their child out of school as absence from learning has been proven to adversely affect children's academic progress and could seriously disadvantage them throughout their education.

Unacceptable reasons for absence will be classed as unauthorised. The Headteacher will not authorise absence unless in exceptional circumstances.

Examples of these **may** be:

- Funeral of an immediate relative – Maximum of 2 days
- Religious observation on days officially set apart by the religious body to which the parents belong – 1 day
- Close family wedding – 1 day

A form obtained from the school office must be completed when withdrawal from learning is being requested and before this leave is taken.

Parents/carers should be aware that Crawley Schools will follow the WSCC guidelines on issuing FPN and unauthorised absence, i.e. issue a Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) if a child accrues 10 or more unauthorised absences in a 10-week period (each half day counts as one absence),

- by non-attendance at school
- by arriving persistently late at school (after registration has closed)
- by parents/carers taking their child on an unauthorised holiday during the school term.

The FPN is an alternative to prosecution and gives parents/carers an opportunity to discharge their criminal liability by paying a fine of £120, which must be paid within 28 days. If paid within 21 days, the fine is reduced to £60. After 28 days, the [Pupil Entitlement Investigation](#) (PEI) will consider prosecuting for the original non-attendance, not for the non-payment of the FPN. Further information on legal action can be found on [GOV.UK](#).

In exceptional circumstances a pupil may be granted authorised leave. However, regardless of whether the absence is authorised or unauthorised, if after ten days the pupil fails to return and no contact can be made with the parents/carers, the school will make a referral to PEI which will make reasonable enquiries and consult with the Child Missing Education Team (CME). If the school can make contact with the parents/carers, it will warn them, if possible in writing, that it will consider taking the pupil off roll if s/he does not return by an agreed date. If the pupil does not return within 20 days and no reasonable explanation is given, the school will consult with CME and, in line with DfE guidance, consider taking the pupil off roll. If taken off roll, parents/carers would need to reapply for a place through West Sussex County Council Admissions (North) on their return. A place cannot be guaranteed at the current school.

Genuine illness will be authorised, although the school reserves the right to ask for medical clarification if a child's Children should be kept at home if they are ill and genuine illness will be authorised, if the school has been notified by phone on the first day of the absence **and** by a written explanation on the child's return to school. Medical appointments which cannot be arranged outside the school day will be authorised if the school is notified of them prior to the child attending. The school, however, reserves the right to ask for confirmation from a medical professional if a child's medical absences are above the amount expected for a usually healthy child or if the school has any concerns regarding the safety and welfare of a child. If it has been necessary for a child to have extended absence due to illness, the school will work with the child, parents/carers and any other involved agencies to instigate a re-integration programme for that child.

Pupils of the Week

Year 3

Zohal Rashad
Isobella Jordan
Heather Hall

Year 4

Nathan Head
Ayisha Hubbard-Jefang
Zaina Shah
Samirah Ninsrar

Year 5

Riley Wells
Larna Hunt
Charlie Gasson

Year 6

Lucy Daniels
Luke Wiltshire
Freya Flint



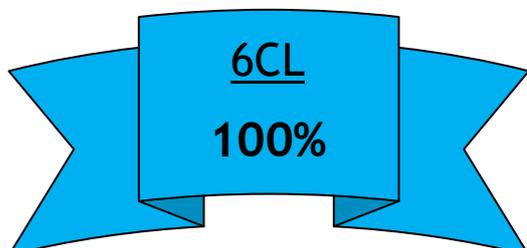
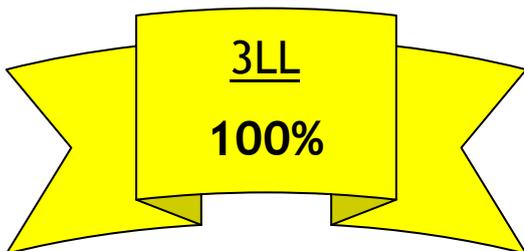
House News



Have you Earned
any house points
yet?



Attendance



2 Minute Challenge

Top pupil:

Samar Khan with 319!

Brilliant work—Well done



Pound Hill Junior School **Diary Dates**

15 September	Community Fun Event
22 September	Take Away Day
26 & 28 September	Year 4 trip Lullingstone Roman Villa
29 September	Fruity Friday
2 October	Bikeability Year 6
4 October	School photographs
4 October	Special Food Menu (Hot dogs)
17 October	Early Parents' Evening 3.20 - 5.30pm
19 October	Late Parents' Evening 5 – 8.20 pm
23–27 October	Half Term
20 November	Evening Shakespeare Performance @ Capitol Horsham
22 November	Book Look 3–4pm
23–24 November	Book Fair 3–4pm
6 December	Christmas Lunch Yr5&6
7 December	Christmas Lunch Yr3&4
7 December	School Disco—Yr 3&4 4.30–5.45pm Yr5&6 6–7.15pm
12 December	Christmas Performances 1.45pm Yr 5&6 6pm Yr 3&4
14 December	Christmas Performances 1.45pm Yr 3&4 6pm Yr 5&6
19 December	Last day of Term (1pm finish)
4 January	Start of new Term
15-19 January	Year 5 & 6 Hindleap Warren trip
6 February	Early Parents' Evening 3.20 - 5.30pm
8 February	Late Parents' Evening 5 – 8.20 pm
12-16 February	Half term
14–16 March	Book Fair
22 March	Book Look 3–4pm
29 March	Last day of term (1pm finish)
16 April	Start of new term
30 April–4 May	Year 5 Isle of Wight trip
25 May	Sports Day 1
28 May–1 June	Half term
8 June	Sports Day 2
12-14 June	Year 3 Truleigh Hill trip
19 June	Book Look
25 June-29 June	Year 4 Stanford Scout
6 July	Sports Day 3
20 July	Last day of Term (1pm finish)

INSET DATES

4 September
2017

20 December
2017

4 June 2018

23 July 2018

24 July 2018