



NEWSLETTER 1

September 2017

October 2nd	Individual photographs
October 3rd	Speak out, Stay safe assemblies
October 6th	FP School Association AGM 9.00am
October 10th	Faith Tour Y4/Y5/Y6
October 12th	Mozart class Sharing Assembly 9.00am
October 13th	Fruit Workshop Y1/2/3
October 18th	Parents' Evening 3.30 - 6.00
October 19th	Parents' Evening 4.00 -7.00
October 20th	INSET day
October 23rd - 28th	Half Term holiday
November 2nd	Holst class Sharing Assembly 9.00am
November 5th	FPSA Fireworks event
November 9th	Ancient Greece Workshop Y4/Y5/Y6
November 10th	Pelham Praise Remembrance Service 2.30pm
W/b November 13th	Anti-Bullying Week
November 23rd	Gershwin class Sharing Assembly 9.00am
November 24th	Parent Forum 9.00am
November 28th	Decorating Day
November 30th	Chopin class Sharing Assembly 9.00am
November 30th	Y4/Y5/Y6 Concert at Saffron Hall
December 1st	Christmas Bazaar
December 11th	Christingle –2.15pm St Marys Church
December 13th	EYFS and KS1 Nativity 2pm
December 14th	EYFS and KS1 Nativity 2pm
December 18th	FPSA Children's Disco
December 19th	Carol Service –11am St Marys Church
December 19th	Term ends 2.00pm

I can't quite believe that we are already at the end of September. Certainly those lazy days of the summer holidays are a distant memory! Already this term we have had a workshop for KS1 children, our Harvest Festival over in the church and a visit to Libury Hall to deliver your very generous harvest gifts.

At Libury Hall the Year 6 members of Pelham Praise who came with me and Rev Julie were shown around and we were also able to meet some of the residents who will enjoy the meals cooked using our donations.



As I write this we have no internet at school - which is why this may not be with you until Monday! Lack of internet is a perennial problem particularly it seems whenever a road is being dug up - and at the moment that seems to be every road! Of course what it highlights is just how dependant we have all become on having internet access [even if it is a slow connection!]. For example some parents email us to let us know someone else will be collecting their child that day. With no access to emails this message won't get through. In this sort of instance a phone call is much better as then you can be sure the message has got through.

School Premises

The plumbing work we have had done in school is now almost complete. All the piping has been replaced and a new boiler installed. In place of radiators in the classrooms wall mounted heaters have been installed. Due to the design of the building the pipework has all had to be mounted on the walls mostly just below the ceilings. Whilst this may not be the most aesthetically pleasing location I hope that in time we will get to a point of not noticing it anymore! There are inevitably a few snagging issues but fingers crossed these will be sorted in the next few weeks.

Mr Stamp has done a great job cutting down and re-siting numerous display boards, shelves and cupboards which have had to be lowered due to the pipework.

As you may remember our next big project is the roof. The tendering process is now complete and we hope to have a meeting with the project team very soon. As soon as I have a start date for the work I will let you know. Having the roof replaced gives us the opportunity to have more light tunnels fitted. The inclusion of these has made a huge difference in our library area and in the corridor outside Holst class. This time we are hoping to improve the natural light in the toilets area near the library and in the reception area where Mrs Monk has to have the lights on permanently.

Anyone visiting our playground after school last Wednesday would have seen all the teachers rushing around clutching bits of paper and concentrating hard. What were they up to?

We are about to introduce orienteering into our school and so as a first step the teachers needed to have a lesson themselves! We had a lot of fun and learnt a lot too!

The school site has been mapped out and we are now waiting for the plaques to arrive so that they can be located at different points around the school. Our trainer will be coming back to school next Friday to work with the children and introduce them to some of the skills they will need to use. We will then carry on with lessons in school. We have arranged for a return visit from the trainer later this term to ensure we are getting it right.



Orienteering is a great sport which combines a whole host of different skills including map reading and team work. Whilst our school site might not have hilly or difficult terrain to contend with there is plenty of scope for a range of orienteering activities. I am sure the children are going to enjoy it just as much as the teachers did.

Bikeability

At the start of this term all Y5 and Y6 children took part in Bikeability training [for those of you old enough to remember this used to be called Cycling Proficiency]. We had three instructors in school for the whole week initially ensuring that the children's bikes were road-worthy and then training them on the playground before moving out onto the roads.



Riding a bike is a wonderful way of getting around and as the children get older can give them some freedom.

If your child is out on their bike please reinforce the message given to them during their training that wearing a helmet is essential as is wearing bright reflective clothing so they can be seen.

PSHE

This year we are introducing a new Physical, Social, Health Education [PSHE] scheme into school. It is produced by the same people who provided the Coram Life Bus which visited the school last summer.

The scheme is called SCARF (Safety, Caring, Achievement, Resilience, Friendship) and is a complete PSHE and Wellbeing scheme of work, and whole-school approach to behaviour and safety. Our PSHE lessons will also cover relationships and sex education. To get the most from the scheme and to ensure all children are receiving information relevant to their age which they can build on year on year we are delivering the lessons in year groups.

Speak out. Stay safe

I'm pleased to tell you that we will be working with the NSPCC, the UK's leading children's charity, who'll be delivering their **Speak out. Stay safe.** programme on October 3rd. This is a nationwide programme for every primary-school-aged child in the UK and Channel Islands. With the help of their friendly mascot Buddy, they'll be presenting an assembly to the children in our school as well as a workshop for Years 5 and 6 in the following week.

What is the *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme?

Through child-friendly, interactive assemblies and workshops the NSPCC specially trained staff and volunteers will give our children information about how to keep themselves safe from harm and how to get help if they have any worries, sensitively discussing issues like bullying and sexual abuse, without using scary words or adult language.

We have studied the content of the materials and heard from other schools who have participated and are extremely confident that they are appropriate for primary-school-aged children. By the end of their visit, we're convinced children will feel empowered – knowing how they can speak out and stay safe.

If you would like any more information about the NSPCC **Speak out. Stay safe.** programme, including frequently asked questions, you can find it on the NSPCC website nspcc.org.uk/schools or please come into speak to me and I can provide more information.

Talking about the Underwear Rule with your children

The NSPCC's work in schools will help encourage conversations about staying safe – and they have a number of child-friendly materials to help you carry on the conversation afterwards. That includes 'The Underwear Rule', a simple way for parents to help keep children safe from sexual abuse – without using scary words or even mentioning sex.

The guide uses the rules of PANTS to teach children that their body belongs to them and them alone. You can find out more and download the free resources at nspcc.org.uk/pants

If you'd like to know more about the NSPCC's work, or take a look at the wide range of information and advice which is available for parents and carers, please visit their website nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/

eSafety

This term's eSafety newsletter from the county safeguarding team is being sent out with this newsletter. As ever there is a lot of useful information in it. Although much of it may seem more relevant to parents of older children there is a very useful section on setting parental controls—something we all need to be up to date with.

Please take the time to read the newsletter and help keep your knowledge more up to date.

Parent Forum

Thank you to all those parents who attended this morning's Parent Forum. The discussion we had on attendance was very useful and the views expressed will feed into the review and rewriting of our existing Attendance Policy. Once this has been shared with staff and governors I will send a revised copy out to all parents.

Uniform



It is lovely to see the children looking so smart and really taking a pride in their school uniform.

Unfortunately we have had a few boys not wearing their ties - usually on asking they find them in their pockets.

Our lost property is now kept in the disabled toilet in the reception area. It is already full so please name all your children's clothing so it does not end up in lost property.



Eco Committee and School Council

Thank you to all those children who stood for election to represent their year group on school council or eco committee.

School Council

Year 6 - Isaac and Lydia
Year 5 - Ella and Imogen
Year 4 - Lily C and Nathan
Year 3 - Tilly and Filip
Year 2 - Jack and Anjelica

Eco Committee

Year 6 - Ethan, Henry, Zachery
Year 5 - Aimee and Robyn
Year 4 - William and Paddy
Year 3 - Harry and Amelie
Year 2 - Ava and Abigail

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

Thank you to everyone who brought in vouchers last term. We have used them to purchase five lovely leaf shaped chalk boards and a book called 'Grow it, Eat it'.

The boards will be put up around the school grounds near to growing areas so the children can make notes about what they are planting and seeing grow.

