

Pensans Post



Spring term 12/01/2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back and Happy New Year to you all! Thank you to all of the parents who have helped Phase 2 create their own classroom at the beginning of their Project.

The children are excited to be back and our first assemblies last week focused on the need to be suitably prepared for learning. Everyday is an opportunity for your child to make progress with their learning which will have a positive impact on them both now and in the future. All of our staff are passionate about teaching and learning and giving your child the best opportunities to succeed - we look forward to sharing information with you at our consultations in February.

Our focus on improving Mathematics across the school is helping children to achieve with enthusiasm - thank you for accessing the 99 club resources on the website and encouraging your child to practise at home.

We are very lucky to have a well equipped kitchen with skilled and committed staff who make a range of healthy balanced meals from fresh ingredients. If your child hasn't taken up the option of having school dinner please look at the menu and encourage them to give it a try. A hot meal at lunchtime can give them the boost they need for the rest of the day!

Next week's Virtue is Perseverance; please talk with your child about where you practise this Virtue in your daily life and help them to identify where they can use perseverance to achieve their goals.

Have a great weekend.

Best Wishes

Ms Clay

You are practicing

Perseverance

when you...

- Choose your commitments wisely
- Set goals and stick with them until completed
- Pace yourself, and take one step at a time
- Don't let doubts or tests blow you off course
- Stand by your friends and loved ones

Affirmation

*I have perseverance. I finish what I start.
I keep a steady pace in what I choose to do.
I am loyal and committed.*

School Dinners

School menus are on our school website and on the noticeboard by the school reception. There is also a handy guide to tell you which week is which. Week commencing 15/01/2018 is week 1. Because of the school census we are swapping and having fish and chip day on Thursday and Thursdays meal on the Friday!

Operation Encompass

Supporting children through key adults



Is your child's class attendance on track? Our Spring attendance target is 97%. At 91.45% we are under target this week.

Class	Weekly %	Rank
Butterflies	100%	1
Orange	87.14%	8
Green	95.33%	3
Lime	99.31%	2
Violet	88.89%	6
Amber	86.8%	9
Magenta	84%	10
Emerald	90.77%	5
Indigo	94.58%	4
Turquoise	87.78%	7
Whole School	91.45%	



Phase 2 made their own school desks last week as part of their new term topic: 'What is education really worth?'. HUGE thank you to parent David Hawthorn who gave his time, resources and expertise to help build the classroom furniture - he was a star! Also to Matt Trehwella's Mum Renata, Shona Pye, Sereena Ralph and Alana Bates who came and supported during the two days to make sure the children had something to sit on!
-Mrs Pope



Computer and video games have a Pan-European Game Information (PEGI) rating printed on the front of the case. If your child is at Pensans, any game they play or watch should have a green PEGI. Please be aware that playing games out of their age range is a child protection issue and be aware of what they are playing. Even if your child is only watching an older family member playing a game with a 12, 16 or 18 rating, they still are being exposed to unsuitable material.

Stars of the week



Butterflies	Artan	For making a great caterpillar in our Plan, Do Review lesson and doing some great talking about it.
Orange	Jackson	For his excellent attitude and determination in maths.
Lime	Kaleb Zeke	For settling in so well into Lime Class and doing some fantastic maths. For his fantastic newspaper report about the alien spaceship landing in the playground.
Green	Rebecca	For always striving for perfection and being a great team member.
Violet	Archie	A fabulous start to the new term. Being calm, focused and keen to learn.
Amber	Guanxing	For putting excellent effort into his letter and his maths.
Magenta	Seth	For your effort and focus when writing and re-drafting your thank you letter. You wrote a detailed and well-structured letter - well done!
Emerald	Casey Mia	For a fantastic persuasive video and excellent partner work.
Turquoise	Whole of the class	For their excellent listening, showing respect and joyfulness at swimming! Thank you!
Indigo	Charlie	For showing a very positive attitude to school life and helping others on several occasions.

Dates for your diary

Friday 9th Feb - Parent Consultations INSET day - no school

12th - 16th Feb - half term

30th March - 13th April - Easter break

Monday 7th May - Bank Holiday

14th May - 18th May - KS2 SATs - full attendance required

28th May - 1st June - Summer half term

Monday 4th June - INSET day - no school

Friday 6th July - INSET day - no school

Wednesday 25th July - start of summer holiday

Please remember that back copies of newsletters and key diary dates are on the school website.

Are you following us on Twitter?



Keep up-to-date with all of the exciting things that are going on @pensansschool.



Here are this weeks Mathletes:

Orange - Imogen and Frank

Lime - Imogen

Amber - Cephia

Turquoise - Faith

SCHOOL MEALS AND CENSUS DAY - Thursday 18th January

On two days every year we have a school census where we complete data about the numbers of children in school and whether they are having a school meal or are eligible for an income based Free School Meal (FSM). Our funding is then paid to us from this information.



Universal Infant School Meals Funding

The money that the school is given in April each year to pay for the free meal that all EYFS and KS1 children get under the 'Universal Infant School Meals' scheme, is based on the average of how many children have a school meal on a Census Day on the 18th January and another in October. We therefore need as many children as possible to have a school dinner (hot dinner, jacket potato or school sandwiches) on Thursday 18th January. *Please note that children can have the vegetables and the potato of the day or salad with their sandwiches if they wish.*

On Thursday 18th January we will be having Fish and Chips day to encourage children to try a school meal. Please try to help us get the funding we need! For every child that eats a school meal on Census Days we get £2.30 a day for every day of the school year (£437 a year). If your child always has sandwiches from home, and you are worried that, if they have a school meal on the 18th January, they won't like it or eat it, please feel free to send in sandwiches and then they can have these if they don't like the school dinner. (Just tell the class-teacher so they know.)

SO..... EVERYONE PLEASE TRY A SCHOOL MEAL ON 18TH JANUARY!

Fish and Chips or Cheesy Omelette
or Sandwiches or Jacket potato
and salad/vegetables

~ ~ ~ ~

Pudding or yoghurt or fruit

Free school Meals (Income based) Funding

We get extra funding based on the numbers of children having a Free School Meal. This is one of the reasons that we try so hard to encourage parents to fill in a form for us to check if you are eligible. To do this check we just need your child's name and your name, date of birth and National Insurance Number. If you are on benefits or have an income of less than £16,190 you may be able to claim. Children getting FSM also have free access to Breakfast Club at Pensans. Please ask at reception for a form if you think you may be eligible.

Pensans Nursery

New Baby and Toddler Group

Come along to play, chat and meet new parents in the Nursery room.
Every Friday 9:15am - 10:30am
£1 donation

Please could everyone remember that all payment items including school dinners, swimming sessions, trips and before and after school clubs should be paid in advance.



Thank you to all parents who have been regularly using ParentPay. This helps us to adhere to our no-debt school policy but also not handing in money envelopes is beneficial

Reminder to Phase 1 parents

As we would like the children to become more independent, please could parents drop at the cloakroom gates. Any parents who need to enter will need to go to the office to be signed in and given visitor stickers for fire regulations and to adhere to our safeguarding procedures.

Our busy PTA are fundraising for Pensans children and organising a Bag2School collection on Thursday 1st February. Look out for leaflets in book bag post but in the mean time have a look around and see if you have any unwanted but good quality' items for RE-USE:

- Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- Handbags
- Hats
- Bags
- Scarves and ties
- Jewellery
- Lingerie
- Socks
- Belts
- Soft toys
- Household linen
- Curtains
- Towels
- Bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

Bag2school pay will pay 40p per kilogram, so the more they weigh the more they pay! Bags will be sent home nearer the time but start having a look to see what you have in the back of your wardrobe! The PTA aim to use money raised to organise activities days for the children to try out new things and new experiences.



Parents, please be vigilant!
An alien ship crash landed in the KS1 playground on Monday and we believe the alien may be on the run. They have a love of pants so they will be hanging out around washing lines! Let us know if you have any sightings!

Mr Luzmoor