



Petersgate Post—10th November 2023

Mrs Mitchell's 'Message of the Week'

I want to first thank and congratulate the whole school community for the positive Ofsted visit we had at the end of last half term. By now, hopefully, you have read the Ofsted report which has been shared and would agree what a wonderful school Petersgate Infant School is. I want to thank you all for your words of support during and after the visit, we all really appreciated this. I also want to say a massive thank you to all the staff who go above and beyond every single day for your children, but especially during the visit to ensure preparations were in place. We are moving to a chillier time of year, so please ensure your child has a coat and/or hats/gloves and scarf if they need it. We will try and go out in all weathers, so we need to ensure the children have everything they need to keep warm. Please keep an eye on the newsletter, social media, Arbor and/or our website for all of the upcoming events.



Parent Forum—NEW DATE!

We pleased to let you know that our first Parent Forum will take place on **Friday 17th November 2pm to 3pm**. An opportunity to have a cuppa, share your views and find out about exciting steps in your child's learning journey. We look forward to seeing you!



Children in Need

On **Friday 17th November**, **children and staff** can come to school in **non uniform** for a donation to Children in Need. Although not essential, if your child already has Pudsey/Children in Need attire they are welcome to wear this but we are not expecting you to buy something new! We hope to raise lots of money for this amazing cause and there will be a bucket at the school front gate or you can send a donation in with your child, this will support thousands of children/young people and help change lives across the UK.

Health & Wellbeing Tip



Autumn is the perfect time for children to enjoy the wonders of nature. The crisp autumn air, colourful crunchy leaves and weird and wonderful fungi mean it's an exciting season to go out and explore all that the natural world has to offer.

Pull on your wellies, grab a cosy scarf and head out to your local wood with your family. During the autumn the woods come alive with colour, thanks to beautiful autumn leaves. So, why not venture out and enjoy a gentle stroll among the rich reds, warm oranges and bright yellows of the trees around you?

Forthcoming Events

November

w/b Monday 13th

Anti Bullying Week (friendship week)

Friday 17th

Children in Need—non uniform
Parent Forum—2pm to 3pm

Tuesday 28th & Thursday 30th

Parents Consultations

December

Monday 4th

Jellyfish—Nativity at 10am
Rocksteady Concert—2:30pm

Tuesday 5th

Clownfish—Nativity at 10am

Thursday 7th

Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch

Friday 8th

Starfish—Nativity at 10am

Monday 11th

Flu Nasal Immunisation
Year 2—Christmas Carol Concert 2:15-2:45pm

Tuesday 12th

Turtle—Christmas Performance at 2:15pm

Wednesday 13th

Octopus—Christmas Performance at 2:15pm

Friday 15th

Last day of term—finish 3:10-3:20pm

See separate flyer for PoPS events

Attendance and Punctuality from 31st October to 10th November

Whole School Attendance: **96.4%**
(National Average 95.0%)

Best Attendance: **Jellyfish—99.37%**

Best Timekeepers: **Seahorse Class**



Welcome!

We have appointed Miss Robyn Piper, a Learning Support Assistant (LSA) who will be working in Early Years and as a Lunch Leader. Welcome to the Petersgate Team!

Remembrance Service

The children, staff, pre school and Whitehaven Nursing Home attended our Remembrance Service today.

Mrs Helen Glover, our Chair of Governors will be attending the Clanfield Remembrance Service which will be held at Clanfield Memorial Hall on Sunday and she will be placing a wreath on behalf Petersgate Infant School.

We have also asked some children together with staff members to attend St James Church to place their poppy memorials.





Reminders

Classroom door opening times

Morning—doors open from 8:40am until 8:50am : If you miss this time slot please take your child to the school office to be signed in.

Afternoon—doors open at 3:10pm until 3:20pm : Please do not expect the door to open before 3:10pm

One way system

Please remember we have a one way system in place, this is to minimise the amount of people trying to use the pathway next to the drive. It can get busy during certain times of the day, so using the one-way system can help to stagger the amount of people trying to get down the path and drive at the same time.

NO scooters/bikes to be ridden on school grounds

To help keep everyone safe whilst coming to school or going home, please can we ask that your child dismounts their bike/scooter at the bottom of the approach road or by the back gate and walk their bike/scooter into school and place it in the designated scooter/bike shelter.

We have recently seen children riding their scooters/bikes with adult supervision down the approach road after school or on school site, which is extremely dangerous.

We would like to remind you that the junction of Green Lane and Redwing Road is a public highway and can be extremely busy in the mornings and afternoons and some vehicles do not even slow down when the passing the school. We are concerned that a car may not see a child on a scooter/bike in time when approaching this junction.

Parking

Please can I ask that you park considerately, think about how you park and where you park and that 'there might be a child' behind you when reversing. Please be careful and ensure you supervise your child at all times whilst on the school premises and on the approach road. For your information staff members/visitors are able to use this road after 3:20pm.

Whilst we do all we can to monitor the situation and highlight the dangers to parents and their families, unfortunately the public highways are not the schools' responsibility. If you have a complaint about this junction please may we direct you to Highways Department at Hampshire County Council. If you see anyone conducting themselves illegally at this junction, please can I advise you to contact the police. We will continue to work with our PCSO about the situation also. Thank you.

Lunchboxes—Nut free school

We would like to remind we are a 'nut-free' school. We have multiple pupils in school that have severe nut allergies that can be **life threatening**.

We ask that no nuts, in any form, are brought in to school. This includes (but is not limited to) packed lunches, before and after school snacks and items brought in for events. Any food items that state 'may contain nuts' is also included in this.

Any items that are brought into school which do not meet these requirements will be removed and returned home. If an item comes from a multipack and does not have ingredients on it then please send a photo of the ingredients and packaging by email to admin office with your child's name and class, the photo can then be shared with relevant staff. This is to safeguard all children with a dietary and/medical need.

We understand that this may make items for lunchboxes or before/after school more restricted, however the health and safety of all our children at Petersgate is our priority. Thank you for your understanding.

Staffing

There are occasions when your child's class teacher is unavailable to teach due to illness, PPA (Planning, Preparation and Assessment) or CPD (Continuous Professional Development). For continuity, we make a conscious decision, as a school to use staff to cover who are known to the children.

These members of staff have built relationships with the children and know the school policies and procedures. We would like to reassure you that all staff who are covering classes are sufficiently qualified to teach your child in all areas of education. If you have any concerns over this please contact the school office via email.



MUST READ ... MUST READ....MUST READ

- ◆ "MUST READ" scheme released beginning of November
- ◆ 8 books that you "must read" this year with your child
- ◆ Designed to support our taught curriculum
- ◆ Promotes enjoyment, understanding and vocabulary building

Petersgate are delighted to announce the annual roll out of our "Must Read" scheme. From the beginning of November every year group will be promoting 8 books which we feel are a "must read" for our children. The books have been especially chosen for you to read to/with your child to promote enjoyment, understanding and vocabulary building. They are designed to back up the curriculum we offer and as such will be referred to by the teacher during English reading and writing lessons. They can be borrowed at any time and as many times as you like, but please try to return them swiftly as each class only has 3 copies of each book!



How can you help?

- ◆ Buy your own copy?
- ◆ Donate your copy to school when your child has finished with it?
- ◆ Gift an extra copy of one of the books to your class?

While you are reading ask lots of questions...

- Which is your favourite part or favourite character in the book and why?
- Are there any bits in the book that you don't understand or don't like?
- Does this book remind you of any others? Are there any common themes in this story? (loss, love, family, friendship, survival, courage, evil, suffering, anger)
- Can you tell me what has happened so far in the story?
- What do you think might happen next?
- Are there any rhyming or repeated patterns? Can you join in?
- What does that word mean? Can you think of another word that means the same thing?
- What do you think that character sounds like? What might they say or do next?

Early Year's Must Reads

Must Bring a Hat by Simon Philip
 This is Our House by Michael Rosen
 Charlie Cook's Favourite Book by Julia Donaldson
 How to Hide a Lion by Helen Stephens
 Stomp, Chomp Big Roars, Here Come The Dinosaurs! by Kay Umansky
 The Bear Who Stared by Duncan Beedle
 Diggersaurus Explore by Michael Waite
 Tadpole's Promise by Jeanne Willis

Year 1 Must Reads

The Queen's Hat by Steve Antony
 The Pirates Next Door by Jonny Duddle
 Stanley's Stick by John Hegley and Neal Layton
 Peace at Last by Jill Murphy
 The Little Green Hen by Alison Murray
 Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak
 Mr Wolf's Pancakes by Jan Fearly
 Voices in the Park by Anthony Browne

Year 2 Must Reads

Fantastic Mr Fox - Roald Dahl
 The Day The Crayons Quit – Drew Day-witt/Oliver Jeffers
 The Night Gardener – The Fan Brothers
 Samson's Titanic journey – Lauren Graham
 Dear Greenpeace – Simon James
 The Thing – Simon Puttock
 The Tin Forest – Helen Ward



**Do you have a child starting school in
September 2024?**

**Meet the Headteacher and join us to see our
wonderful school in action!**

To book a tour of the school, please email or call the school office with your preferred slots from the list. If you cannot make any of these dates, please let us know when you are available and we will do our best to accommodate you.

Please contact the school office to book a tour:
adminoffice@petersgate-inf.hants.sch.uk or 02392 593950

Tour Dates & Times

Tuesday 14th November at 9:30am

Tuesday 14th November - Open Tour from 4pm & 5:30pm

Thursday 16th November at 1:30pm

Wednesday 22nd November at 1:30pm

Tuesday 28th November at 1:30pm

Wednesday 29th November at 1:30pm

Spaces on the tours are filling up fast, we do not want you to miss out on a parent tour!
Everyone that attends will be given a goodie bag for their child to enjoy.

**If your child is starting school in September 2024,
you can now apply via**

Hampshire County Council Admissions:

www.hants.gov.uk/educationandlearning/admissions

**There are also limited places available in other
year groups too!**

The Role of the Governing Body

Governors are strategic leaders within schools and have a vital role to play in making sure every child gets the best possible education.

A governing body have a strong focus on the 3 core strategic functions:

- ◆ Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- ◆ Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance of the staff
- ◆ Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent

Over the next couple of newsletters, we will be introducing our governors to our parents and families.

Introducing our Governing Body

In each newsletter, we have asked each Governor to introduce themselves and write a short snippet about themselves.



We will begin by introducing **Helen Glover (Chair of Governors)**

I am the current Chair of Governors at Petersgate Infant School and I have been a governor here for several years. I became a governor because I really believe that a child's infant school learning experience sets the tone for the rest of their education career. A positive experience will make them learners for life, enabling them to reach their full potential both academically and socially enabling them to make a positive contribution to society.



PoPS (Pals of Petersgate School)

Please contact Megan Ngo meg_ngo@yahoo.co.uk or **07940 310061** if you are interested in becoming a Chairperson, a committee member or a volunteer to help at events.

PoPS Christmas Artwork

The deadline to place an order is this
Sunday 12th November.

PoPS Year 2 Movie Night

Year 2—Thursday 16th November 3:10pm to 4:45pm

Movie—Trolls World Tour

Forms have been sent home this week—please check

PoPS Bingo Night

On Friday 17th November at 7:30pm

PoPS will be holding a Bingo Night (Adults only)

If you would like to book a place please email
Megan Ngo meg_ngo@yahoo.co.uk

PoPS Christmas Events/Dates

Please see separate flyer on
the last page!