



# Petersgate Post—12th January 2024

## Mrs Mitchell's 'Message of the Week'

Happy New Year to you all. Thank you to all who wished myself and the staff a restful break, we hope you did too!

During this period of colder weather, please can I ask that parents and families stay on the main paths on your walk around school for your own safety. Please can I also ask that children come in with hats, gloves, scarves and coats too.

This term there are lots of exciting things coming up in terms of learning for the children, which we can't wait to share with you.

Two key dates are the **NSPCC Number Day on Friday 2nd February** (an email communication was sent out on Wednesday) and **World Book Day on Thursday 7th March**. There will be opportunities to come in and learn alongside your child and share in the learning experience. We can't wait to see you!



## Parent Forum Tuesday 23rd January 2-3pm

Pop along for a cuppa and a chat. Each month the parent forum will have a focus and this month the focus is parent consultation on two key policies.

## Farewell News!

We said a very sad farewell to **Mrs Becky Lau**, Turtle class Learning Support Assistant, who left Petersgate Team this week.

Mrs Lau worked with the team for 4 years. Mrs Lau will be greatly missed by all the children and staff. I hope you will join me in wishing her the very best of luck in her new job.



## Health & Wellbeing Tip

During the winter months it can become harder to get outside in the fresh air. The long dark winter nights can be hard. But where you can, try and get outside for some winter nature activities. Following this period of wet weather, plan in a Great Big Wet Weather Puddle Splash!

Splashing in puddles is one of life's little pleasures, so why not set out to enjoy it to its full? Waterproofs and wellies are a must and while you might have to look out for just the right day, it will be well worth the wait. See who can make the biggest splash and don't forget to pack a hot drink and snacks for afterwards.



## Attendance and Punctuality from 3rd—12th January

Whole School Attendance: **97.1%**  
(National Average: 94.4%)

Best Attendance: **Octopus—98.44%**  
Best Timekeepers: **Seahorse class**



## Extra Health and Wellbeing Tip for these colder and darker days

Blow Beautiful Frozen Bubbles.

Bubbles are fun at any time of the year but when the temperature drops below freezing, they can be an extra-special outdoor activity. All you need is some bubble mixture and a wand. If you've run out of mixture, make your own with one part washing up liquid to six parts water and everything from paperclips to biscuit cutters can be used as wands. For longer lasting bubbles, add a drop of glycerine to your mixture.

**Share some of your creations on Seesaw!**

## Forthcoming Events

### January 2024

**Tuesday 23rd**  
Parent Forum 2-3pm

### February 2024

**Friday 2nd**  
NSPCC Number Day—non uniform parents invited 2-3pm

**Monday 12th—Friday 16th**  
Half term

**Monday 19th**  
School reopens at 8:40am

**Tuesday 27th**  
Parents Consultations\*

**Wednesday 28th**  
Parent Forum 2-3pm\*

**Thursday 29th**  
Parents Consultations\*

### March 2024

**Thursday 7th**  
World Book Day  
Dress up—to be confirmed\*

*\*details to follow*



### Ofsted Termly Update!

Following my update in my previous newsletter, the teaching team have met and began to look further at the foundation subject assessment. The school already has a system for assessing these subjects but we want to further refine this system in order for it to be as forensic as possible.

Opportunities will be planned in for overlearning of key knowledge and skills, as previously outlined. As part of our research gathering all subject leaders will liaise with their subject representative from the Hampshire Inspection and Advisory Service (HIAS) during their termly network meetings. As part of these meetings, schools also share good practice with each other too and we see these opportunities as being invaluable. We will continue to update you as things progress over the term.

*As a reminder, the core subjects are reading and writing (English), maths and science. Reading, writing and maths are taught daily and science is taught weekly.*

*The other subjects are known as foundation subjects and these are; religious education (RE), history, geography, computing, music, physical education (PE), art, design and technology.*

As outlined in the previous newsletter, we will be sending out a Microsoft form as a survey regarding reading at home. There has been some feedback regarding the E-Collins books we use at home and I want to gather wider feedback about this approach to reading at home. As a school, I want to look really carefully to what the barriers are for why some children are not reading at home, so we can ensure there are a range of opportunities to support the reading at home.

With the SEND paperwork now in place, this is being used and annotated by staff. Updated copies will be made available to parents/carers during the next set of parent consultation meetings.

As part of our library development, which PoPS are supporting, I have made contact with the School Library Service (SLS) to support with our library development. I will update you all as this progresses.

### 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.

This week we are introducing **Phil Tennent, Health & Safety Governor**

My name is Phil Tennent and I have lived in Clanfield for the last 11 years. I am married and have two children, my eldest is 15 who was born in Spain whilst we were living there and my youngest son is 9, born here in the UK. He went to Clanfield Community Pre-school where I helped maintain the garden area by cutting the grass in the spring and summer months.

We saw a natural progression for my son to go up to Parasgate Infant School and an opening for a Governor had also just become available. I wanted to give something back to the community, by working together with the team and families for the benefit of the children. Over the years, I have gained through being employed and running my own businesses, skills and experiences, that if called upon, can be shared openly for the greater good of the development of the school



### Early Years—Donation Request (any takers!!)

Early Years are looking to implement Curiosity Cubes into their classrooms! Curiosity Cubes are a fantastic enhancement that inspire awe and wonder, support communication and language as well as develop children's imagination. Therefore, we would be very grateful for any donations of fish tanks or acrylic storage boxes that we could use. If you have any that you would like to donate then please bring them to the school office—Thank you!



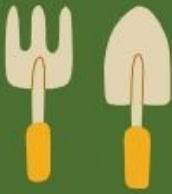
### Donation Request for all Year Groups

Can you help...we are in need of any spare laundered pants and socks for all year groups? If you can help then please bring these to the school office—Thank you!



# GROUND FORCE TEAM WANTED

## PETERSGATE NEEDS YOUR HELP!



We are looking for volunteers to help clear the pond and make a mud/sand pit for Early Years.

Please contact the school office if you can help with any of the above - date to be confirmed



**THANK  
YOU!**  
SO MUCH

### THANK YOU!!

I would like to take this opportunity to say a huge **THANK YOU** to **Megan Ngo, the PoPS Team and volunteers** for all the preparation and organisation in the lead up to and during the Christmas events.

I am sure you will agree, the PoPS Team work incredibly hard in raising vital funds for the school and the whole school community want to thank them for all they do.



### PoPS (Pals of Petersgate School) need you!

If you are interested in becoming a committee member or a volunteer to help at events, please contact the PoPS Team on their facebook page.

Mrs Mitchell, Megan and the current PoPS committee members will be meeting in the coming weeks to discuss the committee and events that they have planned for the coming term.

### PoPS—Dates Coming Up 2024!

Friday 23rd February—Bingo Night\*

Thursday 21st March—Easter Fayre\*

\*details to follow

### Congratulations!

I am sure you all will also join me in congratulating Megan on the birth on her new baby boy Asa who was born on 27th December, Mum and baby are both very well and he is a very contented baby!

