



Petersgate Post—9th February 2024

Mrs Mitchell's 'Message of the Week'

I cannot believe we have reached the end of the next half term and we seem to be edging ever closer to spring. I want to say a massive thank you for your ongoing support this half term and it was lovely to see so many of you on Number Day. There was a positive learning atmosphere around school with so many maths opportunities to explore. I want to say thank you to Miss Lindsell for leading the team and to all the staff for their hard work. I look forward to seeing you all on World Book Day. I hope you all have a restful half term break and look forward to seeing you all on Monday 19th February.

Farewell News!

We said a sad farewell today to Mrs Angela Erinski, 1:1 SEN Assistant in Seahorse class, Mrs Erinski has worked for the team for 2 years. She will be sadly missed and we wish her every success for the future.



Parents Consultations

Parents Consultations are now live on Arbor. To make an appointment to see your child's class teacher please log in to Arbor. Your appointment is for 10 minutes.

If your child has an EHCP or SEN support you will also be able to make an appointment to see Mrs Ankers should you wish to discuss anything with her.

This will be in addition to your appointment with your child's teacher. These appointment slots will be for 20 minutes, please note in the interest of fairness we ask that these appointment slots are strictly kept to the allocated times.

Attendance and Punctuality from 29th January—9th February

Whole School Attendance: **94.45%**
(National Average: 94.2%)

Best Attendance: **Clownfish class—99.25%**
Best Timekeepers: **Seahorse class**



Parent Forum

The next Parent Forum is on **Wednesday 28th February from 1:30-2:30pm**. Pop along for a cuppa and a chat. Each month the parent forum will have a focus and this month the focus will be **attendance**.

THANK YOU!

We would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Tutte for her very generous donation to our library. After half term Mrs Mitchell will be meeting with the library service to discuss further development of our library.

Health & Wellbeing Tip

In celebration of Child Mental Health week this week, I have chosen an activity from their website: 'What Matters to Me' swirl. This is an opportunity for children to think about and share what matters to them.

You will need some plain paper, something to draw with, glue (optional), scissors (optional) and scrap paper for collaging. More instructions of what to do can be found on this You Tube clip: www.youtube.com/watch?v=FfQ5yFexOb8&t=25s

Whilst you are creating your swirl talk to the children and ask the following questions: Why it matters to them? What matters the most? Does anything that matters to them, also matter to you? Why? Share your 'What Matters to Me' swirl on Seesaw.



Current Vacancies at Petersgate

SEN Learning Support Assistants—please [click here](#) for more details

Caretaker—please [click here](#) for more details

Forthcoming Events February 2024

Monday 12th–Friday 16th
Half term

Monday 19th

School reopens at 8:40am

Tuesday 27th

Parents Consultations

Wednesday 28th

Parent Forum 1:30-2:30pm

Thursday 29th

Parents Consultations

March 2024

Thursday 7th

World Book Day

Dress up—Parents 2-3pm*

Friday 15th

Red Nose Day*

Thursday 21st

World Down's Syndrome Day 'Wear Odd Socks'*

Monday 25th

Rocksteady Concert*

Thursday 28th

Last day of Spring term

April 2024

Monday 15th

Inset day—school closed

Tuesday 16th

School open at 8:40am

*details to follow

My VOICE MATTERS

Place2Be's
**CHILDREN'S
MENTAL HEALTH
WEEK**

TALKING TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH

Are you a parent or carer who wants to talk to your child about mental health?

This Children's Mental Health Week we want all children and young people, whoever they are, and wherever they are in the world, to be able to say – and believe – "My Voice Matters".

We visited primary and secondary schools to ask students what they wanted from the week – to help shape the activities we create for schools, the messaging we give to teachers, the tips we give to other children, and the advice we give to parents, carers and families.



LOOKING FOR FREE PRACTICAL ADVICE TO HELP YOU SUPPORT YOUR CHILD?

Parenting Smart, Place2Be's site for parents and carers, is full of expert advice and tips on supporting primary-age children, and managing their behaviour. and act on their views.

[PARENTINGSMART.ORG.UK](https://parentingsmart.org.uk)

Here's what children and young people told us they need from you:

- ① We don't need to have 'one-off conversations about our mental health' – sometimes a chat on a journey or at bedtime is enough.
- ② I need to know it's okay to talk to you about any and all of my feelings. Please hear what I have to say, without interrupting me.
- ③ Please listen to me carefully and acknowledge how I am feeling – it might seem silly to you but what I am going through is important to me.
- ④ Playing with pets can make me feel better. Same with playing football, basketball or whatever type of sport I am into.
- ⑤ Don't compare my experiences to your own when you were a child.
- ⑥ Sometimes I just need you to listen and hear what I'm saying – I don't always need answers (or lectures)
- ⑦ Please don't worry about trying to fix things for me – I often just need to know you are there for me and understand what I am going through.
- ⑧ If you are open with me about your feelings, this can help me to be more open about mine.
- ⑨ Sometimes I don't want to talk. Please trust that I will come to you (or another grown-up or someone my own age) when I'm ready. Sometimes it's easier for me to talk to someone nearer my own age – my siblings, cousins, friends, younger teachers at school - because they 'get it'.
- ⑩ Sometimes a hug is all it takes to make me feel supported.



WHAT MATTERS TO YOU? CREATIVE VIDEO ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES

These wellbeing activities can help children and young people think about and share what matters to them.

[For primary children: bit.ly/3PzCGI8](https://bit.ly/3PzCGI8)

[For secondary children: bit.ly/3LBD2wK](https://bit.ly/3LBD2wK)

DO YOU SOMETIMES WORRY ABOUT HOW YOU ARE FEELING?

If so, read on!

Here are some brilliant tips from children just like you*. These children have also had ups and downs with their mental health and want to pass on some ideas that have helped them:

- Ask for help – from a teacher, parent, brother, sister, or other family member. Keep telling until someone listens to you.
- Remember you are not alone – everyone goes through tough times. Be kind to yourself – everyone is perfect in their own way.
- Stay calm – take some breaths or find somewhere to sit quietly for 2 minutes.
- Go outside and get some exercise to make yourself feel stronger.
- Spend time with your family and friends (or pets).
- It's okay to not always be okay.
- Think of your favourite thing and write it down.
- Keep a diary to track all your emotions.
- Stay positive and focus on things that make you happy. If you can't think of anything, maybe a friend can help you.
- Remember you are enough, and you are the only you.
- If you are being bullied, maybe the bully is being bullied or has something going on at home and they're taking it out on someone else. Tell an adult or trusted friend.



DO YOU SOMETIMES FEEL A BIT WORRIED ABOUT HOW SOMEONE ELSE IS FEELING?

If so, read on!

Things you can say to help support someone else:

Do you want to be my friend?

Do you want to play?

I'm here for you.

Shall we tell an adult?

You're a star!

Would you like me to find your friend?



*With thanks to the pupils at Seascap Primary School and Ark Globe Primary School.

BEANO

Place2Be's
CHILDREN'S
MENTAL HEALTH
WEEK

At Petersgate, we will be celebrating World Book Day Day on Thursday 7th March 2024.

We will be enjoying a variety of books at school on that day, all day! In the afternoon, there will be an opportunity for each child to invite an adult in to see what they have been doing during the day.

To make World Book Day even more fun, your child can dress up either **as their favourite character from a book** OR **as an adjective or describing word** e.g. colourful, sparkly, brave, ancient, outrageous the list is endless! Make sure they wear a clear label if you go for this option.



If your child is not keen on dressing up you might want to consider making a wooden spoon or potato book character to bring into school on that day. So, get creative and we look forward to seeing your ideas on the 7th March.



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 **Chloe Lindsell, Staff Governor**

My name is Chloe Lindsell and I am a Year 2 teacher; Year 2 lead and maths lead here at Petersgate Infant School. I have been a staff governor at Petersgate since September 2023. I wanted to be a governor because after working at Petersgate for the last 7 years. I am committed to supporting the school and I am passionate about education.



Attendance and Punctuality

Attendance Expectations

What YOU must do:

- Leave a message on the absence line before 8.30am each day of your child's absence
- Tell the school in advance, of any medical appointments and provide evidence
- If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, send them in anyway as they often perk up on arrival
- If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance then talk to us as a first step so we can help

What WE will do:

- Check your child's attendance every day
- Telephone home to discuss your child's attendance with you
- Invite you into school for attendance meetings if we are concerned
- If we cannot establish a reason for absence, then we may make a welfare home visit

Reading At Home Survey

We would appreciate your support with completing this survey about your child's reading and the reading that takes place in your home. The survey is voluntary but it would be extremely helpful as we continue to improve reading standards and the enjoyment levels of reading for our children. Please [click here](#) or copy and paste this link into your web browser. forms.office.com/e/N1cPP4CrWk

Safer Internet Day

As part of our online safety celebrations, we would like to understand parents/carers knowledge of the ever changing online world and how best we as a school can support you. We would be grateful if you would complete this form [click here](#) or copy and paste this link into your web browser. forms.office.com/e/TrTWDPcv9u



Monday 19th February to Thursday 28th March

After half term we will be taking part in 'Eat Them to Defeat Them'.

Each week a family favourite vegetable will be featured.

Children can collect stickers and learn catchphrases to go with the vegetables.

We want to encourage children to try each vegetable three times so that they become part of their daily diet.

We'll be encouraging children to get those gnashers to work defeating those veg one big bite at a time, and we are planning some great chomp visuals and fun. Chomping on raw veg is also excellent for dental health – so double win!

For more information please visit the Veg Power website

<https://vegpower.org.uk/>



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 face book page.

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

PoPS—Dates Coming Up 2024!

Friday 23rd February—Bingo Night*

Thursday 21st March—Easter Fayre*

***details to follow**

FREE Online Courses for Parents this February

To book type in the link: <https://shop.hants.gov.uk/collections/library-courses>

Course	Dates	Time
Positive Parenting	Mondays 26 February – 25 March	6:30pm – 8pm
Raising Resilient Children	Tuesdays 27 February – 26 March	6:30pm – 8pm
Introduction to Paediatric First Aid	Tuesdays 27 February – 19 March	6:45pm – 9:15pm



These courses are aimed at Hampshire residents aged 19+. Attendance is expected at each session to ensure that you get the most out of your learning experience and to minimise disruption for other learners. Please advise the venue/tutor of any absence you may have.

Participants will be required to use Zoom. No account is required, not sure how to use Zoom? Check out these helpful videos: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206175806>



www.hants.gov.uk/library   

NSPCC

Number Day 2024



Thank you for
your support

We have raised **£204,400** and made a big difference to children and young people

#numberday



Charitable
Trust



Number Day is supported by Maths Circle, Man Group and Oxford University Press, led by NSPCC.

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

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Services for
Young People

Charity no. 1145664

Indoor PlayRangers Sessions February Half Term 2024

Date	Time	Location	Theme
Monday 12 February	12 noon - 2pm	Cricket Pavilion, Jubilee Park, Rowlands Avenue, Waterloooville, PO7 7RT	Enchanted Kingdom
Wednesday 14 February VIVID plus+	12 noon - 2pm	Broadlaw Community Centre, Broadlaw Walk, Fareham, PO14 1LE In partnership with Vivid Homes	Bugs Life

Play Rangers offers free open access sessions suitable for children and young people aged between 2 and 10. Please note that all children must be accompanied by a parent or adult carer. Parents/Carers must remain responsible for their children. This is not a childcare or creche service. Please be assured for safety reasons, Play Rangers staff will be clearly distinguishable from members of the public. In the event of poor weather please check out facebook.com/playrangers.

For more information email info@yyservices.co.uk
or call/text 07585 115022