

THE POCHIN SCHOOL



Friday 11th September 2020

Dear Parents, Governors and Friends,

This week.....

The children have really settled well into school. As we have now been at school for nearly 3 weeks it has been nice to see such lovely work in all the books, and children getting into a good routine. Lunchtime sports clubs and afterschool clubs have been running well, and many children have been participating in them, especially at lunch times. Miss P, our new sports coach has loved working with the children and has been very impressed with their manners, behaviour and ability.

Meet the Teacher Meetings

We hope you enjoyed the Meet the Teacher meetings and that they were very useful. If you were unable to attend, any resources or PowerPoints used will be sent out to all parents in each class by Monday.

Starting and Finishing Times

We evaluate on a regular basis the starting and finishing times and how effective they are. We are therefore tweaking the start of the day procedures for our class 1 and 2 pupils. When class 1 and 2 pupils come into the playground they will **no longer** need to line up by their number; they will need to **go straight into school** via their normal entrance door. We have trialled this procedure for two days and found that it was an efficient way of the children entering school, and most enjoyed the independence it gave them, especially using the hand sanitiser by themselves!



School Garden

It is with great pleasure we can announce the Pochin Family have kindly allowed us to use the first garden area next to the school. Currently, we use the second garden area behind this one for the school garden. This will have a huge positive impact on the school facilities for our children. This will increase our open space, increase room to enhance our horticultural skills and give opportunity to look at the world around us with awe and wonder in nature. We feel this will improve the mental well-being of all our children as they will have an area to relax, and grow and express themselves that currently is difficult in a busy playground with no open green space.

The PTA will be fund-raising this year to develop and enhance this area. Mr Pochin has generously offered to match £ for £ any money we raise to develop the gardens. This means for every £1 the PTA raise we will actually benefit by £2. It is such an amazing offer!

As a school we wish to initially raise £20,000 for this area. You would be surprised how expensive developing gardens for schools can be!

We have already had a parent willing to support the school with developing the garden, and has given us a large donation of £2500. We are so grateful for this very generous donation. This is a great start to our fundraising year!



PTA

Thank you to everyone who supported and attended the PTA AGM this week. It was a very productive meeting. There were many great ideas and loads of enthusiasm for fund-raising to support the school in enhancing the curriculum for ALL their pupils.

The PTA will be fund raising this year to raise money for the School Garden. If parents have any skills, contacts or knowledge of developing gardens, building canopies/shelters etc which could help the school and reduce the cost of such a large project, we would be grateful for your help. Please could you email sshilton@pochin.bepschools.org with any support available.

PTA fundraising activities:

- 2nd October - Autumn themed 'Wear what you like day' to school £1 per a child donation
- 30th October - Halloween Decorating Spoon competition
- Pupils Christmas Cards

Key Stage 1 PE

In reviewing the current PE in school, we have noticed an increased need of our Key Stage One pupils for support in getting changed for PE. As a school we strongly recognise that learning to dress and undress themselves is an important life skill children develop while changing for PE. We also have tried to limit the movement of items between school and home. However, we feel it would be prudent to try and maintain some distance between staff and pupils as much as possible at this stage in the term. Therefore, we require all Key Stage One pupils to **wear their PE kit to school** on days they have PE. All PE bags will be sent home tonight with the children.

PE days - Class 1, Wednesday, Thursday

PE days - Class 2, Monday, Thursday

House Points

Well done Charnwood this week!

CHARNWOOD		WINDSOR
1		1
444		395

Language of the Month - French



British Values of the Month - Rule of Law



Pictures of the Week



Head Teachers Award

Please look at our gallery below of children who have achieved Head Teacher awards this week. We would like to say "Well done" and we look forward to seeing other children achieve the award in the coming weeks.



Car Parking

Thank you for everyone supporting the school when making parking choices. We have noticed there is a considerable reduction of cars parking down School Lane. As you are aware the new lines have now been painted on the road to further support safe parking practices.

Can I please remind parents to avoid parking before the time they need to collect their children. This will really ease the pressure on the limited parking spaces around the school.

I can assure you that if you are a few minutes late in picking up, due to avoiding the rush, we will always look after your children and they will be kept safe at school until you arrive.



Harvest Festival Donations

Can we please ask all parents if possible to bring their Harvest Festival donations into school on Monday 28th September. Can we ask children to leave them in the designated boxes outside in the small playground or to take them into class if it is raining. Later in the week these will be distributed to families, or organisations that support families in need.

End of Day Collection

Thank you for everyone helping out with supporting the school by not standing in the large gate area. It has made it much easier for us to monitor the children going home.

Can we please remind parents, especially in the small playground, to stand by their children's number, as it makes it much easier for staff to identify which parents have arrived, so they can send their children to them.

This is the only way we can ensure safety of social distancing and ensuring children go home with the correct parents!

Face Masks

In keeping with the new Bradgate Education Trust policy all visitors onsite that enter the school buildings must wear a face mask. This also include visitors that enter the reception area to talk to office or teaching staff. This policy will be reviewed regularly.

Things to remember for next week and beyond

September

- 21st Meeting for children going to France
- 27th week - Fab finale for all classes
- 28th - Harvest Festival donations brought into school
- 30th Harvest Festival (power point/ video will be uploaded to the school website)

October

- 2nd PTA Wear What You Like - Autumn - £1 per a child
- **5th Cultural Week - cultural roots week**
- **Half Term Holidays Mon 19th-13rd Fri**
- **26th Oct - Our Pochin Community Week**
- 28th/29th - parents evening
- 30th PTA Halloween Spoon Competition
- 31st Applications close for Secondary school admissions

November

- 13th Children in Need £1 donation to wear Pyjamas to school

For future dates please see Important Diary Dates on the website

Kind regards

Mrs Heather Sharpe

Head Teacher