

Monday, 5th October

Dear Parents/Carers,

Beginning of the Day

The staggered start to the school day has worked well and we appreciate your cooperation with social distancing. Clearly there is a rise of covid cases nationally and your consideration of others is really helpful and we need to make sure that as a school community we don't become complacent.

Parent Consultations

Teachers have started to organise the parent consultations for this term. It is the first time we have tried virtual/phone consultations so please be aware that not everything will go to plan! No one will miss out on the opportunity to speak to their class teacher so if things don't quite work out another opportunity will be provided.

Phonics Testing

Please note that we are required to complete the Y1 Phonics test for our current Y2s after half term. This was due to them missing the test during school lockdown. It is a simple and fun test, completed 1 to 1 and we will prepare the children for it.

Homework and Remote Learning

The vast majority of our pupils and parents have accessed the homework using Seesaw. The reason we access homework this way include:

- To maintain pupil ease of access to Seesaw should there be a school or local lockdown of their class bubble. All work, in this case, will be sent via Seesaw.
- To ensure ease of access should your child be asked to isolate. Again all work in this case will be sent via Seesaw.
- To minimise paper coming back in to school. Some parents have queried why reading books, etc can come back and forth but there are specific procedures in place for these.

We do not use technology excessively in school and keenly focus on paper and pencil methods. With the recent school shutdown writing was an area that any remote learning approach struggles to support and therefore we are currently making this a key area for the school. Using Seesaw as we do enables parents to support other areas of the curriculum.

You are welcome to print off work and complete it by pencil/paper, and we will often send work home that can be completed on paper and sent back via a photo on Seesaw.

We would therefore encourage all parents and pupils to access homework through Seesaw. If you are having difficulty with this approach due to technology please let your class teacher know.

Take care



Headteacher and the Pilsley Staff Team

Dates

20th October – Tempest Individual Photos (to be confirmed re distancing)

23rd October – last day of term

2nd November – first day back at school

13th November – Children in Need (tbc)

3rd December – Flu Immunisation

4th December – Y6 Bikeability

18th December – last day of term

2021

4th January – INSET Day – First Aid Training

5th January – INSET Day – GDPR Training

12th February – last day of term

22nd February – first day back at school

1st April (Thursday) last day of term

19th April – first day back at school

3rd May – Bank Holiday May Day (one day only)

All of May – KS1 SATs month

10th May to 13th May – SATs week

28th May – last day of term

7th June – first day back at school

25th June – INSET day

28th June – INSET day

7th, 8th & 9th July – Y6 Dukes Barn Residential (to be confirmed)

13th & 14th July 2021 – Lea Green Residential (Year 1's day only on 13th, Y2 both days)

22nd July (Thursday) last day of term