

Thursday, 26th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Y1 Drop Off Times

We would like to thank all parents for their patience with the change to Y1 drop off times. The later time has enabled us to reduce the 'bottleneck' (especially in the shared corridor for Reception and Y1) in the morning and increase social distancing opportunities.

Over the last week Reception have been using a new trolley system that has meant they are no longer using the shared corridor for coats and this has reduced the bottleneck further.

To that end we can now bring forward the drop off time for Y1 to 9.00am (from 9.05am) from Monday, 30th November. This will mean a reduced waiting time for some children. Collection times will remain as they are. Our apologies for the changes over the last few weeks but the safety of our community has to be our priority.

Christmas in School

- The children will be having Christmas Parties in school during the week of 14th December. The parties will be in the Sports Hall, with full ventilation, in their bubbles (so Y1 and Y2 together, Y3/4 and Y4/5 together and Y5 and Y6 together) except for Foundation who will use their shared space. They may wear party clothes on the day and the school will be providing Christmas Treats for the children to ensure COVID safety.
- The school Christmas Dinner will be on Wednesday, 16th December. Can ALL parents who wish their child to have a Christmas Dinner please complete the booking form (even if they usually have dinner anyway). The link is below:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=FLCPDzGwKUyzlgN_CNbErEnEN4TS6WJCuFg2Wggp9fIUNEEyMks3S01TVFITMjRQ1Q1RTFRUVIINy4u

- The school has paid for a Virtual Cinderella Pantomime which the children can watch live on the 16th and 17th of December or a pre-recorded version on the 18th December.
- We will hold Christmas Jumper Day on the 18th December to fund raise for Save the Children. As a school we understand if parents don't want to buy a jumper for this event but would rather send the children in something that reflects Christmas to them (e.g. wearing red/green) or in their own clothes. We will set up a charity giving page as we did for Children in Need to simplify the process.

Y2 Phonics Testing

In the next few weeks Y2 pupils will undertake the Phonics test that they would normally have completed in June. This is carried out 1 to 1 with an adult and they find it engaging and fun. We use this to inform our future work with your child but is also used by the government to measure how well the school is doing. Those children who do not quite meet the standard will undertake another test in June 2021.

Free School Meals

With the ever changing economic situation please remember you can get Free School meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

- younger than the [compulsory age for starting school](#)
- in full-time education



To apply click the link below:

<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/your-child-at-school/meals/school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx>

Take care



Headteacher and the Pilsley Staff Team

Dates

3rd December	Flu immunisations
4th December	Y6 Bikeability (currently still going ahead as an outside activity)
15th December	KS2 (Y3/4 and Y4/5) Christmas Party
16th December	Year 1 & 2 Christmas Party
16th December	Christmas Dinner
16th & 17th Dec	Virtual Cinderella Pantomime in school
17th December	EYFS Christmas Party in the morning
17th December	KS2 (Y5 and Y6) Christmas Party
18th December	Last day of term, possible Christmas Jumper Day (or alternative event)

2021

4th January – Inset Day (First Aid)
 5th January – Inset Day (GDPR)
 6th January – Children return to school
 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)
 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 and 9th July – Dukes Barn Residential Y6
 13th July 2021 – Lea Green day visit for Y1
 13th & 14th July 2021 – Lea Green Residential for Y2
 22nd July (Thursday) last day of term