



Pauntley Church of England Primary School

NEWSLETTER

2nd October 2020



Our Termly Value: Generosity

It is God who arms me with STRENGTH and keeps me secure.

Psalm 18:32

Half term is now on the horizon and despite all that is going on in the wider world school has been ticking on, with a few slight differences. Everyone, seems to have settled into the new routines and the children continue to arrive with smiles on their faces and are really back into the swing of things.

At this juncture I thought it would be a good time to reflect on where the school is and where we are heading in the coming months. In spite of COVID 19, the school is continually looking to move forward and improve.

As you are all, I am sure, well aware, the school was adjudged to be 'Requires Improvement' by OFSTED in June 2019 and then the New Inspection Framework came into operation in September 2019 once (once again raising the expectations on schools).

Upon arriving in March 2020 it was clear that the school has a significant journey to complete in order to once again be adjudged 'Good'. So far, we have worked hard as a team to review all areas of the school and begun the processes of updating staff training; policies; website; curriculum; planning and numerous other areas. Progress is moving along and there are still a great many things to establish and embed. Although, we are not there yet, I am certain that we will, over the long term, get there.

However, it is important to stress that although there are areas to improve, the things that make Pauntley special are still evident and are firmly embedded across the school. It's caring ethos; Christian foundation and amazing supportive children are key to making this the special place you have chosen for your children. These things are still very much at the core of what we do.

Development Priorities

This year the school has set out six key priorities for development and these will be closely monitored by the school Governors:

Priority 1: Monitoring Teaching & Learning

This priority ensures all children receive a good quality education that meets each individual's needs and encourages them to fulfil their potential.

Priority 2: Developing the teaching of Reading & Writing

Priority 3: Developing the teaching of Maths

Through the introduction of new methodologies and resources we will look to ensure all children are challenged in these areas.

Priority 4: Curriculum development

This area is fundamental to the teaching and learning within a school and we are beginning the process of evaluating how and what we teach to our young people to ensure that it meets their specific needs as well as those legal requirements of the National Curriculum.

Priority 5: Developing leadership and management

This priority focuses on the management of the school and how leaders ensure that standards are monitored and maintained. This priority involves the work of the governors who oversee the strategic direction of the school.

Priority 4: COVID 19

A constant reminder that as well as the demands to achieve all of the above we need to be mindful of the need to keep everyone safe in these challenging times.

As things develop I will keep you informed about the progress the school is making and should you have any questions please feel free to ask at any point.

Late Arrivals

Ideally we aim for everyone to be in school and ready to learn for 8:55am as even a few minutes can affect a child's understanding of those initial sessions raise their anxieties.

However, we realise that everyone can have a bad start to the day: lost car keys; no bread for sandwiches; clothes in the wash or failed alarm clock!

If you are late please report to reception where, as part of our responsibility to record absence, our admin staff will also be asking parents/carers for the reason that children are late so that this can be recorded.

Thank you.

Bikeability

The Year 5 and Year 6 have spent two days this week completing their cycle training – Bikeability course. All pupils who took part in the training passed and were awarded a certificate and badge. **Very well done.** The coaches commented on how beautifully behaved the children were. **Thanks children!**



Bess said, 'I now feel more confident about riding on the road. Can we try it at the weekend?'

5th October onwards – No fruit required!

At present we have been very lucky to have lots of excess fruit. While we have the extra fruit, May Hill Class **do not** have to bring a piece of fruit in for snack time. Instead it will be provided by the school.

6th October – Vision Screening

All Year 1 pupils will take part in the Vision Screening next Tuesday morning at school.



Achievements



A huge well done to the following children for receiving Privilege cards this week:

May Hill Class: Nieve, Esme, Tallula & William



Malvern Class: Maisy, Bess & Michael

We are still awaiting our first prestigious 'Golden Book' nomination – Keep working hard at displaying the school values and you could get that special mention.



Mr Larner's Joke of the Week:

What do you call a man with a paper bag on his head?

Russell!

Mr Larner
Head Teacher